

An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund Panel Member

Role Profile

Overview

An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund Panel is an informal body of local residents drawn together for the specific purpose of advising on grant awards from the An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund. The Fund opened in 2011 and is provided by Green Gecco and RWE, the owners and operators of An Suidhe Wind Farm. It benefits those living in the areas covered by the Community Councils of Glenorchy and Innishail (Eredine only), Inveraray, Furnace, and by Dalavich Improvement Group. Not-for-profit groups and organisations working to benefit people in the four areas can apply to the Fund.

An annual amount of £28,500, rising in line with inflation, will be paid into the Fund for the operating life of the wind farm.

A Community Panel, made up of people who live in the four communities, decide how grants are awarded from the Fund. Panel members may come from any walk of life. In fact, the more diverse the Panel, the more representative of the local communities it is likely to be. The only qualifications for Panel membership are that you are:

- aged 18 or over
- resident in the area you wish to represent
- take a healthy interest in community issues and activities, and
- keen to see the Fund make a real difference to the four communities.

The Fund is administered by an independent grant making charity, Foundation Scotland. The Foundation supports the Panel in its role and carries out all grant making, publicity and financial administration of the fund.

Panel members for this voluntary role will be identified through a process agreed between Foundation Scotland and the local Community Council/s or Dalavich Improvement Group (as appropriate).

Panel members are expected to serve for between one and four years. A conflict of interest policy ensures that Panel members are not involved in decisions about applications from groups they are directly involved with.

Key Responsibilities

- **Determine / review the Fund Strategy:** The Panel decide on any specific priorities for the Fund, award sizes, deadline frequencies, and overall grant-making approach.
- **Attend an induction session and any further training:** Led by Foundation Scotland, these will focus on building an effective Panel.
- **Review assessment and progress reports:** Foundation Scotland assesses all applications to the Fund and provides assessment reports for consideration by Panel Members before each decision making meeting. The Foundation also provides information on the achievements and outcomes reported by grant recipients in their progress/ completion reports.
- **Attend Panel meetings:** At these meetings decisions are made on grant awards. Panel members also review the fund's financial position, progress against awards made, and consider any other relevant items of Fund business.
- **Promote the Fund locally:** Panel members are encouraged to play a role in promotional activity e.g.: distributing posters, forwarding emails, attending publicity events.
- **Providing information on the Fund to the community council (or equivalent):** Panel members nominated by their community council (or equivalent body) will openly share information on fund activity so as to ensure the community council is informed of the Fund's status and relevant key decisions.

Additional information

- The Panel is supported by a staff member at Foundation Scotland. The Foundation will assess all applications and help facilitate Panel meetings.
- The precise number of Panel meetings will depend on the amount of funding available, demand for grants, and the Panel's availability and preferred application deadlines. Currently there is one meeting per year.
- This is a voluntary role but all reasonable expenses (travel and /or childcare costs) incurred by Panel Members in the line of duty may be met from the Fund.
- The Foundation promotes openness and transparency in its community benefit work and will make brief information about Panel members available on our website. This will not include their contact details.
- For further information please contact Tom Black at Foundation Scotland on 0131 524 0331 or at tom@foundationscotland.org.uk