



Spirit of Lanarkshire Wind Energy Cooperative (SOLWEC) Warm Spaces Support Fund 2022/23

SOLWEC Warm Spaces Support Fund aims to support communities in the vicinity of West Browncastle and Nutberry wind farms to pursue projects which help people to tackle the cost of living crisis by providing warm spaces that bring the community together.

The SOLWEC Warm Spaces Support fund may be able to provide support for existing e.g clubs for older people, if these are particularly appropriate to providing warm spaces for vulnerable people or those on low incomes.

The SOLWEC Board allocate a proportion of profits every year towards a community projects, and we have up to £50,000 available this year to support Warm Spaces activities.

About the Fund

The Board invite applications for between £500 up to £5,000.

This fund has a rolling application process with no fixed closing date. Applications will be assessed by the SOLWEC Board as soon as possible after receipt and we aim to be able to inform you of the outcome of your application within 21 days of receipt. Funding will be awarded to applications which meet the criteria on a first come, first served basis.

The SOLWEC Warm Spaces Support Fund aims to support projects which provide a warm space for vulnerable members of the community or those on low incomes. Support could include funding for fuel bills, activities to bring people together and/or food and non-alcoholic drinks.

The Board's decision is final and we are not able to enter into discussions about it.

Eligibility

- The fund is available to constituted groups in South Lanarkshire, East Ayrshire and East Renfrewshire within a 10 mile radius of the two Wind Farms (see map below).
- Groups must have an up-to-date Constitution or Governance Document.
- Applicants must have a Bank, Building Society or Credit Union Account in the name of the organisation carrying out the project.
- Any grant received must be spent within one year of award.
- Groups will not be eligible to make application for another grant from the fund until all monitoring and evaluation reports have been completed.

We will not fund the following:

- Heating bills incurred by Local Authorities or other public bodies.
- The purchase of alcohol, tobacco or drugs. There is no restriction on having alcohol or tobacco at funded events, but the grant should not be used to purchase them.
- The repayment of loans or payment of debts.
- Payments towards areas generally understood to be the responsibility of statutory authorities including schools e.g projects that take place in school, during school hours. PTAs/Parent Councils can apply if appropriately constituted but must provide evidence that the project goes beyond the statutory requirements for the local authority to provide education.
- Groups who will then distribute the funds as grants, prizes or bursaries.
- General fundraising appeals or activities.
- Promotion of religious or political views. Church groups can apply for funding for projects that take place in their buildings as long as they are open to people of all faiths or none.
- Projects where the main beneficiaries reside outwith 10 miles of the SOLWEC windfarms even if the organisation's address is within those areas.
- Activities which are critical of renewable energy.
- Costs which have already been incurred at the time of application.
- Activities which might bring Spirit of Lanarkshire Wind Energy Co-operative into disrepute.
- Activities which could be funded by the existing unrestricted reserves of an organisation unless there is an explanation for this.

Payment of Award

- Grants will be paid to a Bank, Building Society or Credit Union Account in the name of the organisation.
- Payments will be made shortly after the awards are announced.
- If your application is successful, we will ask you to provide a report on the project with 3 months of completion. We may ask to see proof of expenditure and/or invite you to give a presentation about your project at our AGM.
- Any unspent grant must be returned to the SOLWEC Community Fund unless otherwise agreed.

Application Procedure

Please complete the SOLWEC Community Fund application form and return to SOLWEC, c/o Energy4All or email to info@spiritoflanarkshire.coop as soon as possible.

You should include any supporting material that you think will help us to understand your Warm Space activity better. We may ask for more information.

Applications will be assessed by the SOLWEC Board as soon as possible after receipt and we aim to be able to inform you of the outcome of your application within 21 days of receipt.

Final decisions will be entirely at board's discretion and the board reserves the right not to award any funding if, in its opinion, no suitable applications are received.

Grant recipients should acknowledge the grant in any publicity related to the project. SOLWEC may publicise grant awards and invite grant-holders to give a presentation on their project at its AGM or Board Meetings.

For more information about us, see <http://spiritoflanarkshire.coop/>

SOLWEC catchment area map

