



South
Cambridgeshire
District Council

Criteria and Guidance for Zero Carbon Communities Grant 2019-20

What is the Zero Carbon Communities Grant?

The Zero Carbon Communities Grant supports voluntary and community sector groups, charities and parish councils seeking to deliver bold, ambitious projects that engage communities and support the aim of zero carbon emissions by 2050.

Applications are invited for grants of up to £15,000 per project for projects which are intended to achieve:

- 1) community engagement around climate change and the environment, **and**
- 2) one or more of the following:
 - reduction in carbon emissions
 - reduction in energy use
 - generation of renewable energy or heat
 - promotion of sustainable travel
 - reduction in use of resources
 - increased recycling and/or waste reduction

Grant funding can be used for capital items and/or for project costs including staff time.

Applications will be assessed according to the following headings:

- 1) the extent proposals align with the aims of the scheme as listed above
- 2) Value for money
- 3) The extent to which organisational capacity, resources and timescales for the delivery of proposals are considered realistic
- 4) The extent to which the proposals benefit areas of the district not otherwise reached
- 5) How bold, ambitious and imaginative the proposal is

The Zero Carbon Communities Grant will open for applications on 6 May 2019.

The application deadline is 5pm on 5th July 2019.

Match funding

Match funding is strongly encouraged especially for projects involving energy improvements to buildings which will result in savings to running costs. There is no requirement that proposals are match funded. However, match funded proposals will be favourably assessed.

Who can apply?

Applicants must:

- Be a non-profit group or organisation based in South Cambridgeshire or benefiting South Cambridgeshire residents, OR a South Cambridgeshire parish council.

Applications from partnerships are encouraged provided that the lead applicant is an eligible organisation as listed above. Partnerships could include parish councils, informal and constituted groups, established voluntary sector organisations, schools, local businesses and/or community interest companies.

Where a proposal anticipates financial savings or income, the applicant will need to show this will be for the benefit of the community.

- Have a written constitution or mission statement
- Have an elected committee or representative steering group
- Have a bank account
- Be able to provide an up to date copy of their accounts and any relevant protection policies. Parish councils can signpost us to relevant online documentation and do not need to submit hard copies.

If you have questions about these requirements please contact us on duty.communities@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713070

If your organisation does not have a written constitution, mission statement and/or relevant protection policies please contact Cambridge Council for Voluntary Service for advice in meeting these requirements. Please call 01223 464696 or email enquiries@cambridgecvs.org.uk

Examples of what can be funded

- Community initiatives and events that promote sustainable lifestyle choices
- Energy saving improvements to community buildings, eg external wall insulation, cavity wall insulation, loft/roof insulation, secondary glazing, replacement windows/doors, replacement energy efficient lighting, replacement energy efficient boiler/ heating system, battery storage for solar panel or other low carbon energy generation measures.
- Community energy projects such as solar arrays or community wind turbines

- Electric vehicle charging points for community use
- Purchase of electric vehicle for community use
- Community tree planting for absorption of carbon and increasing biodiversity
- Projects that tackle fuel poverty
- Cycling infrastructure such as cycle paths and cycle stands

All proposals must demonstrate an element of community engagement.

This list is not exhaustive. Applications are encouraged for projects not listed which meet the criteria.

What cannot be funded?

Grant funding cannot be awarded for/to:

- Renewable energy installations where it is intended to claim Renewable Heat Incentive payments or any other payments where the use of public grants renders the installation ineligible for such payments.
- Projects that replace funding by other public sector bodies (although it can be used to top up funding from other public sector bodies)
- Items that would only benefit individuals rather than community groups
- Kitchen appliances such as cookers and fridges (these may be fundable through the Community Chest)

How much can be applied for?

Applications are invited for a minimum of £1,000 and up to £15,000 per organisation.

When can groups apply?

Applications for Zero Carbon Communities Grant will be open 6 May 2019 until 5pm 5 July 2019

What supporting documentation is required?

- A copy of your organisation's constitution or mission statement (except parish councils)
- A copy of your latest accounts (audited if available)

- A quote for the project

In addition, the following will be required if relevant to the project:

- Public Rights of Way consent from landowner
- Building energy survey, or community building energy self-survey

How will the grant be paid?

If successful, the applicant will receive the grant payment once we have received acknowledgement of the grant offer and acceptance of the terms and conditions.

What are the conditions of funding?

Groups that are awarded a grant will be expected to comply with the following conditions as a minimum:

- Funding must only be used for the agreed purpose and spent within 12-months of the award being made (unless otherwise agreed in writing)
- Publicity must take place acknowledging the award provided by South Cambridgeshire District Council
- Unused grant must be returned to South Cambridgeshire District Council
- An end of project report with photographs must be submitted to the Council within three months of project completion.

Please note: **eligibility does not guarantee grant funding.** The Council reserves the right to prioritise based on funding available, number and type of applications received at any given time, priorities for the financial year, value for money, and the geographical spread and range of projects across South Cambridgeshire.

Applicants are encouraged to seek additional funding, especially from parish councils.

Applicants are encouraged to seek support for their application from their local Member and from their parish council where applicable.

For further information please contact:

Contact details: duty.communities@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713070