

Energia Meenadreen

Community Benefit Fund 2025

About Community Foundation Ireland

Community Foundation Ireland and its partners believe in equality for all in thriving communities. We work with individuals, families, corporates and other trusts and foundations as well as Government to translate giving in the moment to giving that is strategic, sustainable and impactful. We have a network of 5,000 community partners and we use the skills and knowledge developed over 25 years to help donors turn aspirations into effective investments.

About the Fund

The Energia Meenadreen Community Benefit Fund supports community, voluntary, and not-for-profit groups based in close proximity to the Meenadreen windfarm.

The fund aims to support various community projects within **10 to 14km** of Meenadreen windfarm. Please note that projects **within 10km will be prioritised**, and that projects based in the immediate vicinity of the windfarm are particularly encouraged to apply. Projects over 14km from the windfarm will not be considered.

The Fund aims to encourage community engagement, improve community wellbeing, and contribute to biodiversity and the local environment.

Grant Round Timeline

Grant round opens	Monday 1st September 2025
Grant round closes	Tuesday 30th September at 5pm
Grants awarded	Early November 2025
Projects will begin	November / December 2025
Interim Report Due	June 2026
Final Outcome Report Due	December 2026

Key Information

To be eligible to apply, your organisation must:

- Be non-profit or voluntary
- Have charitable aims and a written constitution
- Be based **within 10-14km** of the Meenadreen windfarm (**priority will be given to those within 10km**)
- Have an organisational bank account
- Provide all organisational information and governance documents (please see list below). This must be submitted by the application deadline or your application will not be considered.

Please note that only one application per organisation will be accepted, and that this is a competitive fund – not all applicants will be successful.

Priority Areas

Grants of **up to €10,000** are available to encourage local initiatives, such as projects that:

- Promote community engagement and wellbeing, for example through training programmes, community events or social enterprise initiatives
- Foster a shared sense of community identity and connectedness, such as through heritage or arts projects
- 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 of Traveller communities

The fund is also keen to see applications for environmental projects that:

- Support climate action
- Contribute to biodiversity
- Enhance the local environment

Eligibility

Eligible organisations must	Eligible projects must
• Be a registered charity <u>or</u> a local community / voluntary group • Be willing to share the project story with Energia's media team • Demonstrate the capacity to fulfil the project's proposed timeline and budget • Submit all required governance documents and information • Have a Child Protection Policy (if working with under-18s) • Be situated or primarily active within 14km of the Meenadreen windfarm	• Be located within the immediate vicinity or up to 14km away from the Meenadreen windfarm (priority given to those within a 10km radius) • Focus on the priority areas as stated above • Have clear, realistic budgets and timelines • Provide clear, concrete evidence of how they will benefit the environment and/or local community • Agree to the terms and conditions, including six-monthly reporting and potential site visits

Ineligible organisations include	Ineligible projects include
• For-profit companies • Sporting organisations (unless a broader community benefit can be evidenced) • Groups involved in religious or political activities • Organisations without key governance documents (e.g. constitution, bank details). • Individuals	• Ongoing core costs such as salaries, 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. • Sponsorship or fundraising events. • Non-charitable activities

Governance Requirements

When submitting your application, all organisations will be required to upload digital copies of the following governance documents to our portal:

- **A constitution or memorandum and articles of association:** This must show the mission statement or main objects of the organisation, state that you are a non-profit and include a winding up clause. This document must be signed by two committee members.
- **Committee members:** A list of your organisation's committee members and the dates they were first appointed:
- **A bank statement header:** This must clearly show the account name, BIC and IBAN. Blank out any transactions, as this is purely to verify the account.
- **The organisation's most recent annual accounts:** Organisations with an annual income of less than €100,000 should provide one set of signed accounts for the most recent accounting year. A signed profit and loss account is also acceptable.
- **Note** that organisations with an annual income of over €100,000 must provide additional documents, including committee member IDs and two years of signed annual accounts.

If you submitted these documents previously, please review your "Organisation Profile" on the portal and ensure all information is up to date before submitting this year's application.

If you do not submit the correct governance documents, your application will not be considered for funding.

How to apply

The Fund is open for applications on Monday 5th September and will close on Tuesday 30th September at 5pm. Applicants can apply for a maximum of €10,000.

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, 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](#). If you have registered previously, please log in to the grants portal [here](#).

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