

Orsted

Community Benefit Funds

Autumn newsletter
2020





Throughout the current Covid-19 pandemic, our Community Benefit Funds have continued to operate and we are encouraging applications to support communities through to recovery.

Ørsted is committed to making a positive impact in the communities where we construct and operate our offshore windfarms and other projects. Our Community Benefit Funds have now awarded over £5 million to more than 390 projects supporting local groups and organisations along the East and West coast.

We are pleased to report that throughout lockdown our Funds have continued to operate as normal, with no changes to application deadlines or decision dates. Groups with ongoing funded projects have been supported closely by our independent fund administrator, GrantScape, through the various changes and challenges they have faced.

In light of the Covid-19 pandemic, we are making the Funds more accessible, removing certain restrictions and delivering financial support to local projects and organisations in a time of need. We are encouraging applications from local groups and organisations, and those who are looking to provide essential support and services to directly facilitate

in the recovery efforts from Covid-19. In addition, many voluntary and community groups who deliver important services and support within their communities will have lost significant core income over the past few months. We welcome applications that will help to financially support eligible organisations as they are recovering.

To help make our funding more accessible at this time, re-application restrictions have been lifted and there will also be no need for match funding for any applications. This change relates to applications to the late 2020 and early 2021 rounds for all of our Community Benefit Funds.

Ørsted is committed to supporting local communities at this difficult time, and will continue to review the ongoing situation and assess the changing needs of voluntary and community groups in our funding areas.

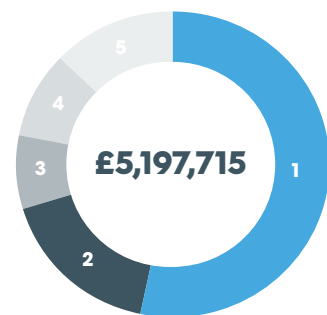
Imran Nawaz
Stakeholder Advisor & CBF Manager, Ørsted

Ørsted provide Community Benefit Funds for the following offshore wind farm projects

- Burbo Bank Extension in Liverpool Bay – £225,000 per year
- Walney Extension in the Irish Sea off the Cumbria coastline – £600,000 per year which includes £100,000 Skills Fund
- East Coast – Hornsea Projects and Race Bank located in the North Sea off the Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and North Norfolk coastline – £465,000 per year which includes £75,000 Skills Fund



Funds awarded to date:



1. Community activities and services



2. Community buildings and facilities



3. Nature and public open space projects



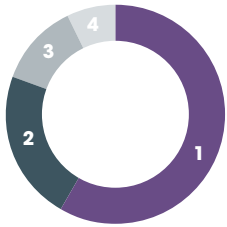
4. Sports, recreation and play



5. Skills Fund projects

Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund

The Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund is worth £225,000 each year and has so far awarded 126 grants across Merseyside and North Wales.



£1,120,840
awarded
since the Fund
launched in 2015



WebbIfusion youth projects



£15,787 was awarded to the Carrbridge Centre to employ two Youth Workers and a Senior Play Parent Facilitator for 12 months. The Centre's Operations Manager, Matt Gibbs, responded to the award by commenting: "The Woodchurch Estate and WebbIfusion Youth projects are absolutely delighted that finally there will be youth work provision and parental support programmes on the estate throughout the year. This funding will enable the community to engage in activities and programmes that support both young people and their families in the community centre where they feel welcomed and safe."



Plan Bee a 2020 Vision - community beekeeping in Sefton



B 4 Biodiversity CIC was awarded £5,000 towards community beekeeping in Sefton. With declines in insect life in the UK, the group's vision is to increase bee and other insect life by creating habitats and plenty of foraging spaces. They aim to achieve this through practical educational activities using Ford Lane Community Garden as an outdoor classroom where local people of all ages can learn about bees and insects through hands on activities. During lockdown the project has moved online to provide weekly bee keeping training classes and it is hoped they will be back at the Community Garden before too long.



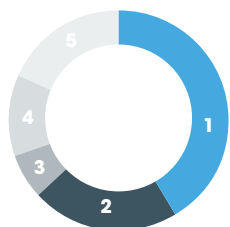
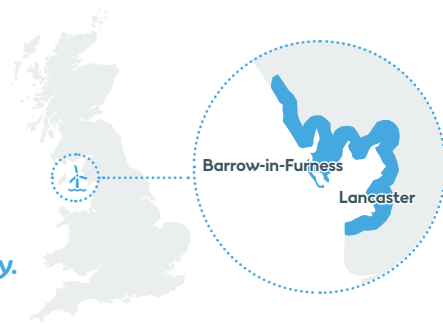
The Docklands Trail at Collingwood



This project transformed a derelict dock quay in to an exhibition area. Customised shipping containers were used to create mini-museums that relate the history and role played by North Liverpool and Bootle docks. The site is located immediately behind the Grade 2 listed dock walls at Collingwood Dock and within the UNESCO World Heritage designated area. Les Ellis, Chair of Trustees at The Docklands Trust said: "Without the grant of £18,338 awarded to us from the Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund we would not have completed the first phase of our project. With Ørsted's support we now have a tangible presence in an iconic area of Liverpool's UNESCO World Heritage site that will provide us with the catalyst for continuity of our project."

Walney Extension Community Fund

The Walney Extension Community Fund is linked to the offshore wind farm off the Walney Island coast in Cumbria and has £600,000 available annually. To date more than 135 local groups and projects have been supported.



£2,413,665 awarded since the Fund launched in 2016



Suicide Safer Barrow



Every Life Matters was awarded £13,254 towards implementing a community led approach to suicide prevention. Swiftly responding to Covid-19, the group produced a booklet about managing mental health and wellbeing during lockdown which was distributed in Barrow and South Lakes.

Regarding the need for the project Chris Wood, Development Manager at Every Life Matters said: "Suicide rates in Cumbria are stubbornly higher than the national average, and focused particularly in West Coast towns like Barrow-in-Furness. The majority of people who die by suicide are not in contact with mental health services meaning suicide prevention needs to be everyone's business. It is family, friends, colleagues, neighbours and our wider community who are best placed to make a difference. This grant will enable development of the Suicide Safer Barrow initiative - helping local residents talk openly about suicide, become more aware of suicide risk, how to support someone experiencing suicidal thoughts and what other sources of help are out there. Talking about suicide can save lives."



Heysham Moss Wet Grassland Project



Lancashire Wildlife Trust was awarded £7,534 towards capital works on and around an area of wet grassland habitat at Heysham Moss to restore the area back to a flower rich habitat to be enjoyed by visitors to the reserve. Reuben Neville, North Lancashire Reserves Officer said: "The financial support through this grant has made an invaluable contribution to the future of the wet grassland and adjacent wet woodland at Heysham Moss. Having the ability to manage water levels during a time of changing seasonal weather patterns is critical to the long term management of the meadow and the restoration of a flower rich habitat that can be enjoyed by future generations. It has also been immensely exciting to see the added benefits of the re-wetted woodland and flocks of wildfowl using the fringes during the recent winter months. We look forward to seeing the area develop over the coming years."



Skills Fund

Each year, up to £100,000 of the Walney Extension Community Fund will be set aside for the Skills Fund. The aim is to provide educational and learning opportunities for people within the Fund's benefit area to help to improve their skills and employment opportunities.

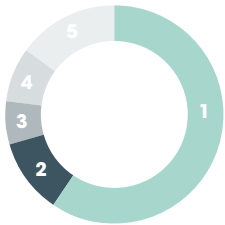
Bridge the Gap

£29,400 has been awarded to STEMFirst to deliver a "Bridge the Gap" educational game to school children aged between 7 and 14. It is a fun hands-on board game in two parts. Part one involves constructing a bridge (with Lego) across a local river. Part two is a game requiring use of all the skills useful to employees of the future and improves knowledge of local employment opportunities.



East Coast Community Fund

The East Coast Community Fund is linked to the Hornsea Projects and Race Bank offshore wind farms and has £465,000 available each year. Over 130 projects have been supported so far in coastal areas of Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and North Norfolk.



£1,663,210
awarded since
the Fund launched
in 2016



**Asthma Relief at work
on the East Coast**



Asthma Relief received a timely award in April 2020 of £4,940 towards providing and maintaining nebulisers. The organisation experienced a dramatic increase in requests for their services due to the Covid-19 crisis and thanks to a dedicated team including Office Manager Patricia Davies and her daughter Olivia they have managed to prepare and package nebulisers to get them distributed as quickly as possible. The team's achievements have been particularly impressive given that many of them are deemed 'at risk' and have been self-isolating during the crisis. Nebulisers funded through the grant have been placed at hospitals in Kings Lynn and Skegness. Dave Penman, Founder and Honorary Manager of Asthma Relief said: "Your pledge of a grant could not have come at a better time...I have no doubt that many lives have been saved."



**X-Site Skatepark
beginners area**



£4,500 was awarded to Lincolnshire Extreme Sports Association to update their beginners area. X-Site Skatepark aims to make non-traditional sports, namely BMXing, skateboarding, rollerblading and scootering, accessible and affordable for all. They provide a safe secure environment where children, young people and adults can engage in non-traditional sport on a regular basis with emphasis on reducing obesity levels, building community cohesion and engaging in communities through sport. Gary Skinner, Chair of Trustees for the group said: "The grant has allowed us to promote the facility to new users and encouraged them to try the sports we offer in a safe environment."



Skills Fund

Each year, up to £75,000 of the East Coast Community Fund will be set aside for the Skills Fund. The aim is to provide educational and learning opportunities for people within the Fund's benefit area to help to improve their skills and employment opportunities.

Grimsby 2025

The Grimsby Institute was awarded £41,675 for GRIMSBY 2025 (Growth in Mechanics and STEM BY 2025). This project was an ambitious and engaging new approach to improving STEM skills and employment opportunities. Over a period of 12 months, GRIMSBY 2025 brought together education, industry and the community for a series of events to benefit over 2,025 children and young people. This was achieved through a mix of classroom activities, tours and activities and a Career Show.



Applying to the Community Benefit Funds



Applications are submitted to GrantScape via their online system



Each application received by the deadline is assessed by Grant Officers at GrantScape to ensure it meets the specific criteria



All eligible applications are then presented to the relevant Advisory Group (AG) that has been established to help decide how the grants from the Fund will be allocated



Recommendations from the AG are then presented to GrantScape's Board of Trustees to make final decisions on which applications will receive grants



GrantScape will confirm the final decision to applicants by the Fund decision date published on GrantScape's website

Next closing dates:

Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund

14 April 2021* (decisions July 2021)

22 September 2021 (decisions December 2021)

Walney Extension Community Fund

6 January 2021* (decisions March 2021)

23 June 2021 (decisions September 2021)

East Coast Community Fund

3 February 2021* (decisions April 2021)

28 July 2021 (decisions October 2021)

Criteria update in response to Covid-19

Applications are encouraged to support communities through to recovery. The following temporary criteria changes will apply to the early 2021 rounds (*) of each Fund:

- No match funding will be required for all applications at this time.
- Re-application restrictions have been lifted. Any groups that have previously received a grant, have a live project or have been unsuccessful in the last round may re-apply.

How the funds are managed

Independent grant-making charity, GrantScape, administer Ørsted's Community Benefit Funds. GrantScape is committed to enhancing the environment and strengthening local communities through its grant programmes. Their experience stretches back to 1997 and they have awarded grants totalling almost £90 million to deserving projects over this time.

The decision-making process is supported by a local Advisory Group (AG) established for each Community

Benefit Fund. Their help and advice in the process is absolutely vital in prioritising projects at a local level. The AG members have been carefully selected to ensure all areas that can benefit from the Fund are well represented by people with good local knowledge of the community and environment.

Each fund has its own specific funding criteria and eligible funding area, available on GrantScape's website. Please contact the team at GrantScape with any queries.