

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, 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
- 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 eighth round of applications early in 2026.

The Community Champions Panel

The Community Champions Panel's principal roles are to advise Foundation Scotland as to how funds are to be distributed and shape the fund's ongoing strategy. Panel members 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 panel is set out in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Foundation Scotland. The role of the panel is to:

- Review application assessment reports provided by Foundation Scotland prior to each meeting of the panel
- Advise Foundation Scotland regarding awards from the fund
- Advise Foundation Scotland on other aspects of the management of the fund such as promotion and awareness-raising and strategic activities designed to maximise benefits to the community
- Comply with the Code of Conduct adopted by the 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 fund

In addition to their collective role as a panel, individual panel members may have designated roles and responsibilities, and panel members will work with Foundation Scotland 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
- Recommend changes to the fund strategy and grant making approach where required
- Select new panel members to fill vacancies

Four to five meetings per year can be expected.

Meetings have taken place in person, normally during the working day in Aberdeen and online via video conferencing. We expect to continue with this mix of in person and online meetings. When meetings are in person, the option of attending online is available.

Panel members may also assist in delivering information sessions for potential applicants and take part in events to promote the fund.

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.

Foundation Scotland will provide an induction for new panel members and provide support and advice to the panel in their work.

Applying to be a Panel Member

To be eligible to join the 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 **25th November 2024**.

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

Marion McDonald, Community Fund Adviser, Foundation Scotland

Tel: 07912 759524

Email: marion@foundationscotland.org.uk