

# Community Climate Action Fund



## Community Climate Action Fund

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### Agenda

- Community Climate Action Programme
- Background and Overview
- Programme Objectives
- Overview of Climate Action Fund
- Eligibility
- Funding Available
- Project Themes
- Application and Evaluation



## Community Climate Action Fund

### Objectives of Programme

- Support community groups to take climate action
- Build low carbon, sustainable communities

### Overview of fund

- 2 funding periods, projects must be delivered in 18 months
- 100% vouched funding for projects
- Direct climate action projects only
- Competitive process: not all applicants will receive funding

### Strands of Community Climate Action Fund

- Strand 1: “Building Low Carbon Communities” -(€392,000)
- Strand 1a: “Shared Island Community Climate Action” - €3m



## Community Climate Action Fund

### Eligibility

- Must be a **not-for-profit** organisation located in the County Monaghan
- **Must be registered** with the PPN, or connected with other collectives (The Wheel, Tidy Towns)- Articles of Association or a Constitution - hold an AGM, approved minutes available
- Must submit a completed application form on or before the specified closing date and time
- (Strand 1 a) Must partner with organisation in Northern Ireland
- (Strand 1 a) LA or community/environmental organisation registered in Northern Ireland

### Non eligible

- Aspects eligible for funding must be capital in essence.

Projects that solely benefit an individual	Overheads, ongoing running costs
Teaching/staffing	Insurance
Travel and transport costs except in exceptional circumstances	Accommodation and subsistence
Equipment, unless directly associated with the project	Notional costs e.g. the room hire within the applicant's own premises
Income generating projects	Legal Fees
Penalties/Interest/Bank Interest/Charges	Loan repayments
Retrospective costs i.e. expenditure which has taken place prior to approval date of the project	Redundancy Costs
Costs for which more appropriate funding opportunities already exist are ineligible, where it is clear that Community Climate Action Programme funding is a substitute for other public funding which is currently available	



## Community Climate Action Fund

### Project Scales

Project Scale	Project Value	% of Fund
Small Scale Projects	Up to €20,000	~10%
Medium Scale Projects	€20,000 up to €50,000	~40%
Large Scale Projects	€50,000 up to €100,000	~50%



## Community Climate Action Fund

### Themes for climate action projects



**Energy:** projects aim to reduce the climate impact of buildings in communities by using less energy, utilising renewable energy and avoiding heat loss.

Projects may include:

- Retrofitting of community building
- LED community lighting upgrades
- Small community renewable projects (solar, wind)
- Solar bins



## Community Climate Action Fund

**Travel:** projects aim to reduce emissions related to travel

Projects may include:

- Bike racks or storage
- Bike repair station
- E cargo bike

**Food and Waste:** projects aim to reduce food waste.

Projects may include:

- Community gardens/allotments promoting local food production
- Community composting facilities
- Community fridge



## Community Climate Action Fund

**Shopping & Recycling:** projects aim to promote the reduction, reuse and repair of materials, and increase the number of recycling facilities.

Projects may include:

- Increasing recycling facilities in community building
- Community repair hubs
- Water refill stations



**Local Climate & Environmental Action:** projects that take a rounded approach to managing the local environment

- Mini forests
- Dispersed orchards
- Pollinator projects





## Applying for fund

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## Community Climate Action Fund

### Application form for Fund

#### Section 1: Details on your group/organization

- Who, What, Where, Purpose of Group, Set out the governance arrangements for the organisation. Attach supporting documentation such as terms of reference, constitution, AGM minutes etc, where appropriate. etc.
- Funding for successful applications under this programme will only be paid to the lead applicant group/organisation's Bank Account. Please ensure you have your Bank Account details to hand if your application is successful.
- VAT is considered eligible for grant payment in cases where it cannot be reclaimed. For groups who cannot reclaim VAT, all their costs should be inclusive of VAT. If a group is able to reclaim VAT, then their expenses should be exclusive of VAT.



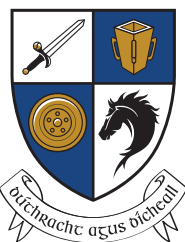
#### Section 2: Group/organization contact details

- Provide details of the person who will be dealing with queries in relation to application.

## Application form for Fund

### Section 3: Project Details

- Description of the project, its purpose, programme themes, costs and other required details , Procurement Details to showcase value for money (3 quotes), start and end date, VAT status, necessity for grant.
- **Relevance and Impact** - Outline how the project is relevant to the purpose of the grant to shape and build low carbon communities. Comment on how the project will contribute to Ireland's and Monaghan's climate and energy targets.
- **Innovation/Scalability** - Does your project deal with matters common to other communities and involving solutions that can be applied elsewhere? Describe the lasting impact of your project.
- **Necessity for Funding:** details outlining how your project could not go ahead without grant aid, or outlining how the grant will enable you to undertake more work which your group would otherwise not be able to afford.
- **Value for Money:** project represent good value for money and efficient use of resources. (3 quotes).
- **Achievability** - Outline the planned milestones (incl. budget).
- **Partnership Approach** - Outline how the key stakeholders will be involved in the project.
- **Governance** - Outline your structures/ systems in place for implementing and managing the project, including financials, timelines, and programme requirements.



## Application form for Fund

### Section 4: State Aid Questionnaire

- Determine if the funding is State Aid (will depend on the organisation and type of project) and De Minimis Questionnaire - List all other De Minimis state aid granted within the past three fiscal years

### Section 5: Authorisation and Statutory Consent

- Where a project will be delivered from a site/building(s)/floor space that are not in the ownership of the Local Authority, it must be in the ownership of the applicant or either party must have a minimum five years lease from date of project completion. Where this is not possible there must be a written agreement with the site owner to enable access to the site for the benefit of the community for a period of five years.
- Do you have all required planning and regulatory permissions and consents and have you secured the necessary authorisations and/or rights of access to all required land, buildings and property for all associated work required for your project.



### Application form for Fund

#### Section 6: Supporting Documentation

- If relevant, please upload supporting documents to your application e.g. Energy Audit, Biodiversity Plan, GAA Green Clubs Plan, energy master plan, tidy towns report.

#### Section 7: Declaration



## Evaluation Process for Fund

### Evaluation Stage

- All projects will be reviewed and assessed by MCC against the evaluation criteria to determine if the project is suitable for funding.
- Applications that score 50% or above and meet the minimum score required under selected criteria as set out below, will be considered for a project.



Selection Criterion	Weighting	Basis for Assessment
Relevance and impact	30%	The project meets the objective to shape and build a low carbon community, and can demonstrate the impact of the project in contributing to Ireland's climate and energy targets.
Innovation and scalability	20%	The project contains practical innovation/(s) and/or approaches, with the potential to be scaled up or replicated in other communities. The project has a lasting impact.
Value for money	20%	The costs applied for are reasonable, represent an efficient use of resources and are commensurate with the quality and nature of the activities proposed. Realistic, specific and relevant outputs & outcomes are identified, which are commensurate with the level of investment.
Achievability	10%	The organisation has the appropriate expertise to deliver the proposed project. The proposal is clear & coherent and is deliverable within the timeframe. Key milestones specified with an explanation of how these will be monitored.
Partnership approach	10%	Any Partner/Consortium roles and responsibilities are clearly outlined with partnership agreements (where applicable). The proposal demonstrates how all key stakeholders will be involved in the planning & implementation of the proposal.
Governance arrangements	10%	Any necessary governance and financial management systems, controls and processes are in place to meet the requirements. Where applicable, evidence of tax compliance and registration with relevant bodies is supplied. Details of track record in managing other state funding is supplied.
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	

Selection Criterion	Weighting	Basis for Assessment
Shared Island Relevant and Impact	30%	The project meets the objective shape and build a low carbon community and can clearly demonstrate the impact of the project in contributing to climate and energy targets on a cross-border basis on the island and the sustainability objectives in the Shared Island chapter of the revised NDP.
Innovation and scalability	20%	The project contains practical innovation/(s) and/or approaches, with the potential to be scaled up or replicated in other communities. The project has a lasting impact.
Value for Money	20%	The costs applied for are reasonable, represent an efficient use of resources and are commensurate with the quality and nature of the activities proposed. Realistic, specific and relevant outputs and outcomes are identified which are commensurate with the level of investment.
Achievability	10%	The organisation has the appropriate expertise to deliver the proposed project. The proposal is clear and coherent and is deliverable within the timeframe. Key milestones are specified with an explanation of how these will be monitored.
Cross-border Partnership Approach	10%	Any Partner roles and responsibilities are outlined with partnership agreements in place (where applicable). The proposal demonstrates how all key stakeholders will be involved in the planning & implementation of the proposal. The proposal demonstrates how all key stakeholders will be involved in the planning and implementation of the proposal. The proposal includes at least one partner in Northern Ireland, and at least 50% of awarded funding will be for project delivery in Northern Ireland.
Governance Arrangements	10%	Any necessary governance and financial management systems, controls and processes are in place to meet the requirements. Where applicable, evidence of tax compliance and registration with relevant bodies is supplied. Details of track record in managing other state funding is supplied.
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	

### Evaluation process for Fund

#### 2. Selection:

Following evaluation, Monaghan County Council will try to ensure, insofar as is practical, to achieve the overall programme objectives. Selected projects will be put forward to the Department for approval.

- the desirability to fund a variety of different projects and across multiple themes
- the geographical distribution of projects
- the contribution of the projects to the climate action objectives of MCC.

#### 3. Approval:

The Minister for the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) will decide what projects are approved and any specific conditions of funding.



## Key Dates

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Milestones	Date
Application open	13 <sup>th</sup> December 23
Application close	6 <sup>th</sup> March 23
Evaluation and selection by MCC	May 2024
Approval by DECC	Q3 2024
Results announced	Q3 2024





## Keeping up to date



<https://monaghan.ie/environment/community-climate-action-programme2/>



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