

# EAC Renewable Energy Fund (REF)



# **REF Payments**



Requirement of EA Local Plan 2010

Policy CS15 of the adopted East Ayrshire Local Plan 2010 stated: - The Council will, if mindful to grant planning permission for a commercial windfarm development, require applicants to contribute to a dedicated Renewable Energy Fund.

Distribution of Contributions

100% Local Projects within 10km boundary of windfarm first 10 years

Thereafter 50% within 10km, 50% outwith 10km



# **Current REF Procedures**



Procedures approved by EAC Cabinet Sept 2010 and amended by Grants Committee following review of criteria Oct 2014.

#### Eligible Applicants

- Properly Constituted Voluntary and Community Organisations this includes local Trusts, SCIO's, etc.
- Social Economy or Social Enterprise projects where profits are reinvested in the company to deliver grassroots community benefit.
- Local Authority and other Agencies only where the proposal is community based, is new and does not represent a substitution of core business activities.



# **Project Eligibility**



#### **Community renewable energy projects**

- Auchinleck Indoor Bowling Club Energy Efficiency Measures
- Kilmarnock YMCA Solar Panels

#### **Environmental projects**

- Cumnock Action Plan Memory Garden
- Stewarton Allotments Creation of Community Allotments

#### **Environmental education projects**

• Kilmaurs Primary School – Community Environmental Project

#### **Community Led Service Provision**

• Stewarton Community Transport – Community Minibus





#### **Community Based Social Enterprises**

• Where project meets one of the other criteria headings

#### **Employability & Training Programmes**

- To support longer tem sustainability of substantial capital projects supported by REF and/or referral should be made from one of the local business support agencies. The project must demonstrate the delivery of clear grassroots local community benefit.
- Galston Community Development Trust Activity Co-ordinator

**Income Generating Projects** 



#### **Community Led Sports & Leisure**



- Crossroads Community Hub Creation of a Community Farm Shop and Education Centre
- Stewarton Tennis Club Refurbishment of Tennis Courts and Clubhouse Rebuild
- Galston Bowling Club Extension for Club Accessibility & Toilet Refurbishment
- Kilmaurs Community Association Community Centre Refurb
- Kilmarnock Station Railway Heritage Trust Refurbishment of Platform and Basement Rooms
- Bonntyon Thistle 3G Pitch and Changing Rooms
- **Community Run Events regional or national**
- Darvel Music Festival, Newmilns Food Festival, Mauchline Holy Fair



### **Eligible Areas and Levels of Support**



#### **Available Levels of Support**

The fund will not routinely provide 100% grant funding although the Grants Committee does have discretion to consider a higher intervention rate.

Applicants seeking less than £1,000 of support are not eligible for support from the fund.

There is no upper limit set for grant applications but applicants must be mindful of annual budgets.

The Renewable Energy Fund will not be used to benefit specific individuals or to promote any political purpose.



# **ANNUAL WINDFARM INCOME**



- Whitelee Original Windfarm
- Whitelee Extensions
- Harehill
- Galawhistle
- Afton

£110,000\* £950,000 £130,000 £42,000 £220,000

### Total Annual Estimated Income £1,452,000

Sneddons Law

£85,000



# **Projects Supported**



- To date £10.1m has been awarded to support 270 community projects
- Total project cost of 270 projects is circa £14m
- smallest award £1,000
- largest award £305,000



## **REF Grant Process**



The size and detail of a project will determine the level of engagement required to support the application process.

- Initial contact
- Project Meeting
- Submission of Application Form
- Assessment Process
- Decision by Grants Committee
- Payment of Grant Award
- Monitoring and Aftercare

