

CGN Community Benefit Fund 2026

About Community Foundation Ireland

Community Foundation Ireland (the Foundation) and its donors are on a mission to mobilise strategic philanthropy to advance equality, strengthen communities and protect our nature and environment. We do so with over 5,000 voluntary, community and charitable partners who share our values of integrity, collaboration, courage as well as excellence and impact.

We use our skills and knowledge developed over 25 years to help donors turn aspirations into effective investments working with individuals, families, corporates, other trusts and foundations and Government to translate giving in the moment to giving that is strategic, sustainable and impactful.

Our mission is supported by three interwoven strategic priorities of; **People** (securing a fairer future), **Place** (strengthening communities) and **Planet** (protecting climate and nature).

About the Fund

The CGN Community Benefit Fund is specifically designed to support community, voluntary, and not-for-profit organisations in the vicinity of CGN's windfarms. The five windfarm locations are:

1. Skrine, Knockmeane, Roscommon
2. Roosky, Co. Roscommon
3. Leabeg, Ferbane, Co. Offaly
4. Faughary, Manorhamilton, Co Leitrim
5. Cloghboola, Knocknagashel, Co. Kerry

The Fund aims to stimulate active community participation and remove barriers that leave community members isolated. In addition to fostering community development and inclusivity, we also endorse local initiatives that promote environmental sustainability, climate action, and biodiversity preservation.

Grant Round Timeline

Grant round opens	Tuesday 4th August 2026
Grant round closes	Friday 4th September at 5pm
Grants awarded	October 2026
Projects will begin	November 2026
Interim Report Due	May 2027
Final Outcome Report Due	November 2027

Vicinity of Windfarm

Applications are only open to organisations that are:

- Based within the local area
- Primarily operate within this area

Priority Areas

Grants of **up to €2,000** are available to encourage local initiatives, particularly projects that:

- Amplify opportunities for engagement in community life
- Foster a shared sense of community identity and connectedness
- Work with potentially vulnerable groups, such as older adults, lone parents, people with disabilities, those in rural isolation
- Support children and young people
- Support members of new communities, or members of Traveller communities
- Heritage and arts projects
- Environmental initiatives focusing on climate action, biodiversity, and enhancement of the local environment

Please note that only one application per organisation will be accepted

Eligibility

Eligible organisations must	Eligible projects must
• Be a registered charity <u>or</u> a local community / voluntary group • Have up to date governing documents, annual accounts and a dedicated bank account • Have charitable aims and operate with a not-for-profit model • Be situated or primarily active within the local area surrounding the windfarm	• Target one or more of our identified priority areas • Include clear, detailed, realistic costs and timescales • Align with the fund's mission of supporting community development and social inclusion • Agree to terms and conditions, including six-monthly reporting and potential site visits

Ineligible organisations include	Ineligible projects include
• Statutory bodies • For-profit companies • Organisations outside the Republic of Ireland • Individuals who are not part of an organisation	• Ongoing core costs such as insurance, rent, bills, etc. • Religious, political, or animal welfare activities • Projects that have already happened or any activities that will happen before the grants are awarded. • Projects taking place outside of the Republic of Ireland

Successful Applicants

All successful applicants must:

1. Sign a Grant Agreement confirming the grant will be used for the purposes outlined in the application
2. Submit a Progress Report after 6 months informing us of your progress
3. Submit a Final Outcome Report after 12 months

Note that guidelines for completion of reports will be issued by the Foundation.

Please also note that your project may be selected for a site visit by Community Foundation Ireland and/or CGN. Selected projects will be notified in advance.

How to apply

The Fund is open for applications on Tuesday 4th August and will close on Friday 4th September at 5pm. Applicants can apply for a maximum of €2,000.

All applications must meet the criteria above. Any organisation or project that does not meet the criteria will not be successful in this grant round.

To apply to the Grant Round, you must first register your organisation on the Community Foundation Ireland portal. **For information on how to register and log in, please read the instructions in the Application Guide [here](#).**

Should you have any further questions, please contact the Grants Team at info@foundation.ie