## Spring newsletter 2020

# **Orsted**Community Benefit Funds





As a company that passionately believes we should all 'love our home' we want to share with you the many great projects taking place across all our Community Benefit Funds.

So, we are bringing all the Funds together in our new Community Benefit Funds newsletter, to share the latest news and feature the people and projects benefitting from our grants.

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 so far awarded over £4 million to more than 350 projects supporting local groups and organisations along the East and West coasts.

Our Community Benefit Funds are administered by independent grant-making charity GrantScape, with decision-making supported by local Advisory Groups made up of community specialists.

We remain committed to investing in skills, training and education in our local areas: £100,000 from the Walney Extension Community Fund and £75,000 from the East

Coast Community Fund is ring-fenced each year for a Skills Fund to provide opportunities for people within the two Fund's benefit areas to help to improve their skills and employment opportunities.

Ørsted has continued to build strong relationships with local communities across the UK and in light of the current COVID-19 pandemic, with all the impacts that's bringing to communities across the UK, it has never been more important to remain connected to and supportive of our local communities. We remain committed, and look forward to supporting many more community projects.

**Duncan Clark** Head of UK Region

#### 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 Racebank 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 116 grants across Merseyside and North Wales.





#### £1,012,500 awarded since the Fund launched in 2015



Supporting local children with cerebral palsey in Wallasey



A grant of £10,000 from the Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund has helped Stick 'n' Step to support 5 children with cerebral palsy, and their families, who live around the Wallasey, Merseyside area.

Janet Ratcliffe, Trusts and Grants Fundraiser at Stick 'n' Step, told us why the charity is so important:

"At Stick 'n' Step we focus on what children CAN do, not what they can't. This grant has enabled these 5 children to learn new life skills which has improved their confidence, mobility and independence. They have achieved things like being able to move from sitting to standing position unaided, walking independently and have learned to self feed and use the toilet independently. In the classroom we incorporate activities that will help the children develop their fine motor skills so they can now find it easier to hold a pen, pick up something they have dropped or use their mobile phone etc. They are learning to do things that most of us take for granted. Although these achievements may seem small, they definitely help to increase the children's self-belief and self-esteem."



### UTS Community Sport and Health Hub



The UTS Foundation was awarded £12,000 towards the transformation of a disused building in to a purpose built exercise, recovery, rehabilitation youth and development centre. The new facilities offer coaching, kit and equipment for the UTS Foundation post cancer care and young users to improve their health and well-being through exercise, yoga, pilates, calisthenics and strength training.

Tony Berry, Manager of the UTS Foundation, said, "Thank you so much for helping to fund our project. These new facilities and activities for people with cancer, mental health issues and special needs will be life changing."



#### Over 55's projects at The Orrell Trust



The Orrell Trust was awarded £13,765 towards developing a new free befriending service, a weekly social group, a monthly luncheon club, and a dementia café project. These initiatives support older people living in the community, aiming to reduce loneliness and social isolation as well as working to improve physical and mental health and well-being.

Tanya McGibbon, Project Manager at The Orrell Trust, said, "The funding awarded allowed us to develop and grow our projects that support older people living in our community. These projects make a massive difference to the beneficiaries, they provide a safe space to make new friendships, increase confidence and motivation and be an active part of their community."

## 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 120 local groups and projects have been supported.





#### £2,055,468 awarded since the Fund launched in 2016



South Walney Nature Reserve – a coastal adventure for everyone!



A £23,000 grant was awarded to Cumbria Wildlife Trust towards the new visitor centre at the South Walney Nature Reserve.

On completion of the project, Sarah Dalrymple, South Walney Reserve Officer at Cumbria Wildlife Trust, said, "The new visitor cabin has transformed the way people access and enjoy South Walney Nature Reserve. Our amazing volunteers welcome visitors and help them get the most out of their visit but offering this new indoor space where people can look at displays, receive information from our volunteers and get a cuppa makes it a more enjoyable experience for everyone, especially when the weather isn't the best. The visitor cabin is the new heart of the nature reserve, where people can come together to chat, take shelter and learn more about our wonderful wildlife."





Increasing engagement, raising aspirations & improving wellbeing for Barrow residents



Signal Film and Media was awarded £18,855 towards a project which uses film and media as a tool to help vulnerable individuals gain qualifications, as well as build self-esteem and confidence.

Kerry Kolbe, Co-Director at Signal Film and Media, said, "The funding from the Walney Extension Community Fund allowed us to provide a fantastic program of creative, digital and heritage related activities that involved over 600 local people. Without this help we would not be able to put on workshops, events and training that improve the life chances, confidence and sense of pride and enthusiasm among Barrow residents; provisions which they tell us makes their town a more exciting and inspiring place to be."



#### **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.



## Working in STEM: design and build a virtual wind farm

A grant of £29,600 allowed 3D Web Technologies Ltd to develop and deliver their Design and Build a Virtual Wind Farm workshop for twelve schools in Cumbria. This helped to positively promote STEM careers to young people and build their confidence.

#### **East Coast Community Fund**

The East Coast Community Fund is linked to the Hornsea Projects and Racebank offshore wind farms and has £465,000 available each year.

Over 110 projects have been supported so far in coastal areas of Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and North Norfolk.





#### £1,390,359 awarded since the Fund launched in 2016





LIVES (Lincolnshire Integrated Voluntary Emergency Service) was awarded £25,119 towards the recruitment and training of new responders.

Nicki Silver, Chief Executive at LIVES, said, "We're enormously grateful to the East Coast Community Fund for funding the recruitment of new volunteer Community First Responders in communities along Lincolnshire east coast. Thanks to your support, we've recruited, trained and equipped 52 volunteers. The volunteers make a vital contribution to improving the health and wellbeing of people suffering medical emergencies – 81% of the time, a LIVES volunteer will arrive to care for a patient before the ambulance. Their actions will save lives. LIVES is celebrating 50 years of responding to 999 medical emergencies and helping to save the lives of thousands of patients across Lincolnshire. We can't continue our invaluable service without funding from grants such as that given by the East Coast Community Fund. Thanks to the Fund we now have more Community First Responders who are able to be there for your East Coast neighbours when minutes matter "



## The restoration and re-launch of the 1900 fishing boat Baden Powell

£14,451 was granted to King's Lynn Worfolk Boat Trust to support the re-launch of the Baden Powell.

Speaking about the project, Ken Hill, Trustee at King's Lynn Worfolk Boat Trust, said, "The East Coast Community Fund award came at a crucial time in the Baden Powell project. The basic work on the boat had been completed, but there was



still expenditure required in order to make her perform to current maritime specifications regarding communications, navigation and safety equipment, plus training for volunteer crew members. It was also felt that installing toilet facilities would help to maximise comfort for crew and passengers alike and allow longer sailings out along the North Sea coast and beyond. All this was achieved last year, during which Baden Powell featured briefly in the new David Copperfield film. The funds have been invaluable in helping us reach our ultimate aims and will no doubt benefit the townsfolk of King's Lynn for many years to come."



#### 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.



#### Step up to STEM

Franklin College was awarded £12,015 for its Step up to STEM project. This supported a number of Year 12 students on summer internships within the STEM sector enabling them to explore the vast range of careers and develop key employability skills.

Emma Swinburn, Employer Engagement Manager at Franklin College, said, "We are delighted to have been awarded this money. It is a great opportunity for us to engage with our local STEM organisations in offering our students a four week placement showcasing the varied careers available within the STEM sector."

# 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 critieria



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** 

23 September 2020 (decisions December 2020) 14 April 2021 (decisions July 2021)

Walney Extension Community Fund

1 July 2020 (decisions September 2020) 6 January 2021 (decisions March 2021)

**East Coast Community Fund** 

29 July 2020 (decisions October 2020) 3 Feb 2021 (decisions April 2021)

## 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 to ensure the grants awarded are to the most worthwhile and important projects. 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.



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Information correct as of 29th February 2020