North Hoyle Offshore Windfarm Community Fund Guidelines

These notes should be read before applications are submitted to the North Hoyle Offshore Windfarm Community Fund. It is also advisable to refer to these notes during the application process.

!We highly recommend contacting a Community & Voluntary Support Conwy (CVSC) officer before completing or submitting an application!

For further help or advice please contact: 01492 523845 or grants@cvsc.org.uk

What is North Hoyle Offshore Windfarm Community Fund?

North Hoyle wind farm is the first commercial offshore wind farm in the UK. North Hoyle is fully owned by Greencoat UK Wind. The windfarm was fully commissioned in 2004 and it has supported the local community since the start of operations via its dedicated community funds.

The original community fund obligation of 20 years expired in 2024 but the board of directors agreed to voluntarily continue its support to the local community until the wind farm is decommissioned.

In 2024, the contribution of North Hoyle to the community fund was £126,000 and the commitment of North Hoyle is to increase this contribution in accordance to inflation to ensure the community remains supported through the life of the project.

The community fund serves the areas of Rhyl, Prestatyn and Meliden.

Funding available:
Grants from £200 - £10,000

Themes: Every project must achieve at least one of the 3 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: Building strong, cohesive and sustainable communities

- Where people share a common vision, where peoples' differences are appreciated and accepted
- Where people have the same opportunities regardless of background
- Where people of different backgrounds can develop strong positive relationships
- Where people want to live and work now, and in the future
- That are prosperous, vibrant and improve peoples' quality of life

Theme 2: Developing prosperous, enterprising communities with strong economic growth

- Creating new job opportunities and/or sustaining existing jobs
- Helping people to develop new or improve existing skills
- Providing ongoing support and mentoring for people entering training and/or employment

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Theme 3: Reducing poverty and inequality in communities

- Reducing unemployment and raising household incomes
- Improving the health and educational outcomes of families living in poverty

Who's eligible?

- Parish, Community and Town councils
- Social enterprises, community and 3rd sector organisations
- Parent and teacher organisation
- Charities
- Sports groups, co-operatives, tourism and enviromental groups
- Projects must operate and be delivered in its entirety within either Rhyl, Prestatyn or Meliden

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.
- 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

Essential Information:

- The 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

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 North Hoyle Offshore Windfarm Community Fund on all project publications, websites and social media.

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 North Hoyle Community Benefit Fund, 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 (DVSC, Denbighshire County Council, RWE, 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 https://thirdsectorsupport.wales/privacy). Information for feedback purposes will also be entered on RWE renewables' own system on our service and RWE will contact you regarding this. The information will be held for the length of the North Hoyle project and then destroyed securely.

Please return completed Application Form and supporting documents to:

grants@cvsc.org.uk or CVSC, 7 Rhiw Road, Colwyn Bay, Conwy. LL29 7TG

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To find out more about how the North Hoyle Community Fund is making an impact locally, visit the dedicated page on **@NWOffshoreCF**



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