

GORDONBUSH MICRO GRANT GUIDELINES

What are micro grants?

Micro grants are intended to make the SSE Renewables community funds available to individuals and small local groups who need small amounts to pursue their objectives. The process of applying for and receiving a micro grant is intended to be relatively quick and light touch and will be managed by your local community council.

How much can I apply for?

Up to £500. For groups with a constitution, larger grants are available by applying to SSE. For more information, please go to where all guidelines and forms can be found.

Alternatively, contact **Kirsty Partridge**, Community Investment Manager, by email Kirsty.partridge2@sse.com.

What can micro grants be used for?

Community-focussed or charitable activities which:

- enhance quality of life for local residents;
- contribute to vibrant, healthy, successful and sustainable communities; and/or
- promote community spirit and encourage community activity.

What cannot be supported

- Projects which do not benefit people living within the community council areas of Rogart, Golspie, Brora and Helmsdale.
- The advancement of religion or politics (including requests to support the core activities of religious or political groups).
- The purchase of second hand vehicles.
- Trips abroad.
- Costs of energy consumption.
- The repayment of loans or payment of debts.
- Costs already incurred or activities which will take place before we have made a decision on an application (retrospective funding).
- Payments towards areas generally understood to be the exclusive responsibility of statutory authorities.
- Applications that are for the sole benefit to flora and fauna. Applicants are invited to demonstrate the direct benefit to the local community and/or service users in cases where the grant application is concerned with flora and fauna.
- Anti-wind farm/renewable energy activities, including activities contrary to the interests of SSE and its subsidiaries.

Who can apply?

Applications for micro grants can be accepted from groups – including those who don't have a written constitution or set of rules – and individuals.

Individuals must be living in one of the four eligible community council areas:
Rogart, Golspie, Brora or Helmsdale.

Additional information

- You may only apply for one micro grant at a time.
- If your application is successful, you will not be able to reapply for another micro grant for 12 months has elapsed, although in exceptional circumstances the Community Council may decide to waive this.
- If your application is unsuccessful, you may reapply immediately.
- Any grant received must be spent within one year of being awarded.
- Applying for, or holding, a grant from the micro grants scheme does not prevent constituted, not for profit groups and organisations from applying for a grant from any other grant-making programme operated through the Gordonbush Community Fund provided that the application is not to support the same project or activity.
- Please bear in mind that requests for micro grants are likely to exceed the limited amount of funding available and not all applications will be successful.
- There is no closing date for applications for micro grants and applications can be accepted at any time.

Where to apply?

Please send your completed micro grant application form to your local community council.

If you wish to know which Community Council you live in, information and maps can be found in the Community Council section of Highland Council's website www.highland.gov.uk. Contact details for each community council are available on this website.

The community council will inform you by letter or email on the outcome of your application as soon as possible, but the timescale will depend on when community council meetings are held.

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