

EirGrid Clashavoon-Dunmanway Community Benefit Fund

Responses to queries received before 10th August 2021

Q. Is the 600,000 euro a once off fund or is there more to come in due course?

This is a once off €600,000 fund. The fund amount is calculated on the voltage and length of the new electricity transmission line which was constructed in the Clashavoon-Dunmanway area.

Q. If not successful this time around, will it be possible to apply for funding in the future?

There are no additional future funds currently planned for the area.

Q. Can the EirGrid Community Fund co-fund such a project that is receiving other funding if we apply under the present Clashavoon-Dunmanway Community Benefit Fund?

Yes – we are happy to co-fund projects. However, we would like to clearly see what additional value and impact the EirGrid Fund will bring to your organisation, and clear breakdown of what the EirGrid funds will be used for.

If you are awaiting confirmation that you will receive an alternative grant we recommend you make your application with the assumption the grant will come through, but you may wish to include a contingency plan for how you would use the EirGrid funds if the alternative grant is not received.

Q. We are a Primary School and do not see ourselves as being fully funded by the Department of Education. Can we apply under this scheme?

This fund is to support community services and is not intended to replace government services.

We cannot directly fund schools; however, we can fund projects proposed by volunteer led organisations such as Parent's Associations.

Q. We are 4km from the line according to your map. Can we still apply?

Yes - however we would like to see that a proportion of the community that you serve live within the 3km boundary. This is to ensure that the funding goes to the areas and communities most impacted by the new electricity infrastructure.

We will assess each application on a case by case basis. If the funding sought exceeds the amount available, there will be priority given to those within the 3km boundary.

Q. Do we need to provide 3 quotes for equipment?

One quote will be required for items or activities under €5,000. Three quotes will be required for items or activities above €5,000.

Q. If a single project has more than one tender (e.g. roof, electrical, doors, windows etc) will one over all quote be sufficient or do we have to get three tenders for each different aspect of the project?

Three quotes from contractors which cover all aspects of the project will be accepted. If it is not possible to acquire inclusive quotes, then we will require three quotes for each aspect of the project.

We recognise it may be difficult to acquire all necessary quotes before the application deadline, and therefore evidence of seeking quotes will be sufficient to support the application. If all quotes are not provided at the application stage they will be requested prior to the grant offer being made.

Q. Is it sufficient to submit a priced Bill of Quantities, prioritised for the different items of work that we intend to carry out, with the original application, and then when the decision has been made on what items will be grant aided we would send in three quotations for those items?

No - we would like to see the total amount of funding required for the project clearly outlined. If all quotes are not provided at the application stage they will be requested prior to the grant offer being made.

Q. If a pilot project was to be initiated, can that include a staff cost?

Individual staff costs are not eligible for funding.

Q. Can a group submit multiple applications for different projects?

Groups / organisations may only submit one application. We recommend projects are grouped together into one application.

Q. Is it possible for more than one person to access the online application form?

There can only be one registered user per application form so we recommend you share the login details for access to the form.

Q. Will there be any oral presentation or interview required to obtain funding?

There is no requirement for an oral presentation or interview, however where we have queries or require clarification, we may request a meeting. This is most likely to be the case for applications under Strand 3: Large Initiatives. Applicants are also encouraged to upload photos, videos, designs etc. in support of their application on the application portal.

Q. What will happen if all the funds are not distributed this year?

We will endeavour to distribute the full fund amount this year, however if that is not possible, we will consider a second round of funding.