

CARES Let's do net zero community buildings

Stakeholder pack



Let's do net zero community buildings

Achieving net zero means we all need to take action.

Climate change and nature loss are the greatest threats facing the world's population. They're not distant far away problems – they're here in Scotland and we're seeing the impact. That's why we need everyone – businesses, communities, industry and individuals – to come with us to net zero and take action to change.

The Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES) is here to help you and others on this journey to net zero. CARES is offering grant funding, advice and support to community organisations that want to decarbonise their community buildings by installing low carbon or renewable technologies, such as heat pumps or solar panels.

CARES funding is available for many types of community building, including:

- community cafes
- community hubs
- faith buildings
- public halls
- community halls and community centres.

CARES has already supported many community organisations throughout Scotland to successfully install renewable technologies in their community buildings. You can read about these projects on our website, including:

- [Inverness Masjid](#) installed solar panels at its mosque, and with further assistance from CARES, installed battery storage too.
- [Aboyne and Mid-Deeside Community Shed](#) installed four air source heat pumps to provide space heating at its community shed.
- [Loch Ness Hub](#) installed solar panels and an air source heat pump to decarbonise the building's heat and energy supply.

Who can apply?

Applicants must be constituted non-profit distributing community organisations, including organisations with charitable status, that are established and operating across a geographically defined community ('local community organisations') or faith groups.

How much is available?

Through a combination of grants and loans, CARES can fund up to 100% of the eligible project costs. This funding call will operate on a first-come basis.

Full information is on [the Local Energy Scotland website](#).

What's the application process?

Full details of how to apply, including an application form, are on the [Local Energy Scotland website](#).

Interested applicants should complete section 1 of the application form and send this to us as soon as possible. This is an expression of interest that will allow the team at Local Energy Scotland to support applicants from the start of the application process. Early applications are encouraged.

The funding call will close to new applications on **Thursday 30 September 2021**, or earlier should the funding call budget be reached.

The deadline has been set to allow projects to be delivered and completed by the end of March 2022. Local Energy Scotland will review submissions on receipt, and decisions and awards can be made on a rolling basis.

How can I help promote the fund?

We would be grateful if you could help us reach communities across Scotland by sharing information about the funding.

Social media

Local Energy Scotland will be sharing promotional material and updates on our [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook pages](#).

We would be grateful if you could like and share these to help us spread the word about the funding available. Alternatively, you can use these suggested posts and images on your own social media channels.

Twitter:

Funding from @scotgov's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES) is available to help your community install low carbon or renewable technologies, such as heat pumps or solar panels, in community buildings. #LetsDoNetZero together. Find out more at [localenergy.scot](#)

Facebook / LinkedIn:

Want to install low carbon or renewable technologies in your community building?

Funding is now available from the Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES) to help your community install low carbon or renewable technologies, such as heat pumps or solar panels, in community buildings.

CARES funding is available for many types of community building, including:

- community cafes
- community hubs
- faith buildings
- public halls
- community halls and centres.

Through a combination of grants and loans, CARES can fund up to 100% of the eligible project costs. This funding call will operate on a first-come basis.

Expressions of interest are invited in the first instance. The deadline for full applications is Thursday 30 September, or sooner should the funding call budget be reached.

Find out more at localenergy.scot/net-zero-community-buildings



Email/Newsletters

Please use the suggested text below to forward on to relevant contacts, or for including in any relevant newsletters.

Let's do net zero community buildings: CARES funding available

The latest round of funding from the Scottish Government's Community and Renewables Energy Scheme (CARES) is now open.

Grant funding, advice and support is available to community organisations, charitable organisations and faith groups that want to decarbonise their community buildings by installing low carbon or renewable energy systems, such as heat pumps or solar panels.

Funding is available for many types of community buildings, including:

- community cafes
- community hubs
- faith buildings
- public halls
- community halls and centres.

Through a combination of grants and loans, CARES can fund up to 100% of the eligible project costs. Funding operates on a first come basis, and early applications are encouraged.

Expressions of interest should be submitted in the first instance. The funding call will close to new applications on Thursday 30 September 2021, or earlier should the funding call budget be reached.

Visit localenergy.scot for full information and how to apply.

Local Energy Scotland and CARES

Local Energy Scotland is a consortium made up of Energy Saving Trust, Changeworks, The Energy Agency, SCARF and The Wise Group. We administer and manage the Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES) with support for delivery from Ricardo Energy & Environment and QMPF.

We help communities and rural businesses with:

- free advice and support to develop renewable energy schemes, or to secure and manage income from renewables
- advice on funding streams
- support to access CARES funding
- support to access the Energy Investment Fund (post-consent loans).

CARES aims to accelerate progress towards the Scottish Government's target of 2GW of renewable energy to be locally or community owned by 2030, and to assist with delivering [the Scottish Government's Energy Strategy](#) through the provision of loan finance, grant funding and specialist advice.