



SSE CLYDE (DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY) COMMUNITY FUND FACTSHEET

What is it and who is it for?

This charitable fund is provided by SSE, the owner of the Clyde Wind Farm, to benefit local communities in Dumfries and Galloway.

These are the 12 community council areas of Carronbridge, Closeburn, Durisdeer, Johnstone, Kirkconnel and Kelloholm, Kirkmichael, Kirkpatrick Juxta (Beattock), Moffat & District, Royal Burgh of Sanquhar & District, Thornhill, Wamphray and Wanlockhead.

What can the Fund be used for?

The purpose of the Fund is to support activities that will:

- enhance quality of life and promote people's well-being
- promote community spirit and bring people together
- foster vibrant, sustainable communities.

It will do this by making grants to support the costs of relevant projects, services and facilities. These could include – but are not limited to - running costs for local groups, staff or sessional worker costs, consultations and feasibility studies, events and festivals, the cost of purchasing equipment, maintenance or refurbishment of community facilities etc.

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

The Fund is held and managed by a charity, Foundation Scotland. Although the Foundation receives and assesses applications, a local advisory panel - made up of community councillors or equivalent from each Community Council area – decides on grant awards from the Fund.

A small proportion of the Fund is distributed locally, in the form of 'micro' grants of up to £250 each, through a scheme administered directly by the Community Councils. To apply, please contact your Community Council or equivalent local organisation.

How much is available?

Overall, the fund value is approximately £155,000 annually; with each community allocated a 1/12th share (approximately £13,000 each). However the amounts available for distribution vary, depending on each area's previous funding commitments. Some areas have already allocated all of their funds and therefore no longer have funds available for grant-making.

There may be some flexibility, depending on the individual application, for one area to fund activity in another.

Please check the fund web page www.foundationscotland.org.uk/clyde for current information on the amounts available and contact us if you would like to discuss how this might affect your proposal.

What sizes of grants are available?

The main fund offers three levels of award as follows:

- Standard grants – £250 to £12,000
- Large grants – over £12,000 (these need to go through a different process – see below)

There is a two-stage application process for large grants, with an initial outline proposal required. The Panel will review the proposal at its next meeting and then agree whether or not to invite a full grant application. Please be aware that large applications therefore take longer to process, as they will usually be considered across two Panel meetings.

Micro grants, up to £250, are available directly from each Community or Village Council. Groups or individuals seeking a micro grant should contact their Community or Village Council who will advise on the application process, which is likely to be by letter. Applications for micro grants can be submitted at any time and will normally be considered at each Community Council meeting.

Who can apply for an award and what are the criteria?

Micro grants from the Community Councils are available to individuals or non-constituted groups, as well as constituted groups, for activity which will benefit the local community.

Constituted community groups, not-for-profit organisations and registered charities working to benefit people in one or more of the 12 community council areas can apply for an award from the main fund. Organisations do not need to be registered charities.

Applicants must normally fulfil the following conditions to apply to the main fund:

- The proposal is for projects or activities consistent with the overall purpose of the Fund;
- The proposal demonstrates clear benefit to at least one of the eligible community council areas;
- Applicants have a constitution (governing document or set of rules) and are set up on a not-for-private-profit basis. However applicants do not need to be registered charities to apply;
- Applicants provide their latest set of accounts, signed by an independent third party or, if the group has been operating for less than one year, they should provide a cash-flow projection.
- Applicants provide a copy of a recent bank statement.

Each community makes its own recommendations about how its share of the fund will be distributed. It is therefore expected that applications will be able to demonstrate clear benefit to at least one of the 12 fund areas.

The Panel will discuss how best to support applications benefitting more than one area within the fund. In order to facilitate this, please provide estimates of your project's beneficiaries in each area, if applicable.

Is there anything that cannot be funded?

- Projects which do not benefit people living within at least one of the 12 fund areas
- The advancement of religion or party politics.
- Individuals or groups without a constitution (except for micro-grants)
- Activities understood to be the responsibility of statutory authorities.
- Activities contrary to the interests of SSE or its subsidiaries.
- Activities likely to bring Foundation Scotland, SSE or its subsidiaries into disrepute.
- Anti-renewable energy/wind farm activities.
- Retrospective funding (i.e. paying for costs incurred before a decision on an application for support)

from the Fund can be made).

- Costs towards any element of overseas trips that are not part of a recognised Twin Town arrangement.
- Second-hand vehicles, except in exceptional circumstances.
- The repayment of loans or payment of debts.

How can I apply?

A different application form must be used for each size of grant and it is also possible to apply online. Forms are available from www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/clydedumfriesandgalloway/ or by contacting the Foundation Scotland South of Scotland office - details below. Applications can be submitted online, by email or by post to the Foundation Scotland South of Scotland office.

What if I have more questions or want to discuss a potential application?

We welcome pre-application enquiries. You can contact the Programme Administrator at Foundation Scotland on 01557 814927 or email office@foundationscotland.org.uk for further advice or information.

Our postal address is: Foundation Scotland, The Kiosk, Gatehouse of Fleet, Dumfries & Galloway, DG7 2HP

www.foundationscotland.org.uk/clydedumfriesandgalloway

