

# Watten

## Charitable Windfarm Trust



### **What is the Watten Charitable Windfarm Trust and who is it for?**

Foundation Scotland has developed a Community Trust model specifically for communities in receipt of multiple community funds from different developers and / or wind farms. The Watten Charitable Windfarm Trust allows donations to be received from a number of sources and administered by one organisation and overseen by a single Panel. The current Donors are Gresham House Asset Management, owner of Wathegar and Wathegar 2 Wind Farms, and Innogy Renewables UK Limited, developer of Bilbster Wind Farm. Other Donors may contribute in the future. The Trust and has replaced the previous Watten Community Fund arrangement where the Community Council acted as the Panel.

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

The Trust is held and administered by a charity, Foundation Scotland. Although the Foundation receives and processes applications, it works with a local Panel representing the community within the Watten area and who decide on grant awards from the Trust. The Panel is made of up to 12 Watten residents, including two Community Councillors, with local knowledge and interests. Panel Members serve for between two to four years.

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

Grants are available from £250 to £10,000, however requests for more than £10,000 may be considered on a case-by-case basis where significant benefit can be evidenced.

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

The Trust operates two funding rounds per year. Deadlines have been designed to complement those for the E.On Camster Community Fund, which also benefits the Watten area. The deadlines are:

<b>Closing date for applications</b>	<b>Panel decision date</b>
30th June	Early September
31st December	Late February

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

These are the conditions that applicants must fulfil to apply for a grant:

- Applicants must be a community group/organisation (not-for-private-profit) with a governing document. Applicants do not need to be registered charities to apply.
- Applicants must provide their latest set of accounts, signed by an independent examiner.
- Applicants must identify which of the Trust outcome(s) their proposal will deliver.
- Applicants should be able to demonstrate that the planned activity benefits or involves residents within the Watten Community Council area.
- Applicants should provide evidence of community support. This may include reference to the finding from the 2016 Community Planning exercise, but will ideally include more project specific evidence.

Where a sub group is driving a project but is applying under the name of the governing organisation, the applicant should speak to Foundation Scotland before submitting an application as additional information will be required (e.g. a letter of support from the main group; verified accounts of the constituted group with information on the sub group; a note of its agreed delegated powers, as appropriate).

Groups are welcome to apply for funding for more than one project in each round provided the group provides evidence that it has the capacity to manage multiple projects.

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 will the Trust be used for and what 'outcomes' are the Panel looking for?**

The Trust supports a broad range of community activity and development by supporting the charitable activities of constituted, not-for-profit groups working to benefit residents primarily within the Watten Community Council area.

During 2016, an independent consultant was commissioned, funded by Local Energy Scotland, to produce a Community Development Plan. A copy of the Plan can be downloaded from the Foundation Scotland website. This work helped to identify what the community considers to be the local priorities for investment and what it wanted to see the Watten Charitable Windfarm Trust achieve. The key findings from this exercise have led to the outcomes for the Trust.

Outcomes are the changes or differences that come about (for people, organisations and the environment) as a result of funded projects. They can guide applicants and provide focus for the Panel in its decision making and in judging the overall impact achieved by the Trust. The outcomes are designed to be broad, allowing the Trust to support a range of creative solutions to meet the local priorities.

The outcomes are as follows:

1. Encourage community activity, promote community spirit, and increase opportunities for socialising
2. Improve the ability of groups/organisations to meet local priorities
3. Improve telephone and broadband connections
4. Provide or improve access to, and enjoyment of, the local environment
5. Provide or improve opportunities for people to develop as individuals, make connections and improve their life chances.
6. Provide or improve sports and recreational facilities or activities.

Applications must demonstrate how the proposed project will contribute towards one or more of these outcomes, listing the measurable activities/outputs that the group/organisation will deliver in order to achieve the relevant outcome(s). However, applications which do not clearly fit with these outcomes but which can show strong community support and evidence of need may be considered where funds allow.

### **What other criteria apply to applications?**

As well as demonstrating a fit with at least one of the outcomes above, priority for grants can be given to projects that demonstrate the following additional criteria.

- **Local consultation:** Applicants should seek to demonstrate that they have consulted with the intended beneficiaries of the project and other local groups and/or businesses as appropriate, and that they are supportive of the proposal. Support noted in the Watten Community Development Plan can go towards the evidence required, so if your project is represented in the Plan, feel free to mention this. Other evidence of consultation would strengthen your application.
- **Match funding:** That other possible funding sources for the project have been explored. Awards from the Trust should not displace funding that could be obtained from other sources, but should help leverage additional funds if possible. Additionally it should not reduce community-based groups' commitment to organising local activities that contribute to a vibrant community calendar and promote community spirit. However, applicants are not required to source any specific proportion of matched

funds towards their project.

- Local procurement: It is desirable that, where appropriate, applicants should seek local providers but this should be demonstrated to offer best value, balancing considerations of cost, availability and quality as appropriate to the specific goods or service in question.
- Partnership working: Delivering a project in partnership with other organisations / groups could add value (financial, capability, or other). This could involve working with voluntary, private or public sector bodies that operate at local, regional or national level.
- Trips outwith the area: Applications should demonstrate how the trip will deliver on the Trust's outcome(s).
- Feasibility studies and other project development work: Some projects, particularly large and transformative projects such as those involving the purchase and / or development of property, can require significant research / consultation, planning and other feasibility work. The Trust can support such activity however applications must demonstrate realistic ambitions, that appropriately skilled / qualified personnel are involved in conducting the work, and must not duplicate any similar recent feasibility work.
- Multi-year Awards: In applying for funding towards multi-year costs the applicant must list measurable activities and how these will contribute to the Trust outcome(s) in each year. Funding for subsequent years, where multi-year funding has been agreed in principle (to a maximum of three years), will be dependent on evidence of the agreed set of activities and outcomes being achieved annually.
- Funding towards salaries for staff or wages: Applications must show how the position will contribute to the achievement of Trust outcome(s) in a measurable way, including listing the main outputs to be delivered over the grant funding period. Where multi-year funding has been agreed in principle, funding for subsequent years will be dependent on evidence of set outputs achieved annually.  
Applicants will also have to:
  - a. demonstrate how the salary / wage rate has been arrived at, including how it has been benchmarked with comparable posts;
  - b. provide a job description and person specification for the post; and
  - c. outline the recruitment process, ensuring this is being run in a fair and open way.
- Sustainable Development: Applicants should consider whether projects will likely contribute to sustainable development, including minimising the environmental impact of projects and reducing the 'carbon footprint' of the applicant organisation and/or Watten community.
- Emergency Situations: The Panel will aim to be flexible to requests for funding in between rounds under exceptional circumstances and in emergency situations. Please contact Foundation Scotland in the first instance. 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;
- Activities likely to bring Foundation Scotland, the Panel, the Community Council, the Donor, any

companies in the Donor's group or the local community into disrepute;

- Anti-renewable energy/anti-wind farm activities;
- Retrospective funding (i.e. paying for costs incurred before a decision on an application to the Trust for support was made, including the repayment of loans or other debts);
- Activities outwith the Watten area which do not benefit the community within that area in any way.

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

The application form is available to complete online or download from

[www.foundationscotland.org.uk/watten](http://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/watten) or from the Programme Administrator at Foundation Scotland, on [communitybenefit@foundationscotland.org.uk](mailto:communitybenefit@foundationscotland.org.uk) or 0131 524 0300.

Completed and signed applications should be submitted to

**Programme Administrator**  
**Foundation Scotland**  
**15 Calton Road**  
**Edinburgh EH8 8DL**

### **What if I have more questions?**

If you need further information on the Trust or you wish to discuss your application, please contact Eilidh Gunn, based in Caithness, on 07801 530 218 or e-mail: [eilidh@foundationscotland.org.uk](mailto:eilidh@foundationscotland.org.uk) or the Programme Administrator using the contact details above.



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