

Wind Farms Community Gain Scheme Charter

Bord na Móna has a long standing history in many towns and villages throughout Ireland providing employment and supplying fuel and energy to their homes. As Bord na Móna transitions from its traditional business of peat extraction, mostly for electricity generation, our main focus is currently on the development of renewable energy generating assets such as wind farms in order to meet Ireland's renewable energy targets for 2020 and beyond. As Bord na Móna makes this transition it is committed to maintaining and building on its existing relationships in the communities in which it has operated for over the last 80 years.

The following high level principles relating to Community Gain Schemes are a standard approach adopted by the company to ensure that continued support can be provided to local communities through the development of wind farms:

- Bord na Móna will attach a Community Gain Scheme to future wind farms that are fully owned by the company.
- The Community Gain Scheme will be an annual fund (linked to the installed capacity of the wind farm) to support local projects on an annual basis.
- The provision of a Community Gain Scheme by Bord na Móna will be subject to a concentric hierarchy of benefits. The primary focus will be on the local communities adjacent to the development, with a lesser focus on those communities that are located further away.
- All Schemes will have the following minimum criteria:

1. Qualifying categories:

For a submission to be considered for funding under the Scheme it must satisfy at least one of the following:

- a. Amenity
- b. Community facilities
- c. Culture/Heritage
- d. Education/Schools
- e. Recreation/Health

2. Qualifying criteria:

The following qualifying criteria will apply:

- Benefiting entity must be satisfactorily constituted
- Benefiting entity must be not-for-profit
- Benefiting entity must be tax compliant
- Membership of the benefiting entity must be open and non-discriminatory
- Benefiting project must not espouse any political, religious or social exclusion philosophy, doctrine or policy

Comparative criteria:

The following comparative criteria will apply:

- a. Proximity to wind farm
 - b. Range and number of people served
 - c. Range of categories served
 - d. Sustainability aspect
 - e. Robustness of application
 - f. Capital spend before operating spend
 - g. Degree to which socially marginalised are catered for
 - h. Flagship project (where relevant)
- A list of additional criteria may be established by Bord na Móna in consultation with the local community and/or the local authority. This criteria will provide the framework guidance under which local community groups, clubs and associations can apply to the Fund for financial assistance.
 - Disbursements from the Fund will be limited to those projects that meet the specific criteria established for valid funding assistance.
 - “Flagship” community projects of scale, that are seen to be of significant benefit to the local community, should receive priority assistance from any Community Gain Scheme established by Bord na Móna.
 - The management of any Community Gain Scheme should be either:
 1. Carried out by a reputable Third Party organisation with a significant track record in local community affairs;
 2. Carried out by a committee comprised of representatives of Bord na Móna and the local community or
 3. Managed jointly by a committee comprised of representatives of Bord na Móna, the local community and local authority.
 - The onus will be on the local community to propose suitable and acceptable projects for funding in accordance with the criteria developed.
 - Unallocated funds will be carried over and added to the following year’s fund
 - Benefiting cases will be subject to audit and receipts of expenditure will be requested
 - Payments may be subject to additional conditions

Bord na Móna is committed to operating any Community Gain Scheme (the “Scheme”) in an open and transparent manner. In compliance with the Code of Practice for Wind Energy Development in Ireland: Guidelines for Community Engagement, Bord na Móna will publish details about the Community Gain Scheme on the relevant project website and share relevant information with the local authority.

Any personal data provided to the Community Gain Scheme Committee and Bord na Móna Plc in connection with an application to the Community Gain Scheme will be processed in accordance with the company’s obligations under the Data Protection Acts 1988-2003.