



Northern Ireland Community Investment Review

2022/23





Foreword



Stephen Wheeler

Clean, homegrown energy is more critical than ever before, and SSE Renewables is proud to be Northern Ireland's largest developer and operator of wind farms. We know that renewable power is important not only for tackling the climate emergency and providing energy security but also to support the local transition to a net zero future.

It is crucial that the transition to net zero provides value for everyone in Northern Ireland and the investment of £500,000 in local communities over the last year highlights how our wind farms are making a real difference

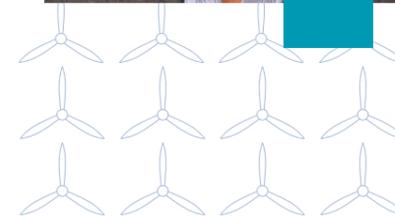
Stephen Wheeler
Managing Director,
SSE Renewables



Mark Ennis

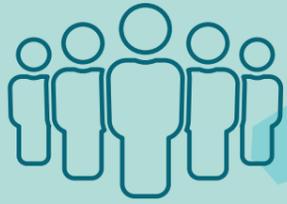
We are facing a climate emergency and to make the lasting change needed for Northern Ireland's future we need collective action. It is clear that the communities near to our wind farms are committed to transitioning to net zero, and the range of projects supported by our community funding, from insulating community buildings to green travel and installing solar panels, shows that small individual actions leads to collective change.

Mark Ennis
SSE Ireland Chairman



Funder's Report

2022/23



112

community projects supported in 2022/23

£500,000 invested in local communities



70 Scholarships awarded in 2022/2023

£4.3 million total investment so far

Supporting the UN's Sustainable Development Goals



25% Good Health and Well-being



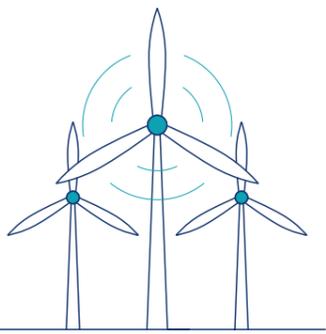
42% Quality Education



8% Sustainable Cities and Communities



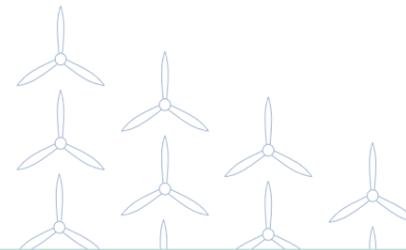
25% Climate Action



In the past year we have focused on supporting communities near our Northern Ireland wind farms to deliver impactful projects which support the local residents now and for the future. The funds have achieved the following priorities:

Net zero transition - we have promoted net zero as a funding focus resulting in increased requests for insulation, active travel and solar energy projects. The projects show how small actions from individual communities can collectively make an impact on Northern Ireland's climate transition.

Cost of living - we have ensured our funds have been available to communities as they experienced increased costs over the last year. Whilst not experiencing increased demand for the funds, we have ensured that we've supported communities through their challenges including providing additional funds to projects when capital costs increased and prioritising funding for projects which support vulnerable community members.



2023/24

Priorities

We expect to enhance our delivery in the next year and will focus on the following priorities:

New funding strategy - following consultation with recent applicants we will amend our funding strategy to focus on social impact projects. We will issue new guidance for applicants and implement a new scoring matrix focused on local priority criteria. The changes will enable the allocation of larger grants for social impact projects and the introduction of multi-year funding.

Data Management - to enable the team to deliver to their full capability we have procured a new data management system which will be implemented across our Northern Ireland funds in 2024. We will provide training and support to applicants to ensure they understand and can use the new system.



Increasing community capacity



Bovalley Community Association

Volunteers are vital for many community organisations, but their commitment and capacity is finite, and it is recognised that sometimes the ambition of the community cannot be realised by volunteers alone. The employment of specialist staff can help community groups to achieve their aims and implement new ideas and services.

Bovalley Community Association is the hub of the local community and has offered a tremendous amount of support throughout the years, but volunteers are at capacity and do not have the ability to meet increased demands. Following the pandemic, the community has experienced high social isolation, increased levels of anti-social behaviour and lower educational attainment. The support from Slieve Kirk Community Fund to employ a programme co-ordinator has enabled the community to increase services for young people, ensuring good organisation and the successful management of the administration required to run the provision. The services support over **126** local young people and **164** local residents a year.

£5,000

awarded in
June 2022

Slieve Kirk
Community Fund

Janice McClay, Project co-ordinator "through the funding by SSE, Bovalley were able to deliver an effective and innovative project with a focus on social isolation. Too many children face barriers due to personal circumstances which prevents them from thriving. The provision of this programme provided for many kids a place of equality, diversity and support whilst upskilling them with skills required to progress both socially and emotionally as they move forward in life",

Investing in young people

Workspace NI – Learning for Life Programme

In 2022/23 SSE's Learning for Life' partnership with Workspace NI focused on employability, mentoring and training to a large number of 16–24-year-olds. The programme supported 200 people from rural Draperstown and its surrounding areas to benefit from specialist youth support services, including peer mentoring and skills enhancement.

The project successfully addressed educational under-achievement within its cohort of participants and as a result 39% of attendees progressed to further training or education which will directly impact career prospects.



St. Matthews
Drumsurn

Helping in an emergency



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Newtownstewart Golf Club

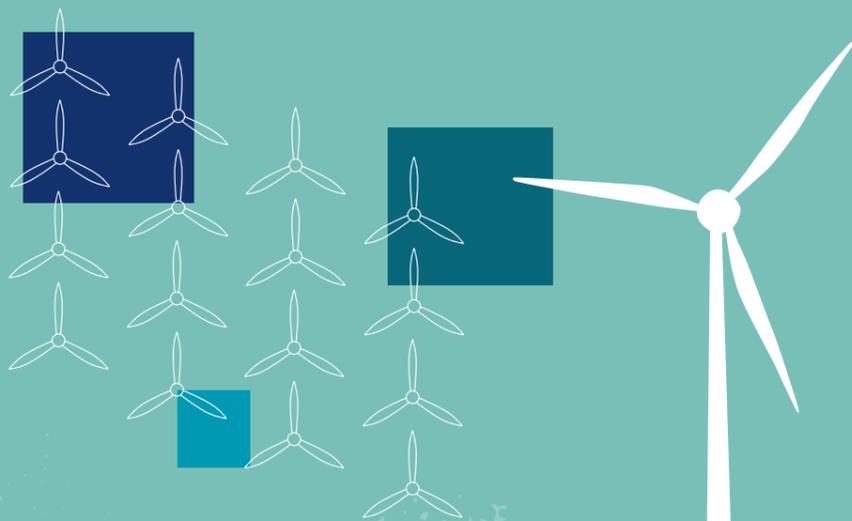
Given the rural location of the golf club outwith any nearby villages, it was recognised that access to medical provision until support from the emergency services arrives was important. The donation from the Bessy Bell Community Fund has enabled Newtownstewart Golf Club to purchase a defibrillator for the club and surrounding area. In an emergency, if a defibrillator can be used within the first five minutes, the survival rate can be as high as 74%. The defibrillator will be located at the clubhouse which is easily accessible at anytime and local volunteers will be trained on how to use the equipment to ensure the community is ready to respond in an emergency.

Captain Ian Beattie commented: "We hope this new defibrillator will never have to be used but in the event it will provide an extra level of help and protection for our golfers and for other people in the immediate area."

£1,500

awarded in December 2022

Bessy Bell Community Fund



Supporting net zero communities

Roe Valley Enterprise

To achieve Northern Ireland's 2050 net zero targets all areas of our community need to act. One of the key commitments that community groups can undertake is to decarbonise their heating. Roe Valley Enterprise is a charity which works for the benefit of the local area by supporting community enterprise and enhancing local developments. The charity has a sustainability ambition and was an early adopter of solar electricity to reduce their electricity bills as well as their carbon usage. To help them enhance this provision they received funding to install a battery that will store excess energy which can be used when needewd.

"The funding received from SSE Renewables went towards installing batteries to complement our solar panels, and to increase our overall energy efficiency and sustainability. The battery installation enabled us to further support tenant businesses and to provide workshops targeting the unemployed and disadvantaged groups. The batteries will reduce our energy consumption, with savings being reinvested into the delivery of community programmes and services." Martin Devlin Roe Valley Enterprise.



£2,000

awarded in August 2022

Slieve Kirk Community Fund

13 CLIMATE ACTION



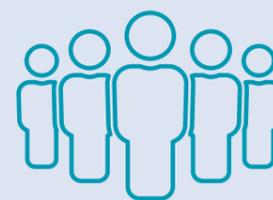
The funding facilitated the following sustainable legacies within the community since 1st April 2022:



Supported **36** people into training and further education



195 qualifications achieved



Rolled out training and skill support to **109** young people



Supported **28** people into employment

Funding Awards 2022/23

Bessy Bell Wind Farm

Bessy Bell Community Fund is made up of Bessy Bell 1 and Bessy Bell 2. The wind farms are located at Baronscourt, Co Tyrone and awards c.£25,000 annually to community groups within 12 miles of the wind farms.

COMMUNITY GROUP	PROJECT	AWARD
Friends of the Model Primary School	Support to purchase 4 interactive whiteboards.	£3,300.00
Mourne Valley Cultural Association	Support to purchase catering equipment and sports equipment.	£1,000.00
Derry & Raphoe Action	Support to install a Fire Alarm System in the hall.	£1,500.00
Newtownstewart Golf Club	Support to install energy efficient sensor to reduce energy costs.	£1,500.00
Pushkin Trust	Support towards 'Baronscourt Day' creative art activities and outdoor nature workshops which brings children together and encourages them to explore and learn in a creative fun environment.	£500.00
Naomh Eoghan GAA Club	Support towards Naomh Eoghan ICAN (Integrating Children with Additional Needs) to provide a physical activity programme for children with special needs.	£1,500.00
Omagh Academicals Rugby Football Club	Support to replace and install new shower heads, time controlled push buttons to enhance energy efficiency.	£500.00
KVC Creativity CIC	Support towards provision of cookery workshops over the school Holidays for youth.	£500.00
Kirlish Orange Lodge	Support to upgrade the lighting system in the community Hall to LED lighting.	£500.00
Dregish Community Group	Support towards painting the Parish hall.	£500.00
Ardstraw Presbyterian Church	Support towards the repairs, sanding, remarking and varnishing of the large multi functional hall in the church.	£500.00
Newtownstewart Leisure Complex	Support to purchase lockable outdoor bike shed and two electric bikes for a new initiative Pedal or Walk away.	£1,500.00
Two Castles Amateur Boxing Club	Support towards operational costs of the club.	£500.00
Strabane & District YFC	Support towards upgrading and replacing windows and lighting.	£1,000.00
Sinclair Memorial Pipe Band	Support towards purchasing uniforms for pipers.	£500.00
Gillygooley 2nd Youth	Support towards providing a fun day for older residents.	£300.00
Gillygooley Primary School Parent Teacher Association	Support to purchase a projector for the school.	£300.00
Ardstraw Football Club	Support to upgrade old radiators in the community facility with energy efficient thermostat operated radiators.	£1,000.00
Drumlegagh Community Group	Support to purchase a defibrillator & cabinet, and to run two training sessions for 20 local people to be trained in basic first aid.	£1,000.00
Ardstraw LOL 502	Support to repaint rooms in the Orange Hall to help restart the Ardstraw community association.	£500.00
Ardstraw & Baronscourt Youth Council	Support to develop a plot of land into a self-sufficient plot for growing vegetables and flowers through the installation of growing hot houses.	£500.00
Newtownstewart Royal British Legion	Support to bring members on a trip to Enniskillen & evening meal.	£500.00
Drumlegagh LOL626	Support to install a disabled access ramp and handrail.	£1,500.00
Dernakesh Church (Chapel of Ease) Maintenance & Support	Window replacement for vestry	€1,000
Rainbow Kids Playgroup CLG	Contribution extra equip	€1,000
Drumgoon Community Centre Co-Operative Society Ltd	Contribution solar panels	€1,500

Slieve Kirk Wind Park

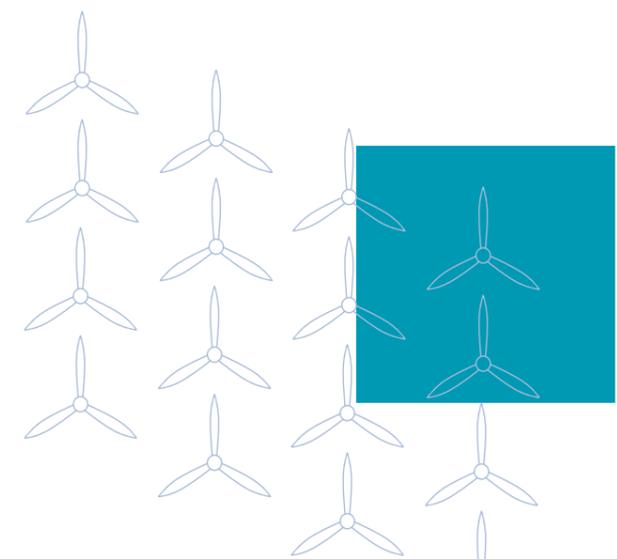
Slieve Kirk Wind Park Community Fund distributes funding on behalf of the Slieve Kirk wind park cluster comprising Slieve Kirk Wind Farm, Glenconway Wind Farm and Glenconway 2 Wind Farm. The fund awards c.£170,000 per annum to community groups within 12 miles of the wind park. The fund also runs a Scholarship Programme with the University of Ulster, North West Regional College and the South West College which opens for applications in September each year.

COMMUNITY GROUP	PROJECT	AWARD
Ardmore Cricket Club	Funding towards building improvements to the cricket pavilion including.	£3,500
ASPACE	Funding towards a kitchen installation.	£3,700
Aghabrack Community Association	Funding towards a week long cross community health and well being summer scheme for young children from throughout the district.	£2,000
Ballymoor Football Club	Funding towards purchase of AI camera with software to record kids training and games.	£1,500
Ballyspallen Cricket Club	Funding towards solar panels linked to a back up battery to reduce costs year on year.	£2,500
Barron Cultural Association	Funding towards running costs.	£3,000
Bonds Glen Community Association	Funding towards a P.A system at Bonds Glen Cricket Club.	£4,000
Bonds Glen Cricket Club	Funding towards insulation upgrade.	£4,000
Bovalley Community Association	Funding towards a project co-ordinator.	£5,000
Bridgade Cricket Club	Funding towards upgrading existing lighting to LED lighting.	£2,800
Burnfoot Community Development Association	Funding towards provision of additional activities, courses to help the elderly and isolated.	£3,000
Burnfoot Out of School Club	Funding towards workshops for children who range from 4-11 years of age.	£3,000
Butterlope Farm	Funding towards provision of an Easilink transport for those not on a public bus route or those unable to access public bus services because of their access requirements.	£1,500
Campsie Masonic Community Hall	Funding towards installation of new double glazing windows in order to reduce heat loss and improve energy efficiency.	£3,000
Church Hill Utd	Funding towards running a tournament in memory of the chairman who died in 2022.	£2,000
City of Derry Rugby Club	Funding towards upgrading existing lighting to LED lighting.	£2,000
Clann na Gael	Funding towards an afterschool sports club from for up to 80 children.	£1,500
Craft Collective	Funding towards unique community craft classes for the elderly.	£1,500
Cumber Claudy Community Association	Funding towards upgrading existing lighting to LED lighting.	£3,500
Cumber Claudy Primary School	Funding towards a designated outdoor learning space, garden and wildflower area.	£3,500
Dennett Anglers Association	Funding towards a project of workshop designed to help develop a greater understanding of the local wild ecosystem.	£3,000
Dennett Interchange	Funding towards support of the meals on wheels.	£3,000
Dennett Valley Health Network	Funding towards an environmental and sensory community outdoor recreational area.	£3,000
Donagheady Parish Council	Funding towards replacing the current inefficient radiators to radiators that are more energy efficient and productive.	£3,000
Donemana Cricket Club	Funding towards the purchase of a cricket bowling machine with power supply.	£2,398

COMMUNITY GROUP	PROJECT	AWARD
Donemana Primary School	Funding towards a sensory garden.	£5,000
Drum GAC	Funding towards insulating the club house to reduce energy costs.	£7,000
Drum Mens Shed	Funding towards a new lawnmower to allow the men to cut the grass for the local football club for socialising.	£2,500
The Drummond Centre	Funding towards additional IT equipment including laptops, ipads and printer to help people access internet.	£2,500
Drumahoe Community Association	Funding towards running events for older people.	£2,000
Dungiven Celtic Youth FC	Funding towards 3G pitch hire from to allow people from disadvantaged backgrounds to parake in football sessions.	£2,000
Eglington Building Bridges	Funding towards delivery a programme of winter events for vulnerable residents in the Eglington and Campsie area.	£2,000
Eglington Eagles CCFC	Funding towards a feasibility study to assess the purchase of land, develop facilities and grow services in our local community.	£2,000
Extern Community Crisis Intervention Centre	Funding towards production of leaflets to send around surrounding areas outlining the support services offered to help people in need.	£2,000
Faughan Rural Community Hub	Funding towards roof and wall repairs which is damp.	£3,000
Faughanvale GAC	Funding towards installation of energy efficient outdoor lighting.	£3,000
Foreglen GAC	Funding towards energy efficient outdoor lighting.	£3,000
Fountain Street Community Development Association	Funding towards the purchase food packs for the elderly & vulnerable residents living in the Fountain Street area of Strabane.	£1,500
Fox Lodge Cricket Club	Funding towards a lawnmower which will help maintain the standards of the playing facilities. for outdoor and indoor community projects/initiatives.	£1,600
Friends of Rossmar School	Funding towards provision of disability access to the outdoor horticulture area and new benches.	£2,400
Glendermott Primary School	Funding towards a nurture unit within the school to allow children to develop skills in connecting with others.	£2,500
Glenelly Development Trust Ltd	Funding towards support for meals and wheels.	£2,000
Glenshane Care Association	Funding towardstransport costs to help vulnerable people access the facilities.	£2,500
Glor Dhun Geimhin	Funding towards running costs.	£1,500
Good Shepard PS	Funding towards a dedicated outdoor space where our school community can gather to reflect and spend time.	£2,000
Gortilea Social Farm	Funding towards PPE equipment including back protectors, safety hats and safety footwear.	£2,000
Gortnaghey Community Association	Funding towards running costs.	£3,500
John Mitchells GAA	Funding towards equipment.	£1,270
Kildoag Clay Target Club	Funding towards provision of new traps.	£2,500
Kildoag Cultural Society	Funding towards upgrading lighting at Kildoag Hall to LED lighting with motion sensors.	£2,000
Kildoag Pipe Band	Funding towards the tuition of pipers and drummers within the local rural community.	£2,000
Kildoag Womens Group	Funding towards courses and classes.	£2,000
Killyclooney Cricket Club	Funding towards outdoor canopy area.	£1,500
Learmount Community Development Group Ltd	Funding towards purchase of a portable projector and laptop for use to provide information sessions.	£760
Newbuildings Cricket Club	Funding towards workshops to address social isolation.	£2,000
Oxford United Football Club	Funding towards a free football programme for 40 teenage boys.	£766
Parish of Bannagher	Funding towards disabled parking.	£2,380

Slieve Kirk Wind Park

COMMUNITY GROUP	PROJECT	AWARD
Roe Valley Enterprises	Funding towards installing batteries to compliment the solar panels.	£2,000
SALT Community Association	Funding towards an extension to the hall for equipment storage.	£2,000
Sollus Highland Dance	Funding towards additional equipment to support the dancers.	£999
St Canice GAA	Funding towards upgrading LED lighting.	£2,500
St Canice PS Parents Association	Funding towards sensory play equipment and resources.	£2,000
St Columba's Cathedral	Funding towards an upgraded digital controls system for the heating system at the Cathedral.	£2,000
St Josephs Craighane	Funding towards a ball catch net.	£2,000
Artigarvan Community Response	Funding towards programmes and activities that encourage people to get back out again after Covid.	£2,000
St Marys GAA Ardmore	Funding towards pitch remedial works.	£2,000
St Mary's Gortnaghey Primary School	Funding towards an outdoor space for children including a mud kitchen, poly tunnel and outdoor classroom.	£2,000
St. Mary's Slaughtmanus GAC	Funding towards upgrading LED lighting and purchase of additional hand dryers.	£2,000
St Matthews GAA Drumsurn	Funding towards provision of a walking track, lighting and fencing.	£8,000
Strabane Athletic FC	Funding towards provision of free training course for 6-11 year olds.	£800
The Churches Trust	Funding towards a upgrading lighting.	£2,500
The COUP CIC Donemana	Funding towards a crafternoon classes for older prople to engage and partake in workshops.	£1,500
The Plum Club	Funding towards meals on wheels and activity packs for the elderly.	£1,500
Tullintrain LOL	Funding towards exterior LED low energy lighting around our hall and in the car park.	£2,000
White Oaks Acorn Project	Funding towards programmes for men aged 55+ to target social isolation.	£1,000
YMCA	Funding towards replacing broken internal doors.	£1,500



Tievenameenta Wind Farm

Tievenameenta Wind Farm is in Killeter, County Tyrone. The Wind Farm awards c.£94,000 annually in community benefit. The fund also runs a Scholarship Programme with the University of Ulster, North West Regional College and the South West College which opens for applications in September each year.

COMMUNITY GROUP	PROJECT	AWARD
Castledearg & District No 12 Credit Union Ltd	Support to install non-slip flooring inside the premises.	£3,000
Aghyaran St. Davog's GAC	Support to carry out a history project showcasing football in the local community since the early 1900.	£6,000
Castledearg Methodist Church	Support to purchase and installation of radiators in the church hall.	£2,000
Aghyaran Development Association	Support towards the purchase of new gym equipment.	£4,000
Killeter & District Development Trust	Support to purchase two marquees and a pa system.	£2,000
Derg Valley Hospitality Association	Support to purchase 100 crowd safety barriers that will be used at the community events throughout the year.	£2,500
Derg Valley Arts & Leisure	Support to purchase equipment to facilitate fundraising activities - shredder, baler, packing bags.	£2,950
Killeter Youth Club	Support to install safety railings and a new pvc door and window on The Loft Club building.	£3,500
Scraghey & District Community Development Association	Support to complete a green sustainability audit, replacement of lights to LED, installation of a defibrillator and development of a wildgarden.	£12,000
The Gemma Mc Hale Foundation	Support continue a bereavement support group which was set up to support those grieving the loss of a loved one.	£5,000
Lislaird Highland Dancers	Support to purchase a sound and light system that can be used for weekly classes and public performances.	£3,000
Castledearg St.Eugene's GAA	Support to to install a new heating system in the upstairs space of the clubrooms.	£8,000
Ederney Community Development Trust	Support to build a new community centre as an extension to the existing premises at St Josephs GAA club in the village.	£30,000



**For further information about SSE Renewables,
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