

Unlock our Future Fund

Community Champions Panel: Role Profile

Background

Vattenfall's European Offshore Wind Deployment Centre provides £150,000 per annum (index-linked) for the lifetime of the wind farm (expected to be at least 20 years) to a community benefit fund to support projects taking place within the boundaries of the local authority areas of Aberdeenshire and /or the City of Aberdeen. The Fund is administered by Foundation Scotland (FS), an independent grant-making charity, under contract to Vattenfall.

The Fund's strategic priorities are projects which:

- Contribute to a climate smarter world with sustainability at its core;
- Invest in community facilities and activities that are fit for the future and are environmentally sustainable;
- Support creative solutions; and,
- Ensure a legacy (lasting impact) which brings clear benefit to the local community.

Funding awards are made annually. The Fund will be open for its fourth round of applications early in 2022.

The Community Champions Panel

The Community Champions Panel's principal roles are to advise FS as to how funds are to be distributed and shape the Fund's ongoing strategy.

Community Champions are individuals who have knowledge, skills and interest in the geographical area of benefit and the strategic priorities of the Fund.

The role of the Community Champions Panel is set out in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with FS. The role of the Panel is to:

- Advise FS regarding awards from the community benefit scheme;
- Advise FS on other aspects of the management of the community benefit scheme such as promotion and awareness-raising and strategic activities designed to maximise benefits to the community;

- Comply with the Community Champions Panel Code of Conduct and any other policies including the Community Champions Panel Communications Protocol as it may be varied from time to time adopted by the Community Champions Panel;
- Review application assessment reports provided by FS prior to each meeting of the Community Champions Panel;
- Work with Vattenfall (the owners of the European Offshore Wind Deployment Centre) as necessary to ensure that there is at all times a third party administrator of the community benefit scheme;
- In addition to their collective role as a Community Champions Panel, individual Community Champions Panel members may have designated roles and responsibilities, and Community Champions Panel members will work with FS to achieve these responsibilities.

Awards are made annually. In previous years, the Panel has met a number of times over the course of the year to:

- Plan the coming year's grant making schedule and related promotional (including outreach) work
- Give final approval to Fund documentation and PR releases before the Fund opens for applications
- Advise on shortlisting applications for awards
- Advise on final awards
- Carry out a review of the Fund, including the impacts achieved, and
- Recommend changes to the Fund strategy and grant making approach where required.

Four to Five meetings per year can be expected.

Meetings have taken place in person, normally during the working day, in central Aberdeen and online via video conferencing. Whether future meetings are in person or online will be subject to review.

Community Champions may also assist in delivering drop-in sessions for potential applicants and take part in events to promote the Fund.

Community Champions Panel members are expected to serve between two and four years. The role is voluntary, however, reasonable travel expenses incurred in fulfilling the role may be reimbursed.

FS will provide an induction for new Panel members and provide support and advice to the Panel in their work.

Applying to be a Community Champions Panel Member

To be eligible to join the Community Champions Panel you must be aged 16 or above and have knowledge, skills and interest in the geographical area of benefit and the strategic priorities of the Fund.

To apply, please complete the online application form, available [here](#). You may be asked to attend an interview (which is likely to be conducted online) as part of the selection process.

The closing date for applications is **8 December 2021**.

If you would like to discuss the role before making an application, please contact:

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