

## **E.ON ROSEHALL COMMUNITY FUND FACT SHEET**

### **What is the E.ON Rosehall Community Fund and who is it for?**

This charitable fund is provided by E.ON, the developer of the Rosehall Wind Farm. The Fund benefits communities in the Community Council areas of Ardgay & District; Creich; and Lairg within the County of Sutherland.

### **How is the Fund managed, and who makes decisions about it?**

The Fund is held and administered by a charity, Foundation Scotland. Although the Foundation receives and processes applications, decisions on awards are made by the SSE & E.ON Community Funds Panel, a local Panel of 12 people comprising of four representatives from each of the three Community Council areas. Each four is made up of two Community Councillors and two members appointed from the wider community.

The SSE & E.ON Community Funds Panel makes decisions on the E.ON Rosehall Community Fund as well as the SSE Achany Community Fund. Information on the SSE Achany Fund and how to apply can be found on the SSE website.

### **How much is available?**

The annual Fund provides a minimum sum of £61,000 (as at Year 1 – August 2012) for the life of the wind farm which is expected to be 25 years, rising with the Retail Price Index.

For the first year of the E.ON Rosehall Community Fund there was no fixed allocation from the Fund to each of the three individual Community Council areas. With effect from September 2013, the Fund was 'ring-fenced' to provide a notional third to each Community Council area on a pilot basis. This arrangement was reviewed and made permanent in September 2016.

### **What sizes of grants are available?**

The following sizes of grants are available for a range of activities that benefit the local community. The amount and type of information required from applicants differs depending on the size of application being made.

- Small grants: £2,000 - £10,000.
- Main grants: £10,001 - £25,000.
- Large grants: Over £25,000.

The available balance of the Rosehall Fund changes from round to round based on previous and multi-year awards. Other variables exist which further influence the amount of money available

such as the number of applicants to the Fund. Foundation Scotland will promote the amount available in the forthcoming round on its website at least one month before a round deadline. If you wish to apply for more than the amount available you should call Carol Elliot on 07500 779 227 to discuss.

### ***What are the deadlines and timescales?***

The fund operates two funding rounds and two deadlines per year.

<b>Round deadline</b>	<b>Awardees notified</b>
30 April	July
31 October	December/January

### **What will the Fund be used for and what 'outcomes' are the Panel looking for?**

The Rosehall Community Fund has been established to support a broad range of community activity and development by primarily supporting the charitable activities of constituted, not-for-profit groups working to benefit residents within the area of benefit.

The Fund aims to invest in activities and initiatives that help build a vibrant local economy, support and encourage thriving communities and make the area an attractive place to live, work and visit for people of all ages.

The Panel has agreed the following outcomes for the Fund. Setting outcomes ensures the Fund has clear targets to work towards, based on local needs and aspirations. Outcomes are the changes or differences that come about (for people, organisations and the environment) as a result of funded projects, rather than the funded activities themselves. They guide applicants and provide focus for the Panel in its decision making and in judging the overall impact achieved by the Fund on an annual basis.

The outcomes are designed to reflect the needs and issues identified in the community consultation and profiling work done in 2010 which can be found on the Foundation Scotland website. In addition, the outcomes build on the Panel's learning from previous grant making activity from the SSE Achany Community Fund and more recently, the E.ON Rosehall Community Fund.

The outcomes for the Rosehall Fund are as follows:

1. Strengthen, sustain and diversify the local economy through the development of established or emerging sectors.
2. Encourage entrepreneurship and innovation in the local community with a view to stimulating economic and social growth.
3. Increase community benefit through the acquisition, development and use of new community assets and maintain and enhance existing ones.
4. Support measures designed to improve life chances and/or quality of life.
5. Optimise local resources and assets through support for coordinated community activity.
6. Support environmental improvements which give physical social or educational benefit.
7. Support energy conservation and increased use of renewables through the promotion of

energy efficiency and sustainability within the area.

8. Respond to unforeseen circumstances or opportunities that are in keeping with the broad fund outcomes identified above.

Every application **must** aim to deliver a project that can demonstrate how it will contribute towards one or more of the Fund outcomes. All applications should list the measurable activities/outputs a group/organisation will deliver in order to achieve the relevant outcome(s).

## **What other criteria apply to the Fund?**

### ***Cross-cutting themes***

Whichever outcome(s) a project is targeting it must also demonstrate how it achieves all of these cross-cutting themes:

- Builds the group or organisation to be more effective including developing volunteer opportunities.
- Ensures that issues of inclusion and sustainability have been considered.
- Raises a proportion of the total budget for the activity from other sources.

### ***Supporting churches or groups connected with churches***

The Fund cannot support activity that promotes the advancement of religion. However churches are eligible to apply for funding for non-religious activity that is likely to benefit a wider catchment than their own specific congregations. In the same vein, churches could apply for funding to upgrade the facilities or fabric of a Church Hall which is used by other community groups.

### ***Supporting activity that reaches across more than one of the three Community Council areas***

It is likely that some proposals will emerge that will potentially benefit more than one Community Council area. Only one application form need be submitted unless the project requires co-funding (i.e. funding from both Achany and Rosehall Community Funds). The Panel will consider how such activity is best supported on a case by case basis. It may be a strategic use of funds to meet common needs across all three areas through a co-ordinated approach to tackling particular issues. In such circumstances the Panel may wish to consider soliciting or commissioning a project which will tackle particular needs faced by residents in all three Community Council areas.

### ***Supporting activity that is from a group outwith the area of benefit but which affects or involves those living within the area of benefit***

It is acknowledged that those living in the area of benefit do make use of facilities out with the fund area. Groups from these areas are eligible to apply to the Funds where they can demonstrate that the activity does involve people living in the area of benefit. However such activity may not necessarily be considered as high a priority as applications from groups operating within the area of benefit.

### ***Support for trips out with the Funds area.***

Requests from community groups/organisations are eligible as long as they deliver on the Funds outcome(s) and cross-cutting themes.

### ***Requests for support with potential community buy-outs***

It is possible that groups may identify opportunities for community buy-outs of either land, property or business opportunities. Such requests are likely to be a very good fit with the Fund outcomes. It is likely that any support from the Fund/s will only be a small contribution in a much larger patchwork of funding that will need to be secured. However any investment by the Fund/s could still be significant in terms of contributing to community consultation work, producing feasibility studies or supporting a business planning process. Certainly the Panel will give due consideration to any applications to fund local community buy-out processes but will be mindful of its complexities. Organisations like The Development Trust Association (DTAS) and Community Land Scotland (CLS) have useful information and learning to share.

### ***Supporting requests to pay for posts***

In applying for funding towards salary/consultant costs the applicant must set out how the post will contribute to the achievement of Fund outcome(s) in a measurable way, including listing the main outputs to be delivered.

Funding for subsequent years, where multi-year funding has been agreed in principle (to a maximum of three years), is dependant on evidence of set outputs achieved annually.

Applicants will also have to:

- demonstrate how the rate has been arrived at;
- demonstrate how it has been benchmarked with comparable posts;
- if charging for services/events demonstrate how much is being contributed towards group surpluses and/or towards project costs;
- provide a job description and person specification for the post; and
- outline the recruitment process where applicable.

### ***Match Funding applications***

The Panel encourages applications that have attracted funding from other sources, including from the applicant organisation's own funds. The Panel will consider match funding from the Rosehall Fund with Community Funds from outwith the Rosehall Fund area for a project extending to other areas of Sutherland.

### ***Co-funding***

The Panel is prepared to accept applications to both the Rosehall and Achany Funds for the same project.

### ***Multi year awards***

In awarding multi-year grants, the Panel as part of its decision making process, will also need to consider the implications this will have in terms of reducing the amount available to distribute to other causes in future years.

In applying for funding towards multi-year costs the applicant must list measurable activities and how these will contribute to the Fund outcome(s) in each year.

Funding for subsequent years, where multi-year funding has been agreed in principle (to a maximum of three years), is dependant on evidence of the agreed set of activities and outcomes being achieved annually.

### ***Local procurement***

It is desirable that, where appropriate, applicants should seek local providers but this should be demonstrated to be the best value, balancing considerations of costs; availability and quality as appropriate to the specific project in question.

### ***Emergency procedures.***

Sometimes something happens to a group or community that can't have been predicted. The Panel will continue to be flexible to requests for funding in between rounds under exceptional circumstances and in emergency situations. Lack of forward planning by a group does not constitute an emergency.

### **What is excluded from funding?**

Awards cannot support the following types of activity:

- The advancement of religion or party politics (including requests to support the core activities of religious or political groups);
- Activities understood to be the exclusive responsibility of statutory authorities;
- Projects benefiting residents primarily located outwith the Area of Benefit;
- Activities contrary to the interests of the developer/s or any companies in its group;
- Activities likely to bring the Foundation, the developer/s or any companies in its group into disrepute;
- Anti-renewable energy or anti-wind farm activities including, without prejudice to the foregoing generality, promoting or sponsoring any objection or representation to the operation of the Wind Farm, national or local policy in connection with renewable energy or any other renewable energy proposal; and/or
- Costs already incurred or activities which will take place before the Panel has made a decision on an application (i.e. retrospective funding).

### **Who can apply for a grant?**

Applicants must fulfil the following conditions to apply for a grant:

- The planned activity benefits residents within the area of benefit.
- Identify which of the outcomes the proposal will deliver.
- Demonstrates how it is achieving the cross cutting themes.
- Is a community group/organisation (not-for-private-profit) and provides its signed governing document(s). However applicants do not need to be registered charities to apply.
- Applicants provide the latest set of accounts signed and verified/audited by an independent/third party, or, if the group has been operating for less than one year, a cash-flow projection.

### **How can I apply?**

A different application form must be completed for each size of grant. These are available from [www.foundationscotland.org.uk/rosehall](http://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/rosehall) or by contacting the Programmes Administrator at Foundation Scotland, e-mail: [edinburgh@FoundationScotland.org.uk](mailto:edinburgh@FoundationScotland.org.uk) or telephoning: 0131 524 0300.

**How many applications can I submit?**

Groups can apply for funding for more than one project in each round, whether to one or both the Achany and Rosehall Funds (co-funding).

Applicants can apply for and hold more than one grant in any single year although any further awards may depend on timeous monitoring returns being provided in relation to previous awards.

**What if I have more questions?**

If you can't find the information you are looking for on the Rosehall Fund web page on the Foundation Scotland website at [www.foundationscotland.org.uk/rosehall](http://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/rosehall) and/or need further advice or information on the Fund or to discuss your application, please contact Carol Elliot, Community Engagement Executive on 07500 779 227 or e-mail: [carol@foundationscotland.org.uk](mailto:carol@foundationscotland.org.uk)