

Elusen Ogwen

Application Guidelines

1. What is the Elusen Ogwen ?

When Ynni Ogwen began it was always intended to establish a charity that would distribute profits from their energy schemes for local causes. A group of Trustees has now come together to establish Elusen Ogwen (the Charity) to administer this community fund.

The Charity's main aim is to support initiatives in the field of sustainability that will improve the quality of life for the residents, groups and communities of Dyffryn Ogwen .

2. Community Fund Objectives

The Charity can contribute to capital and revenue projects that meet the following objectives:

- Reducing fuel and social poverty
- Develop renewable energy projects
- Promote sustainable transport and active travel
- Save energy
- Connecting individuals of all ages to the environment
- Minimize waste
- Encourage individuals to volunteer in environmental projects in their communities
- Improve the quality of the local environment
- Increase production / purchase of local food products

3 . Who can apply for support?

Community groups can apply for support for projects that will benefit the residents of the Dyffryn Ogwen. This area is defined as the geographical area within the boundaries of Bethesda, Llandegai and Llanllechid Community Councils.

The following criteria must be met in order to apply for funding from the fund:

- Must be a community or voluntary organization located or operating within Dyffryn Ogwen (see definition above)
- Your organisation cannot distribute profits
- Your organisation must have a clear and legal and constitution.
- Your organisation must have a clear management structure
- Your organization must have a clear financial management system
- You have suitable insurance cover in place for the activities covered by your project
- You should demonstrate that you are acting in accordance with the principles of current employment, health and safety, equality for employees and volunteers legislation

- You should demonstrate an understanding and commitment to the Equality Act 2010 as well as to linguistic equality (Elusen Ogwen has a language policy and an equality policy; copies of which can be provided on request)
- You should show that other groups and individuals in the area support the project.
- You should demonstrate value for money in developing, implementing and running the scheme eg collecting equivalent prices for smaller projects or following a formal tender process for larger capital projects.
- You should demonstrate that you understand and comply with child protection and vulnerable adult legislation where applicable

The fund cannot provide grants to schools, community councils, private businesses or individuals.

4. What kind of projects could the charity support?

Applications are expected to be based on projects that will meet the fund's objectives.

In addition, it is expected that all projects will be conducted through the medium of Welsh or bilingually, while promoting every opportunity to use Welsh. The fund is particularly keen to support innovative and entrepreneurial projects within our community. All projects are expected to be sustainable ie you should be able to prove that the benefit is likely to continue once the grant funding period is over.

Examples of projects the charity could support:

Objective	Examples
Reducing fuel poverty	Teaching about energy efficiency, understanding and interpreting energy bills, triggering insulation and energy saving exercises
Develop renewable energy projects	Installation of electric vehicle charging points, installation of electricity generating equipment on community sites
Promote sustainable transport and active travel	Projects that encourage cycling or walking to school or work
Save energy	Install energy saving appliances in community buildings, encourage businesses or a community of residents to save energy
Connecting individuals to the environment	Conservation or scientific projects
Minimise waste	Projects that encourage re-use or recycling
Encourage individuals to volunteer in environmental projects in their communities	Conservation or scientific projects
Improve the quality of the local environment	Adopting and improving areas of land, planting in public places, litter picking
Increase production / purchase of local food products	Develop community allotments or orchards, encourage new ways of selling and distributing local produce

5. What kind of expenditure can the charity not support?

- No grant will be given for routine maintenance of buildings or for the maintenance of existing activities / services.
- We will not fund long-term revenue projects that cannot demonstrate financial sustainability beyond the fund's funding period.
- We will not fund projects that promote particular religious or political views.
- We will not fund expenditure already in place or commissioned work before the grant is awarded.
- We will consider applicants' financial resources when assessing applications. If an organisation has significant funds for a specific and other reasonable purpose, that policy needs to be explained when applying.

6. How much funding can be awarded?

- The fund will normally limit individual grant offers to £3,000. Requests for higher sums may be considered in special cases, but it is suggested that this is discussed in advance if it is intended to apply for a higher amount.
- It is possible to apply for revenue funding over 3 financial years but the grant payments for years 2 and 3 will be dependent on meeting the grant monitoring requirements and that sufficient funding is available to fund the project.
- 100% of the project cost can be funded, but applicants are encouraged to try to identify other contributions eg by using group funds, fundraising activities or applications to other funders.
- Any group that has previously received a grant from the fund can submit a new application for another project once all the monitoring requirements of the original grant have been completed.

7 . How to apply for a grant?

- It is important that you follow the instructions carefully and make sure that your project meets the objectives and criteria in the guidance.
- Applications can be made by completing the bespoke application form, available at Bethesda Library, Siop Ogwen, or from the Partneriaeth Ogwen office or website.
- It is important that you complete the form fully and include all items of information requested. We will not process incomplete applications . Please ensure that you enclose a copy of your Public Liability Insurance as no grants can be paid until this has been seen by the charity
- Applications can be submitted electronically to or in writing to the Partneriaeth Ogwen office.

8 . When to apply?

There are four deadlines for the fund, these are:

- 31 March
- 30th June
- 30th September
- 31st December

We are happy to accept applications for less than £ 500 at any time.

We will aim to process applications within 6 weeks .

9. What happens when you send in your application?

- Once we receive your application we will review the documentation and undertake 'due diligence' on your organisation. We will consider the level of grant being requested and the extent to which your project meets our charitable objectives. A decision will then be made by a simple majority of the Trustees as to whether or not your application will be approved. You will be notified by letter of the decision and, if you are successful, you will be asked to sign an Acceptance Letter, which details the Terms and Conditions under which the grant is being made.
- As part of the Terms, you will need to keep a full record of your expenses during your project, and on completion you will need to provide us with a report showing how the grant was used and what were the results of the project.

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