



EirGrid.ie

Community Benefit Fund Guidelines

Laois Kilkenny
Reinforcement Project
Phase 2



Guidelines for Applicants

Please note the key dates for the Laois Kilkenny Reinforcement Project are as follows:

- Fund opening date: **12 noon on Tuesday 23rd April 2024**
- Fund closing date: **5pm on Tuesday 18th June 2024**

No applications or required accompanying documentation will be accepted after the closing date.

These guidelines have been prepared by M-CO, the Fund Administrator, on behalf of EirGrid.

Please keep a copy to hand when completing your application.

If you need help or guidance at any stage, contact M-CO at:

Phone 01 887 0630
E-mail communitybenefitfund@mco.ie
Website mco.ie



Table of Contents

1. Introduction	6	10. Common errors on application	20
1.1 About EirGrid	7	11. Grant Offers	26
1.2 What is the Community Benefit Fund?	7	11.1 If your project is successful	21
1.3 Who are the Fund Administrators?	7	11.2 Project Monitoring	21
2. The Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project	8	11.3 Claiming your grant award	22
3. The Community Benefit Fund	9	11.4 If your application is unsuccessful	22
4. Area of Benefit (AOB)	10	12. Terms and Conditions	23
5. Who can apply?	11	13. Feedback	24
5.1 Ineligible for funding	11	14. Important dates	25
5.2 Recipients of funding in Phase 1 of the Community Benefit Fund	11	15. Contact Information	26
6. How much can we apply for?	12		
6.1 Funding Strands	12		
6.2 Project Plan and Budget	13		
6.3 Financing your Project	13		
7. Areas of Impact	14		
7.1 Project Themes	14		
7.2 Sustainable Development Goals	15		
8. How will the applications be evaluated?	16		
9. How to apply?	18		
9.1 Documentation required with application	19		

1. Introduction

EirGrid is now inviting applications for Phase 2 of a €511,500 fund for communities adjacent to the Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project. This fund has been established in recognition of the importance of working closely with communities across the two counties throughout the construction of the project elements between Coolnaback in County Laois and Ballyragget in County Kilkenny.

The fund will provide grants to local community groups, not-for-profit organisations and social enterprises that operate or service communities near this new electricity line, and who can deliver projects that will create positive social and environmental impacts. The overall aim is to increase public and environmental wellbeing in the community and to leave a positive legacy.

Phase 2 of the fund is open for applications at **12 noon on Tuesday 23rd April 2024 and will close at 5pm on Tuesday 18th June 2024.**

These guidelines will provide you with all the information required to develop and submit your application, and we advise that you read them carefully. Additional support for applicants will be available in the form of community information sessions and one-to-one project support sessions.



1.1 About EirGrid

EirGrid plans for the future of Ireland's electricity grid and operates it every minute of every day. EirGrid does not generate electricity – they bring it from generators across the grid to safely supply every home, farm, community and business in Ireland. The grid also brings power directly to large energy users, providing opportunities for economic development in the region.

As a regulated utility owned by the Irish Government, EirGrid operates solely for the benefit of the electricity user. This includes interconnecting to neighbouring grids and running the wholesale electricity market to ensure that everyone has power when they need it at the most economic price possible.

1.2 What is the Community Benefit Fund?

EirGrid operates thousands of kilometres of power lines across the island of Ireland. When upgrading or adding new transmission infrastructure to help make the grid more efficient, economic and sustainable, many factors are considered. These include the need to protect the interests of individuals, households, businesses and communities whilst ensuring long lasting benefits of safe, secure and sustainable energy. EirGrid aims to create as little disturbance as possible, but at times this work can involve some disruption to communities.

For this reason, a dedicated fund for new grid development is made available to provide direct benefits to communities who are closest to new transmission infrastructure. These funds, which are proportional to the scale of the project, support local good causes, help communities transform their area, and provide the opportunity to each community to become or remain a 'sustainable energy community'. The overall aim is to leave a positive legacy in the communities hosting electrical infrastructure.

To date, EirGrid has established €5,246,500 in community benefit. These funds benefit communities across Ireland and support projects from community gardens, sports facilities and community hall improvements to afterschool club equipment, generators and defibrillators.

1.3 Who are the Fund Administrators?

M-CO have been appointed by EirGrid as the Fund Administrators for the Laois Kilkenny Community Benefit Fund. M-CO is a multidisciplinary strategic design and project management company who specialize in designing and delivering projects which build sustainable and vibrant communities. M-CO will be available to answer any questions about the Fund and to help community groups and organisations throughout the application process.

2. The Laois-Kilkenny Reinforcement Project

EirGrid is reinforcing the electricity network in the general Laois-Kilkenny region. This is in response to problems resulting from existing and projected increases in demands for electricity that are affecting the quality of supply across Laois, Carlow, Kildare and Wicklow and a security of supply issue that affects County Kilkenny. The development follows the transmission planning criteria for the affected areas and minimises new infrastructure to reduce the impact of the scheme.

The primary developments include a new 400/110 kV substation situated to the southeast of Portlaoise, at Coolnaback and a new 110/38 kV substation located next to the existing 38 kV electricity substation at Ballyragget, County Kilkenny, and a new 110kV line will connect these two new stations.

A new 110 kV line will connect these two new stations, passing near to a number of communities including:

- Coolnaback, Co. Laois
- Timahoe, Co. Laois
- Ratheniska, Co. Laois
- Spink, Co. Laois
- Ballinakill, Co. Laois
- Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny
- Ballyousskill, Co. Kilkenny
- Tinnalinton, Co. Kilkenny



3. The Community Benefit Fund

In recognition of the impact of these developments on local communities and their role in the facilitation of electricity infrastructure, EirGrid has established the Laois-Kilkenny Fund with a value of €511,500. This fund will be released in three phases which align with the development of the infrastructure:

Phase 1: 40% (€204,600) - Starting construction (Phase is now closed)

Phase 2: 30% (€153,450) - Line stringing/cable jointing (**Now open for applications**)

Phase 3: 30% (€153,450) - Energisation (TBC in line with project progress)

As construction has commenced on this project, **Phase 2** of the fund is now open for applications and will be disbursed in 2024-2025. All communities within the scope area are entitled to apply for funding and a relatively even spread of funding across both counties will be sought.

A Community Forum was set up in June 2021 to provide advice and guidance on the Community Fund and to ensure it aligns with local needs. The Forum has allocated seats to local representatives from community groups and associations, and elected representatives in Laois and Kilkenny, and is chaired by Irish Rural Link.

The principles of the Laois Kilkenny Community Benefit Fund include:

- Must support projects that are community-led,
- Will leave a positive legacy within communities that host the Laois Kilkenny Reinforcement Infrastructure,
- Will support projects which align to the Sustainable Development Goals,
- Will be delivered in a fair and balanced way.

4. Area of Benefit (AOB)

EirGrid will give priority to projects within 3km kilometres of the reinforcement project line. Please see the map below outlining the 3km area from the Reinforcement project line. This area is called the Area of Benefit. You can see a more detailed map by clicking the link below.

[The map can be viewed by clicking on this link.](#)

We recognise that some organisations and groups which serve communities within the Area of Benefit may operate out of areas that are more than 3km from the project line. These applications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. These applicants must show strong evidence on their applications that they serve communities within the Area of Benefit.

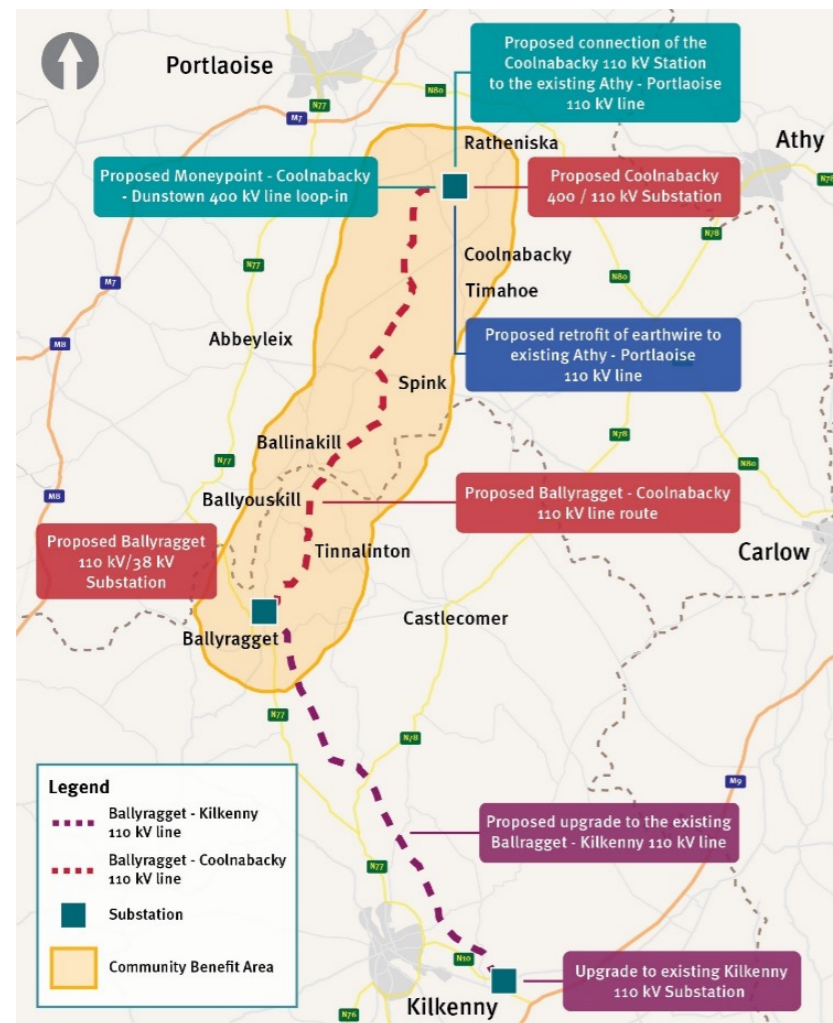


Figure 1: Map (provided by EirGrid) of the Laois Kilkenny Reinforcement Project line and the existing Kilkenny 110 kV Substation. The area circled in orange is the area subject to the community benefit fund

5. Who can apply?

The Fund is open to community groups, not-for-profit organisations and social enterprises who can demonstrate the provision of benefits to communities and the environment adjacent to the new line.

In order to ensure that the Fund reaches communities closest to the new infrastructure, a key criterion that will be used when making a grant is the location of the project. The map in **Section 4. Area of Benefit** shows the areas located within 3 km from the electricity line, and priority will be given to communities within this boundary which have been most affected by the development.

However, we recognise that some organisations and groups may serve communities within the boundary but operate out of areas that are more than 3km from the line and we will assess each application on a case-by-case basis.

Example of projects which may be funded include (but are not limited to):

- Equipment
- Facilities / infrastructure
- Activity / programme / initiative costs
- Pilot projects
- Training / capacity building
- External expertise
- Co-funded projects

5.1 Ineligible for funding

We will not be able to fund:

- Projects proposed by individuals
- Private or commercial companies

- Requests for sponsorship and ongoing operational costs
- Individual salaried positions
- Trips abroad
- Political activities
- Religious organisations or activities
- Projects beyond the timeframe
- Existing loans, debts, or retrospective supports – you must apply for future project needs
- Organisations that are fully state funded i.e., the Fund cannot replace funding that is, or has been, in the remit of any statutory bodies
- Schools – however Parent's Associations and Boards of Management are welcome to apply

5.2 Recipients of funding in Phase 1 of the Community Benefit Fund

Projects which have received grants from Phase 1 of fund distribution can apply for additional funding under Phases 2 and 3 of the Fund if they have completed their project and have fully drawn down their grant award from Phase 1 of the Fund. However, please note there is no guarantee that additional funding will be secured. Additional details of Phase 3 will be released at a later date.

Projects which did not receive funding during Phase 1 will also be eligible to apply for and receive funding during phases 2 or 3 of fund distribution.

6. How much can we apply for?

In order to ensure a range of community organisations can apply to and benefit from this Fund, there are two levels of grant funding you can apply for. While multiple applications can be submitted within communities, individual organisations can only submit one application.

6.1 Funding Strands

Strand	Value	Timeframe for delivery
1. Small Initiatives	€500 - €19,500	12 months
2. Large Initiatives	€20,000 - €45,000	12 months

Strand 1: Small Initiatives:

Organisations and groups can apply for grants between **€500 and €19,500** under this strand. Applications are welcome from organisations including new and grassroots community groups and residents' associations for this strand. For smaller groups it is recommended that they look at partnering with other or larger organisations to develop an idea which may have the potential to impact at a larger scale.

This strand may also be suitable as seed funding to make the case for alternative funds in the future, or for smaller pilot projects. Projects must be completed within **12 months** of grant offer.

Strand 2: Large Initiatives

Organisations and groups can apply for grants between **€20,000 and €45,000** under this strand. Priority will be given to projects which address the themes outlined in this brief with an emphasis on creating real and lasting benefit to the community and environment. Applicants must be registered with their local Public Participation Network (PPN) or able to show that registration is in progress.

Collaborative applications are encouraged, and priority will be given to projects where community and voluntary groups work together to serve a wider area or a larger number of people. In the case of a partnership/ consortium the group who will 'be in charge' of the facility/ project will need to be clearly identified.

Projects must be completed within 12 months of grant offer. For this strand, the Fund will look for evidence of sustainability and lasting impact including plans for maintenance, running and upkeep if the application relates to infrastructure.

Depending on the volume of eligible applications, successful applicants may not be awarded the full amount applied for and instead may be awarded a percentage of their proposed budget. Applicants will be asked what they will prioritise if they do not receive the full amount.

6.2 Project Plan and Budget

It is important to take some time to think through your community project. Consider carefully what costs should be included in your project budget.

The project plan and description should include the:

- needs and benefits of the project
- number of beneficiaries.

Please give details of any support from or collaboration with other community groups or organisations in the area for your project. Please consider uploading video content and testimonials on the online application portal.

Construction and electrical certification

- You may be carrying out construction or electrical works of some kind. If so, at the 'Claim stage', you must supply any necessary:
 - Engineer's report
 - RECI certification in the case of electrical works
 - Installation report
 - ROSPA report in the case of playgrounds

You may include the costs associated with any of these reports in your application. Please make sure to provide a quotation.

6.3 Financing your project

All expenditure related to your project must first be financed either by your organisation's own funds or through bridging finance. Upon completion of your project, groups will then submit a drawdown request to the fund.



7. Areas of impact

7.1 Project Themes

The aim of the Fund is to positively impact the communities adjacent to the line by addressing areas of particular need. To ensure that the funds available are used in the most effective and transparent way priority will be given to projects which address one or more of these areas/themes outlined below. These were identified through a scoping study completed by M-CO, with input from local communities. However, the Fund is open to all applications that can demonstrate capacity to deliver broad community benefit.

1. Community Infrastructure

Applications are welcome for projects delivering new or improved facilities and amenities which will benefit the community long-term. For example, this may include upgrades to community halls and sports halls or the development of outdoor spaces such as playgrounds, street furniture and river walks.

2. Sporting Facilities

We recognise the important role that sports groups have in strengthening communities in the area. We particularly welcome applications for projects which may have broader community benefit, such as the development of walkways around pitches or community meeting spaces. Please note that priority may be given to projects which cannot easily access alternative funding, and which benefit the broader community.

3. Heritage and Culture Activities

We recognise that heritage is an integral part of the local environment and welcome projects along this theme where they can show community benefit. This may include support for heritage groups and projects which celebrate and share the heritage of the area, or which attract new visitors to the area.

4. Environment and Sustainability

We welcome applications for projects which improve the sustainability of the area for example through biodiversity projects, community climate initiatives, or sustainable energy projects.

5. Older Person Support

We recognize that COVID-19 has had a particular impact on older people and would like to support projects which offer facilities or services to older people and support social inclusion.

6. Younger Person Support

We welcome non-sporting projects which support diverse youth activities such as scouting, culture and music, and provide spaces and services to improve mental health and inclusion among younger demographics.

7.2 Sustainable Development Goals

In 2015, Ireland was one of 193 countries from across the world that signed up to and committed to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. The SDG framework involves seventeen goals that are universal (applies to every country and community) and interdependent (each goal has connections and relationships to other goals).

This call for funding asks you to align your application to the goals and explain to us how your proposal contributes to the achievement of the goals in your community.

For further information on the Goals click here [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#)



8. How will the applications be evaluated?

An evaluation panel will be responsible for assessing all applications and ensuring a fair and objective distribution of grants across the project area. This evaluation panel will be chaired by M-CO and will include representatives from EirGrid as well as an independent evaluator.

When selecting who benefits, we aim to choose organisations that will gain most from these grants. Applications will firstly be assessed for eligibility.

Eligibility Criteria	Objective
Applicant	The project is proposed by a community group, not-for-profit entity or social enterprise.
Location	The project is located within 3km of the reinforcement project, or clearly serves communities within the 3km priority area.
Project	The project is eligible for funding and not on the list of ineligible items or activities.

Applications will then be assessed and scored under the following criteria:

Eligibility Criteria	Objective
Community Benefit	The project benefits the community and improves quality of life in the area. The benefits are clearly outlined in the application.
Target Group and Scale of Impact	The project will support a large and/or diverse group of people within the target area of 3km from the line and/or benefits an under-served group. The applicant has consulted with the user / target group. Ideally for larger funding we would encourage cross community applications or even applications from multiple communities.
Sustainability	The purpose of the project is to make a positive social and/or environmental impact. Where the project requires the purchase of physical goods/ materials, the project team is committed to sourcing the most environmentally and socially sustainable option available. The project has showed how it is linked to the Sustainable Development Goals. The project also has the potential for longevity and can be managed accordingly by the applicant.
Capacity and Track Record	The applicant has a history of community involvement and experience delivering community projects and is registered with the Public Participation Network.
Viability and Value for Money	The applicant has thought about future funding or maintenance costs if relevant. The proposal demonstrates value for money and provides support that cannot be accessed elsewhere e.g., through alternative funding.

The Evaluation Panel will seek to ensure that the benefits of the fund are received by communities along the transmission line, and consideration will be given to the geographic spread of applications. The Panel will also seek

to ensure a broad mix of projects are funded, which serve a range of demographics.

Please note, canvassing or lobbying will automatically disqualify your group.



9. How to apply?

Applications can be made online at eirgridcommunityfund.submit.com or by scanning the following QR code.



Scan Here
for Portal
Application
Form

The application portal will open for applications at **12 noon on Tuesday 23rd April 2024**. The submission deadline for applications is **5pm Tuesday 18th June 2024**.

We want to help you to develop a project with maximum impact, and to make it as easy as possible to complete the application form. We recommend you take the following steps when developing your application:

- 1. Read this briefing document thoroughly** and A Guide to Completing an Application Form on EirGrid's website. www.eirgrid.ie/LaoisKilkennyFund
- 2. Register your interest** in applying for the Fund by registering an account on the online application portal at eirgridcommunityfund.submit.com.
- 3. Submit any queries** you have on the Fund by sending a message to Fund Administrator, M-CO at communitybenefitfund@mco.ie or via the messaging option on the online application portal. Please note that any relevant queries and responses will be updated on the Frequently Asked

Questions (FAQ) on EirGrid's website. www.eirgrid.ie/LaoisKilkennyFund.

4. Attend the Community Information Sessions

where you will have the opportunity to ask questions on the Fund and the application process. There will be two sessions, online and in-person. Where possible we ask that you submit your queries in advance of these sessions via email to communitybenefitfund@mco.ie. Please refer to section **14. Important Dates** for details on how to register for these sessions.

5. Arrange a one-to-one support session

with the Fund Administrators by sending an email to communitybenefitfund@mco.ie or via the messaging option on the online application portal. They will help applicants to check their project ideas for eligibility and to further develop their application. We strongly recommend applicants engage with these sessions.

6. Complete the application form

available at eirgridcommunityfund.submit.com before **5pm on Tuesday 18th June 2024**. Late applications will not be accepted.

7. Clarifications and additional information may be sought by M-CO

For applications to Strand 2: Large Initiatives we may request an interview (via Zoom) to further discuss your application.

9.1 Documentation required with application

You will need to include the following documentation with your application.

Your Constitution

Submit a copy of your organisation's signed and dated constitution. If the group doesn't have a constitution, which is a document that provides information on your organisation and its governance, a template is available to download from EirGrid's website. eirgrid.ie/LaoisKilkennyFund

Quotations

All applications should provide the relevant number of quotes for equipment/project activities at application stage. One quote will be required for items or activities under €5,000. Three quotes will be required for items or activities above €5,000.

Register with your Public Participation Network

Your organisation must be registered or show that you are in the process of registering with your local PPN.

Leases and Planning Permission

You must supply documentation for project work relating to:

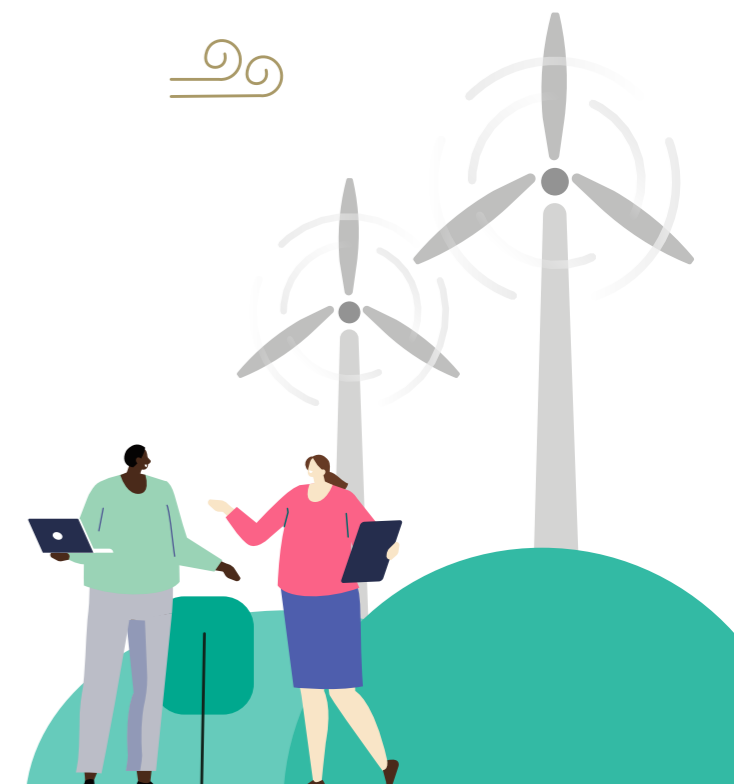
- renovation
- construction
- refurbishment

- groundworks
- installation

If the applicant group is not the owner of the premises or location, you must supply a lease or letter of permission from the owner to undertake the proposed works.

If relevant, you must supply details of planning permission, or a letter or email showing exemption from the relevant Local Authority. It is important to note that you are responsible for providing the relevant permissions.

Please note that applicants who do not submit the required documentation with their application form may not be considered for evaluation.



10. Common errors on applications

- Incomplete applications.
- Poor project description or lack of information.
- Applicants did not read the Fund Guidelines or criteria, or both.
- Blank answers to questions.
- Missing documentation such as quotes, planning permission or planning exemptions.
- Project costs do not tally with quotes.
- The projects fall outside the Area of Benefit or do not explain clearly the communities the project will serve.
- Projects did not show appropriate governance or committee structure.

11. Grant Offers

It is expected that grant offers will be made mid August 2024. All applications will be advised of the outcome of their application in writing. Should the evaluation stage take longer than expected, you will be notified.

Please be aware that we will publicise these grants offers for promotional and information purposes.

11.1 If your project is successful

If your project is successful, a Grant Letter of Offer containing the terms and conditions of the offer will be issued to you by M-CO. We will ask that you acknowledge receipt of the grant in writing or by email within 15 business days of date of offer. You will also need to confirm that the grant will be used for the purpose it was applied for, and to agree to our terms and conditions.

Accompanying this letter will be:

- The Fund Agreement to be electronically signed by the successful applicant. This agreement must be entered into between M-CO and the group/organisation receiving the funding. A draft Fund Agreement will be made available on the application portal.
- An information document providing details in relation to (i) the grant process, (ii) how to drawdown the grant and (iii) what documentation needs to be submitted.
- A request for further documentation. Similar to the application form, this documentation will be submitted via the online application portal.
 - (i) Bank Account Details with copy of Bank Statement Header

- (ii) Applicant Tax Clearance Certificate/ Charity Status – Must be valid for duration of the Fund Agreement (if grant offer is greater than €10,000).
- (iii) Any additional documentation requested by the evaluation committee.

The Fund Agreement must be signed by successful applicants and all requested documentation submitted online within 15 business days. Due to this tight deadline, project groups should ensure all documentation is ready and available in the event of a successful grant award. The grant offer may also stipulate conditions which will need to be fulfilled within the 15-day timeframe in order to finalise your grant offer.

Please note, no expenditure in relation to grant aided elements of the project should be incurred until the Fund Agreement has been signed by both the applicant group and M-CO and a copy has been sent to the applicant.

We will ask you to acknowledge the support of EirGrid Community Fund on any materials associated with the grant.

11.2 Project Monitoring

Successful applicants will have 12 months from the date of the grant offer to complete their project and submit a claim for payment from the Fund. All successful applications will be required to submit a project update after 6 months and if no satisfactory progress has been made, a grant or part thereof may be revoked.

EirGrid may choose your project for a site visit – selected projects will be notified in advance.



11.3 Claiming your grant award

On completion of your project, each applicant group will be required to submit documents and additional evidence to demonstrate project expenditure was undertaken in accordance with the signed Fund Agreement. In the event a group does not complete a project in full accordance with the Fund Agreement, funding may not be paid. To claim your grant award, at a minimum you will be asked to provide the following:

- invoices and receipts
- bank statements showing project expenditure,
- Photos of completed project
- Depending on your project size you may also be asked to provide:
 - tax clearance details to show your groups tax affairs remain in order
 - professional reports such as engineers or architect reports.

11.4 If your application is unsuccessful

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing by M-CO. Throughout the evaluation process, care will be taken to assess all applications against criteria in a consistent and equitable way. Although decisions are final, M-CO can also provide feedback on unsuccessful applications within 20 working days, if requested.



12. Terms and conditions

Before completing your application, please note the following terms and conditions.

1. Signature

The application must be signed by the Chairperson, Secretary or Treasurer of the organisation/group making the submission.

2. Accurate and complete

The information supplied by the applicant must be accurate and complete. Incorrect information may lead to disqualification and/or the repayment of any grant made.

3. Fund may be oversubscribed

Applicants should be aware that the Fund may be oversubscribed. Some applications fulfilling the conditions may not be successful or may be approved for a reduced amount.

4. Award amount is final

The amount offered to the successful application is final and cannot be amended due to price increases or inflation.

5. Managing information

All information provided in respect of the application for a grant will be held electronically and The Freedom of Information Act applies to all records held by EirGrid.

6. Quotes

All applications should provide the relevant number of quotes for equipment/project activities at application stage. One quote will be required for items or activities under €5,000. Three quotes will be required for items or activities above €5,000.

7. Electronic funds transfer

Applicants must have a bank, credit union or post office account or access to one. All grants will be awarded electronic funds transfer (EFT) and will be paid directly to the organisation.

8. Tax affairs should be in order

Applicants awarded in excess of €10,000 will be required to indicate that their tax affairs are in order and submit their tax reference number on the claim form before the grant offer is finalised.

9. Receipts and invoices

Evidence of expenditure, receipts/invoices must be retained and provided at drawdown.

10. Relevant permissions

If relevant to the project, you will be required to provide with your application form evidence of landowner consent/permission and/or planning permission/exemption.

11. Procedures, policies and insurance

It is the responsibility of each organisation to ensure that it has proper procedures and policies in place, including appropriate insurance where relevant prior to the drawdown of funding.

12. Working with the young or vulnerable

Successful applicants are expected to have a policy in place and proper procedures regarding working with children, young people and vulnerable adults where relevant to the project prior to the drawdown of funding.

13. Health and safety

Each project, event, activity should ensure the relevant health and safety regulations are complied with. It is expected that groups have insurance cover taken out on a project's grant aided assets, including public liability. M-CO and EirGrid are not liable for any claims relating to funding allocated for projects under this Fund.

14. Ethics and environment

Activities, materials and equipment should consider the ethical and environmental aspects.

13. Feedback

M-CO in cooperation with EirGrid, take care to assess all applications against criteria in a consistent and fair way. Although decisions are final, if your application is unsuccessful, you can ask M-CO for feedback. We also welcome feedback on the application process.

15. Good governance

Applicants are encouraged to sign up to the Governance Code, A Code of Practice for Good Governance of Community, Voluntary and Charitable Organisations in Ireland.

16. EirGrid acknowledgement

EirGrid contribution must be publicly acknowledged in all materials associated with the purpose of the grant.

Please download a feedback form from EirGrids website eirgrid.ie/LaoisKilkennyFund. Once complete, please email it to M-CO at communitybenefitfund@mco.ie where it will be reviewed and a response provided to you.

14. Important Dates

Phase	Details	Date
Fund Opens for Applications	The Fund opens for applications and all information is made available on the application portal eirgridcommunityfund.submit.com	12 noon on 23rd April 2024
Community Information Session (Online)	Click here to Register for the Online Community Information Session - 1st May	1st May 2024
Community Information Session (In-person)	Click here to Register for the In-Person Community Information Session - 8th May	8th May 2024
1 to 1 Support Sessions	Email communitybenefitfund@mco.ie to set up a 1 to 1 support session.	23rd April to 18th June 2024
Fund Closes for Applications	No applications will be accepted after this time.	5pm on 18th June 2024
Clarifications / Interviews	Short listed candidates may be called for an interview with the evaluation panel to clarify aspects of their application.	Late June/Early July 2024
Notification of Grant Offers	Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application. Should the evaluation stage take longer than anticipated, you will be notified.	Mid August 2024
Acceptance of Grant Offers	Applicants must accept the grant offer and submit all documentation required.	Within 15 business days of Grant Offer
Project Completion	All projects must have completed their projects and submitted their drawdown request.	Within 12 months of Grant Offer

15. Contact

Please get in touch with M-CO if you have any questions on the Fund, the application process, or your groups individual needs.

Phone 01 887 0630
E-mail communitybenefitfund@mco.ie
Application Portal eirgridcommunityfund.submit.com

Address
M-CO
43 Fitzwilliam Place,
Dublin 2





The Oval, 160 Shelbourne Rd,
Dublin 4, D04 FW28
01 627 1700 | EirGrid.ie

