

## RANGE OF CRITERIA FOR GRANTS FROM THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL WINDFARM TRUST

The Criteria outlined in this document have been developed in line with the Scottish Government Good Practice Principles for Community Benefits. The Criteria aim to reflect the principles of:-

Lasting Legacy

Trust and Transparency

Flexible Approach

Community Action Plan

Local Decision Making

Fair Process between Renewable Industry and the Community

Grants awarded will be in line with the Community Council Development Plan and/or Action Plans and will be aligned with meeting the priorities identified in these documents.

### **1. What can be funded?**

- (a) Grants awarded will normally be considered for the purposes of:-
  - (i) community facilities,
  - (ii) skills and employment,
  - (iii) community or local events,
  - (iv) sport and recreation,
  - (v) environmental improvements,
  - (vi) youth and education,
  - (vii) heritage and/or
  - (viii) net zero/emissions reduction initiatives.

### **2. What needs to be provided before an application will be considered?**

- (a) Evidence that the organisation is properly constituted or is a recognised charity.
- (b) A copy of your organisations constitution
- (c) A copy of the most recent (audited) accounts or an up to date bank statement if newly formed.
- (d) Applications from individuals may be considered at the discretion of the Trustees.

Criteria Updated July 2022.

**3. What will the Trustees consider in your application?**

- (a) The area in which the grant is to benefit would normally be the Area of 'The Community Council'.
- (b) The grant will be used to provide benefit for the community.
- (c) The grant will be used for proposals that further the ambition of helping to achieve Net Zero and have a positive climate impact in the area.
- (d) The grant will be used to benefit tourism, or the scenic or historic value of the area.
- (e) The grant will benefit the community at large.
- (f) Has other funding been applied for/approved.
- (g) The ongoing sustainability of the project – ie. evidence of how ongoing costs will be met.

**4. What will not be funded?**

Community Benefit funds cannot be used for:

- (a) political or religious purposes;
- (b) giving a gift, offering payment, offering hospitality or entertainment with the expectation or hope that an advantage will be received, to award an advantage already given or to facilitate or expedite a procedure;
- (c) to acquire, invest in, or otherwise fund any legal entity, enterprise or project where the purpose for which such funds are to be applied would not, in the reasonable opinion of the Community Council, demonstrate a significant benefit to the local community;
- (d) Activities contrary to the interests of the Windfarm Trust or its subsidiaries or adverse to the renewable energy industry or the electricity industry;
- (e) Activities that are generally understood to be the exclusive responsibility of a statutory authority;
- (f) Retrospective applications where works have already commenced; or
- (g) to advance a loan or to advance credit – unless a clear business case is provided in support of the application.

**5. Further Information**

#### Grants for Revenue Costs

Grants are available for Revenue or running costs for the following:

- (1) A village hall or other community building:-
  - (a) Where there has been reasonable fundraising to match the amount of the grant.
  - (b) With reference to a set of accounts and a current bank statement.
  - (c) With the proviso that the money does not simply increase the general balance.
- (2) The provision of administrative support to community councils, trusts and charities in each community council area.

#### Grants for Capital Costs

Grants are available for Capital or Project costs with the following considerations:

- (1) That the project has been identified through community consultation and features in the Community Council Development Plan and/or Community Action Plan.
- (2) That the project may only be totally funded by the Trust when there is evidence that all other funding sources have been exhausted.

#### **6. Revision of "Range and Criteria"**

The range and criteria can be reviewed by the Trustees as necessary with agreement of all parties.