

## **EDF Renewables Corriemoillie Education & Training Fund Developing Career Aspirations and Journeys - Factsheet**

### **1 Background**

EDF Renewables is committed to providing a community benefit fund linked to its Corriemoillie Wind Farm. 20% of the overall funding available through this fund (index linked) is targeted at promoting education and training opportunities across the Fund area. In its first year, this was £48,450. The funding is to be provided throughout the operating lifetime of the Wind Farm, expected to be 25 years.

EDF Renewables Corriemoillie Education & Training Fund exists to benefit those living within the community council areas of: Garve & District; Contin; Marybank, Scatwell & Strathconon; Strathpeffer; and Lochbroom (collectively these are termed the 'Fund Area of Benefit').

Award making and oversight of the Education & Training Fund is overseen by a Panel. The Panel has representation from key stakeholders, including sector experts and communities within the Area of Benefit, working together to ensure the Fund is delivered effectively and achieving its intended outcomes.

### **2 Fund Outcomes**

The Education & Training Fund has been established to support a range of education and training activity that will lead to the following outcomes:

- a) More individuals resident within the Area of Benefit are equipped with the range of skills and confidence required to enter into and retain employment in the key sectors the Fund supports;
- b) Micro / small businesses are able to create new job opportunities or retain existing jobs that may benefit individuals resident in the Area of Benefit; and,
- c) Micro / small businesses that employ individuals from the Area of Benefit have the necessary skills and confidence to grow and sustain their operations in order to secure their long-term future.

Applications must demonstrate how they will contribute towards one or more of these outcomes.

The Fund provides support for the following activities:

- Bursaries to support individual's costs of attending training, education courses or apprenticeships
- Support to businesses through the funding of mentoring packages, staff training and the employment of apprentices
- Support for activities that enable individuals to develop their career aspirations and journey

For information on bursaries and support for business see

<https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/corriemoille-education-and-training/>

### **3 Developing career aspirations and journeys – what can be funded?**

The Fund will support activities providing access to learning resources that support the development of career aspirations, learning and development that increases employability, and activities that provide insight and inspiration for individuals into what working in a specific sector entails (including but not limited to developing links with prospective employers). This might include visits from employers to schools and other groups (eg at community venues) or from individuals / groups to an employer's place of work or a specialist training centre. Examples include school visits to 'Newton Rooms', STEM Ambassadors talks, 'day in the working life of' experiences, and school-based skills projects which do not attract statutory funding and which involve employers in providing learning experiences.

Applications should seek to demonstrate how 'hard to engage' individuals will be encouraged to participate.

Where participants in activities are drawn from a wider area than the Fund Area of Benefit, the Fund will consider supporting a proportion of the costs consistent with the proportion of the beneficiaries drawn from the Area of Benefit.

Grants of up to a maximum of £3,000 in any one year are available under this strand for innovative proposals to deliver extra-curricular initiatives that will have demonstrable impact on inspiring students/raising ambitions around the Fund priority sectors (see 7 below).

Grants may cover costs of delivering initiatives, participants' travel & subsistence, materials and equipment. Costs of staff released to take part in initiatives may be considered for support.

Applicants must list measurable activities and how these will contribute to the Fund outcome(s) above. Traditional 'careers fair' type events where the exchange is not tailored to the specific interests of the individuals and provides no significant experience of what working in a specific sector entails will not be supported, nor will the costs of delivering Careers Services activity or other types of similar statutory provision.

Grants under this strand will normally be for expenditure within 12 months. Further awards may depend on monitoring returns being provided timeously in relation to previous awards.

#### **4 Developing career aspirations and journeys – who can apply?**

Applicants for the costs of activities aimed at **Developing Career Aspirations and Journeys** may be schools (primary or secondary), community/third sector bodies or private businesses (micro – small only). These are the conditions that applicants must fulfil to apply for a grant:

- Community groups / third sector organisations (not-for-profit) must provide an up-to-date governing document. Applicants do not need to be registered charities to apply.
- All applicants except schools must 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.
- Applicants must identify which of the Fund outcomes (see section 3 above) the proposal will deliver and demonstrate that the planned activity benefits or involves residents within the area of benefit.
- Where possible applicants should seek to show that local suppliers of goods and services will be used, where appropriate.

#### **5 Priority Sectors**

The activities above will be supported in the following sectors, on a scale of reducing priorities:

Priority 1: Renewables and energy industry related;

Priority 2: Engineering, construction and related trades (e.g. electrical, plumbing, joinery), health & safety, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths and Digital);

Priority 3: Industries which will benefit job retention in the area, including tourism, forestry and timber technologies, rural development, agriculture (including crofting), environmental conservation, estates management, aquaculture / fisheries management, equestrian, other land-based industries, food & drink, health and social care, creative industries, life sciences, finance and business services, haulage, education and other sectors generating benefits for the local community;

Priority 4: Other education courses that enhance employability and the success of micro (1-10 employees) and small (11-50 employees) sized businesses, including ability to set up and grow your own business. Examples are: marketing & sales, IT & web development, managing staff, accounts / financial management, entrepreneurship and business sustainability.

## **6 Exclusions**

Awards can only support activity that is charitable in nature. The Fund cannot support the following types of activity:

- The advancement of religion or party politics;
- Activities that are the statutory responsibility of statutory authorities;
- Activities contrary to the interests of EDF Renewables or its subsidiaries;
- Activities likely to bring the fund administrator, EDF Renewables or its subsidiaries into disrepute;
- Anti-renewable energy/windfarm activities; or
- Retrospective funding (i.e. paying for costs incurred before a decision on an application to the Fund for support can be made, including the repayment of loans or debts).

## **7 Frequency of awards**

There will be two rounds of awards each year, and application deadlines are on the Fund web-page: <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/corriemoille-education-and-training/> For more information please call Foundation Scotland on 0131 524 0300 or e-mail to [communitybenefit@foundationscotland.org.uk](mailto:communitybenefit@foundationscotland.org.uk)