Clocaenog Forest Wind Farm Fund

Guidelines

These notes should be read before applications are submitted to the Clocaenog Forest Wind Farm Fund. It is also advisable to refer to these notes during the application process.

We highly recommend contacting the Clocaenog Forest Wind Farm Fund Manager or a Community & Voluntary Support Conwy (CVSC) officer before completing or submitting an application.

For further help or advice please contact:

Esyllt Adair **01492 523855** **e-mail:** esylltadair@cvsc.org.uk

Marial Guttridge **01492 523854** **e-mail:** marial.guttridge@cvsc.org.uk

What is Clocaenog Forest Wind Farm Fund?

Clocaenog Forest Wind Farm is an onshore wind farm project owned by RWE. It is built on land leased from the Welsh Government that is managed by Natural Resources Wales.

The 96MW project, near Denbigh has 27 wind turbines in the forest and has the capacity to produce electric for approximately 63,800 UK per year[1].

As part of the project there will be an investment of £19 million over 25 years for communities within the area of benefit in Conwy and Denbighshire counties.

Launched in October 2020 the scheme is independently managed by CVSC. Applications to the fund are assessed by a local panel on a quarterly basis. The panel comprises of community representatives recruited from across the area of benefit.

[1] Energy predicted to be generated by the proposal is derived using wind speeds monitored in the local area and correlating to longer term historical weather data using meteorological models seeded with data obtained from satellite, surface-based and airborne measurement systems. The calculations are based on an installed capacity of 96MW. Equivalent homes supplied is based on an annual electricity consumption per home of 4100 kWh. This figure is supported by recent domestic electricity consumption data available from The Digest of UK Energy Statistics and household figures from the UK National Statistics Authority.

Funding available:





Themes: Every project must achieve at least one of the 5 themes

All themes are in line with the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
https://www.futuregenerations.wales/about-us/future-generations-act/

Theme 1: Prosperous Communities

- Bring communities together
- Improving community facilities
- Celebrating the culture and heritage of our communities

Theme 2: Health and Wellbeing

- Supporting and improving social care in our rural communities
- Reduce poverty, loneliness and isolation
- Improving transport services in the area
- Sports and leisure

Theme 3: The Economy

- Job creation and business support * (see separate guidelines for businesses)
- Training and education
- Tourism
- Outdoor Industry
- Agriculture and diversification

Theme 4: Conservation and the Environment

- Protect the natural beauty of the area
- Wildlife
- Creating green spaces
- Heritage conservation

Theme 5: Digital

- Broadband
- Cellular network
- Digital skills development through digital images, apps, film
- Digital inclusion

Cross-cutting themes:

All applicants will need to consider as many of the following themes as they can in their delivery:

- Environmental Impact
- The Welsh language
- Young people
- Economic development
- Equal opportunities

Who's eligible?

- Parish, Community and Town councils
- Commercial Organisations & Businesses (Micro 1–10 employees) – Applications form businesses will open in 2021 with seperate criteria
- Social enterprises, community and 3rd sector organisations
- Parent and teacher organisation
- Charities
- Sports groups, co-operatives, tourism and enviromental groups
- Schools and the Local Authority can be a partner in an application when it can be demonstrated that this is the only viable option to take the project forward and where they can demonstrate significant community support.

Organisations within the specified area of benefit* will require a written constitution (e.g. a set of rules / governing document) and will need to have a bank or building society account (in the name of the organisation) with a minimum of two signatories in place before applying for a grant.
All organisations will have to have at least 3 named directors / trustees who are not related

Exclusions

The following are not eligible:

- Any works considered a statutory responsibility e.g. schools for curriculum activities
- Projects that are religious in focus or that support a party political campaign or cause or may bring the fund or the funder into disrepute
- Retrospective funding, i.e. projects that have already started / completed, whether or not already paid for
- Building up a reserve or surplus, whether distributable or not
- Costs associated with 'Asset Transfers' from Local Authorities (i.e. legal costs, feasibility costs etc.) However, once the Asset has been transferred, the group responsible for the amenity is eligible to apply for a grant from the fund
- Organisations that do not have two signatories per financial transaction (must not be related) cannot apply
- Core costs will not be funded – but full cost recovery for new projects is eligible

Completing the Application Form:

Section 1: About you / your organisation / your business

- What is your role? (e.g. Chair, Owner, Secretary)
- What kind of organisation are you? (e.g. community group, charity)
- Are you part of a wider organisation or affiliated to any national governing body or charity?

Section 2: About your project

- Tell us about your project. What do you want to do? Why do you want to do it? If you undertake the project, what difference will it make in your community / to your group / the environment / the building / for your members?
- Only by clearly stating what you want to do, will the panel gain an insight to your project.
- You must highlight the benefits of the proposed scheme. Only then can your application be assessed in terms of value for money.
- Don't forget to be realistic with your start and finish dates. Issues such as planning and structural works often take longer than expected.
- You may write in paragraph form, bullet points or continue on a separate sheet of paper. Try to be concise and keep to the main points.
- What evidence do you have that the project is needed? Do you have any evidence to support your view? How would this funding help you to achieve your goal?
- What difference will the project make? (e.g. purchase of new equipment will allow us to set up new mother and toddler class, or, project will enable this redundant building be reopened as a Guide and Scout hut, or, project will create 30 new club members/a new job, etc.)

Section 3: Financial Details

- This section deals with project costs
- Any item costing more than £5,000 will require 3 quotes, under £5,000 will require 1 quote
- You should list every item / element you are seeking funding for
- Include the net cost, the VAT element and total cost
- State clearly whether your organisation is able to reclaim VAT
- If you propose to reclaim VAT only include the net cost of each item
- Applicants are encouraged to find match funding for their projects; however, this is not mandatory and there is no set amount for match funding required for funding under £10,000.
- List all other funders / potential funders, confirmed or unconfirmed and the amount you are seeking from them.
- Finally, at the bottom of this section state how much grant aid you are seeking

Section 4: Applications over £10,000

In addition to the above, groups seeking funding of more than £10,000 will need to present the following as part of the application:

- 3-year business plan / development plan.
- Match funding is not essential; however, it is highly recommended that match funding is sought. You are strongly advised to speak with the Grants Fund Manager before submitting your application. Examples of match funding include: Cash (own funds or other funder), Volunteer time or other in-kind contributions, Assets, etc.
- The maximum grant that can be applied for is **£100,000 over a 3-year period** – BUT larger applications may be considered under special circumstances (Contact the fund manager to discuss)

Essential Information:

- The Clocaenog Forest Wind Farm Fund can support both capital and revenue projects.
- New groups without audited accounts will need to submit a recent bank statement.
- Applicants are expected to demonstrate the community support for a project by means of independent letters or email evidence/letters of community support for project (5 max)
- Copy of planning permission or listed building consent if your project includes building work.
- Measurable outcomes from your project
- Groups will be asked to submit the following supplementary information:
    - Copy of organisation constitution
    - Equal Opportunities and Language Policies
    - Written quotes or estimates
    - Copy of last available accounts
    - Up to date bank statement
- **There is flexibility in how the funding is split BUT a strong application in Zone 1 should not loose out at the expense of applications from Zones 2 & 3.**

Following any grant award:

The contact person will receive a letter outlining the panel's decision. The contact person must sign and return one copy of the letter / contract to CVSC. It's important that you keep a copy for your own records. If your application is successful you must agree to:

- Submit receipts / invoices for all expenditure
- Submit reports as requested (these will be commensurate with the size and complexity of your project)
- Use the monies exactly as specified in your application unless prior discussion and permission from CVSC is granted
- Publicise the Clocaenog Forest Wind Farm Fund on all project publications, websites and social media (@ClocaenogCF)

****PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU SPEAK TO THE FUND MANAGER OR A CVSC OFFICER BEFORE SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION****

GDPR STATEMENT

Community and Voluntary Support Conwy (CVSC) operating on behalf of the Clocaenog Forest Wind Farm Fund, will use will use the information contained in your application document, including personal information, to process your funding application. This involves the sharing in full with our partners Cadwyn Clwyd, DVSC, RWE, Denbighshire and Conwy Councils, members of the panel and any independent evaluators that are contracted by us. The information will be entered on a database utilised by CVSC and its Third Sector Support Wales partners (further information and our privacy notice are available from thirdsectorsupport.wales). The information will be held for the length of the Clocaenog Forest Wind Farm project and then destroyed securely.

Please return completed application form and supporting documents to:

Esyllt Adair	01492 523855	esylltadair@cvsc.org.uk
Marial Guttridge	01492 523854	marial.guttridge@cvsc.org.uk

Area of Benefit Map:

