

The Community Sustainable Energy Programme

bre



Community Sustainable Energy Programme (CSEP)

Aim:

Increase the uptake of microgeneration installations on a community scale

Key objectives:

- Greater visibility and improved understanding by the general public as a result
- Demonstration on a wider scale
- Continue and enhance development of a robust renewable energy installer industry

Who can apply?

- **Not-for-profit** community based organisations in England, examples include:
 - community groups governed by a written constitution
 - registered charities and trusts
 - schools or colleges
 - companies with a charitable purpose
- **Examples of organisations *not* eligible are:**
 - NHS trusts
 - statutory organisations
 - learning and skills councils
 - housing associations
 - organisations whose main purpose is to make a profit

What technologies can be funded?



Solar photovoltaic (PV)



Solar thermal hot water



Wind turbines



Micro-hydro turbine



Heat pumps



Pellet stoves



Wood-fuelled boilers

Funding Available: Capital Grants

- **Supply and installation** of microgeneration technology at a permanent building
- Certain **energy efficiency** measures (eg cavity wall insulation).
- Maximum grant is **£50,000** or **50%** of the project cost (whichever is lower).
- The total fund is **£8 million**
- **Competitive basis** and the final decision rests with the Selection Panel (meets quarterly)

What can the grant be used for?

Capital Grants

- Only specific costs associated with the installation of certain types of technology.
- The eligible costs can be found in Appendix Three of the Guidance Notes on our website www.communitysustainable.org.uk



Assessment Criteria

Capital Grants

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Viability;
- Meeting the programme outcomes;
- Community involvement;
- Raising public awareness;
- Linkage to energy efficiency;
- Linkage to wider sustainability issues
- Value for money / benchmarks (£/tCO₂ saved)

Who installs the systems?

- Installers and products have to be registered with the government's Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS)
 - Or the Enhanced Capital Allowance scheme for products above 45 kW thermal
- For further information and contact details for your region, please refer to:
www.greenbooklive.com and
www.eca.gov.uk



Funding available: Project Development Grants

- Maximum grant is **£5,000 or 75 per cent** of the study cost – whichever is lower
- The total fund available is **£1 million**
- Awarded on **first come first served** basis



What can the grant be used for?

Project Development Grant

- Address key issues such as:
 - technical and financial viability
 - legal and planning issues
 - access to other sources of funding
 - **uniqueness**
 - **meeting the programme outcomes**
 - **value of potential Capital Project**
 - **Replication potential;**
- Studies must be carried out by one of the businesses listed on our Register of Consultants on our website

www.communitysustainable.org.uk



Match funding



Applicants can use their own reserves, loans or grants from other funders, e.g.

The Co-op Group Green Energy for Schools Programme; other Heritage and National Lottery Funding; RDA; local sustainable development funds; local fundraising



Able to apply to both CSEP – capital stream and LCBP Phase 2

www.lowcarbonbuildingsphase2.org.uk



other Big Lottery Fund ‘Changing Spaces’ programme

How does the application process work?

- apply **online** (faster)
- **postal** applications are also accepted

Decision

- **capital** stream – 10 days following the selection panel meeting
- **Project development** stream - 30 days following receipt of application

How long will the grant offer be valid for?

- Capital grant – valid for 12 months from the date of the grant offer letter (by which time the installation must be completed)
 - For at least 5 years following payment of the grant, the technology must:
 - *remain installed and in use at the property;*
 - *not be modified or relocated in such a way as may adversely affect its performance.*
- Project Development - valid for 6 months from the date of the grant offer letter



When is the LCBP2 grant paid?

Capital grant

- **Total** claim within 12 months of grant offer letter
- **95 per cent paid** within 20 working days of receipt of all the required documents
- **Remainder** paid on receipt of completed project evaluation report



Project development grant

- **Total** claim within 6 months of grant offer letter
- **Paid** on receipt of all the required documents

What to look out for when applying for grants - summary

- Check for eligibility
- Make sure project management team is in place
- Carry out options appraisal
- Select technology / ies
- Get quotes - select Framework Supplier
- Identify match funding
- Check project can be delivered within deadline
- Submit final claim

.....all of the above takes time!!!



Contact details

Website: www.communitysustainable.org.uk

Email: info@communitysustainable.org.uk

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The Community Sustainable Energy Programme is an open grants programme run by BRE as an award partner of the Big Lottery Fund under their Changing Spaces Programme. Further information on the Changing Spaces Programme can be found at www.biglotteryfund.org.uk

What other supporting documents need to be supplied with the application*?

Capital Grant

- Copy of installer quotations for all proposed measures and microgeneration technologies
- Your organisation's constitution or governing document
- Three consecutive pages of your original bank or building society statement
- Signed hard copy of Section 6: Compliance with signed declaration
- A set of your organisation's most recent accounts
- Your equal opportunities policy
- Your environmental policy
- Evidence of confirmed or proposed match funding

**Application includes Section 3 Project Concept and Design and the appropriate Section 4.2– 4.8*

What other supporting documents need to be supplied with the application?

Project Development Grant

- Copy of the estimate from your preferred registered consultant
- Your organisation's constitution or governing document
- Three consecutive pages of your original bank or building society statement
- Signed hard copy of Section 4: Compliance with signed declaration
- A set of your organisation's most recent accounts