



# Northern Ireland Community Investment Review

2021/22



## Foreword **Stephen Wheeler**



I am delighted to have taken over the management of SSE Renewables at pivotal time for the company, and a seminal moment for the energy industry as a whole. As we deliver the renewable energy needed to power the net zero transition, we remain committed to ensuring that we are a responsible neighbour who invests in local communities. The 112 projects supported in the last year in Northern Ireland show the impact that our funding can make as we look to a cleaner, more sustainable future. We look forward to continuing to work with communities to deliver on their aspirations and maximise the local benefits of the renewable energy revolution.

**Stephen Wheeler**  
Managing Director,  
SSE Renewables

## Foreword **Mark Ennis**

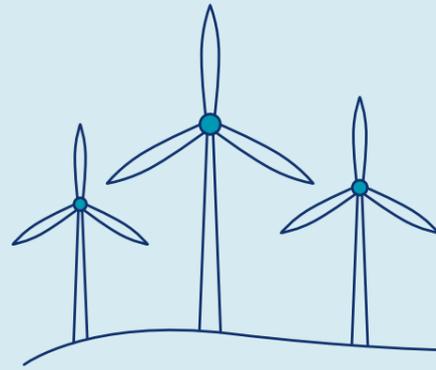


The last year demonstrates the continued investment that the renewables industry makes to communities across Northern Ireland. Not only do our wind farms help provide a local and sustainable source of electricity but they also ensure communities can invest in local priorities. It is a testament to local communities that 20% of funding this year went on net zero projects, and it shows the strength of local commitment to ensuring a low carbon future. I am also proud that the funds are continuing to provide a stronger future for young people and I am delighted that we have marked our 100th scholarship at the University of Ulster.

**Mark Ennis**  
SSE Ireland Chairman

# NORTHERN IRELAND FUNDER'S REPORT

**£445,000**  
awarded to communities  
in 2021/2022



**112**

projects supported  
in 2021/2022



**57**

scholarships  
awarded  
in 2021/2022



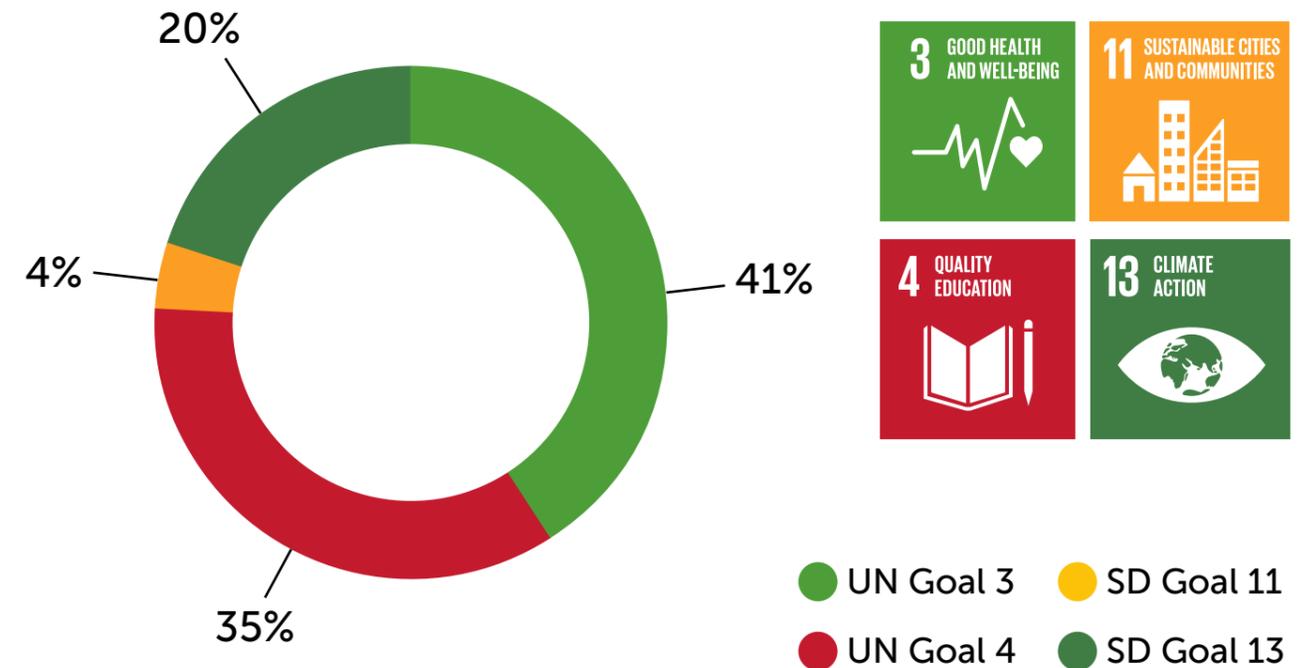
**£188,000**

investments in scholarships in  
2021/2022

2021/22 was a challenging year, with Covid-19 having a huge impact on all communities across Ireland. A key focus for SSE Renewables funding was supporting communities throughout the pandemic and helping them as they emerged, and restrictions eased. Funding was made available to facilitate the safe reopening of halls and financial support towards To support running costs. was offered due to the fundraising impact of Covid.

Young people were among the worst affected socially and mentally through Covid. SSE Renewables continued to provide scholarship opportunities for those living within the counties of the wind farms towards 3rd level education fees. Likewise, through partnerships with The Prince's Trust and Workspace NI, training courses and volunteering opportunities were provided to help support young people into the workplace.

## Supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goals



### 2022/23 priorities

We expect the demand for funding and scholarships to increase and we will focus on the following areas in 2022/23:

**Net zero acceleration** – we will ensure that funds are available to support community groups to continue the transition to net zero and become less reliant on carbon.

**Cost of living** - the rising cost of living is challenging for everyone at present. It is hoped that the community funds can provide sustainable measures for groups to help reduce costs and promote climate action.

**Training and scholarships** – we will continue to support young people and students as they embark on 3rd level education, training courses and volunteering opportunities.

# Investing in good health and wellbeing

## St Michael's Primary School

£4,000 awarded in April 2021

Slieve Kirk Community Fund



Recognising the impact of Covid on children, staff at St Michaels Primary School wanted to focus on children's wellbeing both mentally and physically. Funding from the Slieve Kirk community fund provided an outdoor wellbeing area with canopy in which the children can garden and explore biodiversity in a fun outdoor setting. To help support the children mentally, funding was provided to facilitate a course called Relax Kids which provides the children with tools and techniques to help calm their bodies and build confidence and self-esteem.



"The children were so excited coming back to school to see our newly build outdoor wellbeing area. The children love to explore nature and now have the facilities to do so. The provision of the Relax Kids programme has helped the children transition back into school life and even the teachers have learnt a few coping mechanisms along the way."

Orla Doherty, Teacher, St Michaels Primary School

# Investing in good health and wellbeing

## The Recreation and Exercise Centre

Tievenameenta Community Fund



The covid pandemic continued to be a focus for communities over the last year. Community groups across Northern Ireland had to adapt to new guidance on how they could re-open their services safely for participants. The Recreation and Exercise Centre in Ederney utilised a £3,000 donation to purchase additional exercise equipment for their gym. The new equipment meant that participants could maintain social distance within the gym and allowed for additional cleaning for materials in between uses. The equipment will continue to be used to encourage additional participation in exercise after covid restrictions end.



# Supporting quality education

**57 Scholarships awarded**  
**£188,000 invested**



The SSE Renewables Scholarship Fund supported 57 new third-level students as they undergo their degrees this year.

The SSE Renewables Scholarship Fund Programme, previously named SSE Airtricity Scholarship Fund, has now supported 322 scholars since the programme was launched in 2014, providing over £888,000 in financial support. The 2021/22 fund provided more than £188,000 to support 16 students at Ulster University, 23 at the North West Regional College and 17 at South West College.



# Creating opportunities for young people

**The Prince's Trust**



The Covid-19 pandemic impacted across all aspects of our lives - globally, nationally, and locally. Whilst there have been some signs of recovery such as falling unemployment rates, young people aged 16-24 years remain more than 3 times more likely to be unemployed than 25-64-year-olds.

Each year of our five-year partnership, SSE Renewables will support The Prince's Trust to deliver two key initiatives to benefit young people within the Limavady and Derry/ Londonderry areas:

## DEVELOPMENT AWARD

Nine young people from the Limavady and Derry/Londonderry area were awarded with grants to enable them to take up places on varied vocational courses which had an essential requirement for them to have their own equipment and materials. These included materials and equipment for courses in joinery, bricklaying, plastering, hairdressing (x2), cookery, hospitality, and animal care, representing the wide range of different sectoral opportunities that the beneficiaries were pursuing employment in.

## TEAMS PROGRAMME

Team is a 12-week personal development programme for young people aged 16-24 years offering work experience, employability skills development, qualifications, practical skills, and a community project work delivered throughout Northern Ireland.

On completion of the Limavady Teams programme in September 2021 three people secured volunteering positions, two moved into further education and three secured full-time employment.



# Funding awards 2021/22

## 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.£25k annually to community groups within 12 miles of the wind farms.

COMMUNITY GROUP	PROJECT	AMOUNT (£)
Urney St Columba's GAC	Upgrade internal doors.	£1,000
Strabane Mini and Youth Rugby	Facility Hire for 8 Weeks in Newtonstewart to provide a summer camp for a bigger catchment.	£500
Sion Mills Parent Teacher Friends Association	Provision of a polytunnel.	£1,500
Strabane Community Unemployed Group	Funding towards a summer programme.	£1,000
Omagh Forum for Rural Association	Upgrade lighting to more efficient bulbs.	£1,000
Gillygooley Youth & Dev Association	Provide computer literacy training to local community groups.	£750
Omagh Accies Minis Rugby Football Club	Upgrade existing lighting to more efficient bulbs.	£1,000
Newtownstewart Leisure Complex Ltd	Purchase additional equipment for Covid restrictions.	£500
Holy Family PS	Funding towards an outdoor play area.	£2,250
Happy Faces Playgroup	Upgrade and repair of roof.	£1,000
Go Mental NI	Couples therapy coaching for couples struggling after Covid.	£3,000
Gillygooley Youth & Dev Association	A fun day for children to celebrate easing of Covid restrictions.	£750
Dreggish Community Group	Funding towards a community kitchen.	£2,000
Ardstraw Woman's Group	Provision of a 3x disabled parking at the woman's group studio.	£2,000
Military and Police Support of West Tyrone (MAPS)	Provision of a greenhouse for veterans to use.	£1,500
Newtownstewart Highland Dancers	Funding towards a summer fun day,	£1,000
Newtownstewart Model PS	Funding towards outdoor play equipment.	£2,000
Select Vestry Drumragh Parish Church	Upgrade existing lighting to more energy efficient bulbs.	£500
The Pushkin Trust	Summer fun day for children.	£1,000
Ardstraw and Baronscourt Youth Council	Provision of an outdoor toilet.	£1,500
Ardstraw Football Club	Funding towards re-opening of the hall.	£2,000



# Slieve Kirk Wind Park

Slieve Kirk Wind Park Community Fund distributes wind powered 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 annually in September.

COMMUNITY GROUP	PROJECT	AMOUNT (£)
St Michaels Primary School	Provision of an outdoor wellbeing area.	£4,000
Dennett Valley Health Network	Security Fence to secure the hen run area.	£3,000
The COUP Donemana	To support running costs for Women's Shed.	£3,500
Foreglen CA	To support running costs.	£4,000
Dennett Interchange	To support running costs.	£3,500
Bovalley Community Association	Co-ordinator for one year to support with funding applications.	£9,000
St Canice GAC	To purchase additional sports equipment.	£3,000
Derry YMCA	To support running costs.	£2,500
The Good Shepherd Primary School	To purchase ten iPads.	£3,500
Killyclooney Cricket Club	Funding towards canopy for an outdoor area.	£3,000
Brigade Cricket Club	Additional insulation for energy efficiency.	£1,950
Dungiven Regeneration Club	To create a community garden.	£4,520
Burnfoot Community Dev Association	Upgrade the flooring in the hall.	£2,000
Bready Ulster Scots	Music tuition for children for 20 wks.	£2,000
Bready Cricket Club	Activity classes for various age groups.	£2,500
Cumber Claudy CA	To support running costs.	£3,000
Churchill Utd	To organise a summer camp for the local children.	£1,500
Upper Cumber Youth Council	To support running costs.	£2,000
The Churches Trust	To support running costs.	£2,500
St Canice PTA	Provide counselling for parents and children following on from Covid 19.	£2,000
Glenmornan Community Association	To support running costs.	£1,500
St Matthews Drumsurn	Funding towards a walking track with lights and fencing.	£8,500
Sollus School of Highland Dance	To host a fun day.	£1,500
Friends of Rossmar School	To develop a sensory garden.	£2,500
Barron Cultural Association	To support running costs.	£3,500
Aughabrack Community Association	To support running costs.	£1,500
Gortilea Social Farm	To support running costs.	£2,000
Limavady Rugby & Cricket Club	To support running costs.	£4,000
Parish of Banagher	To upgrade the roof.	£4,000

COMMUNITY GROUP	PROJECT	AMOUNT (£)
Limavady Baptist Church	To support running costs.	£3,618
City of Derry Rugby Club	To replace windows for energy efficiency.	£4,000
Clann na nGael	To support running costs.	£1,500
Ballyspallen Cricket Club	To support running costs.	£2,000
Learnmount Community Dev Group	Provision of a men's only wellbeing group.	£1,000
Faughan Rural Community Hub Ltd	To support running costs.	£2,000
Craigbane Hall Committee	To instal a new exit door.	£1,000
St Marys GAA	Summer camp and provide a sheltered area for outdoor activities.	£2,000
St Joseph's Craigbane	Upgrade floodlighting to LED.	£2,000
Cumber Claudy PS	Funding towards an outdoor learning area.	£1,000
Craft Collectives	To re-open craft classes at the hub.	£1,000
Aspace2	Therapy sessions for people with disabilities.	£1,200
St Mitchells GAA	To purchase additional sports equipment.	£2,250
The Plum Club	To support running costs.	£1,500
Eglinton Crick Club	To support running costs.	£1,500
Campsie Masonic Hall	Wall insulation to reduce energy costs.	£1,250
Butterlope Farm	To transport vulnerable people to activities.	£1,500
Glenelly Development Trust Ltd	To purchase a delivery van for meals on wheels.	£1,500
Derry & Raphoe Action Group	To purchase a bandstand with retractable roof.	£2,500
Drum GAA	Summer Camp for children.	£9,000
Bonds Glen Cricket Club	To upgrade to low energy boiler.	£5,000
Drum Men's Shed	To purchase additional equipment.	£5,000
Gortnaghey Community Association	To replace a bark surface with a Wet pour Surface.	£4,000
Kildoag Women's Group	To purchase a defibrillator	£3,000
Kildoag Cultural Association	Roof repairs.	£3,000
Donemana PS PTA	Funding toward play equipment.	£4,000
Kildoag Clay Target Club	To support running costs.	£3,000
Foreglen GAA	Upgrade lighting to LED.	£3,000
Glendermot PS	Provision of an outdoor learning area.	£3,000
Kildoag Pipe Band	Music classes for children.	£3,000
Newbuilding's Cricket Club	Cricket Workshops for children.	£3,000
Dennett Anglers	Deliver angling workshops to new and existing members	£2,000
Donemana Cultural Association	To support running costs.	£2,000
The Drummond Centre Project	To support running costs.	£1,500
Burnfoot Community Dev Association	Upgrade flooring.	£2,000

# 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 annually in September.

COMMUNITY GROUP	PROJECT	AMOUNT (£)
Aghyaran Development Association	Upgrade of gym shower facilities.	£4,000
Aghyaran LOL 1641	Upgrade insulation for energy efficiency.	£2,500
Bannagh Chapel Advisory Committee	Repairing the floor to prevent drafts and leaks.	£2,500
Culmaine Parish Together	Installation of new windows.	£3,000
Derg Valley Community Angling Club	To organise a course for young children.	£1,346
Ederney Village in Bloom	To purchase a water bowser to water the flowers.	£3,000
Essan Cottage	To purchase and instal a rainwater harvester.	£2,500
Termonamongan Parish Church	Replace current lighting with LED lighting for energy efficiency.	£3,000
Castledearg St Eugenes GAC	Replace current lighting with LED lighting for energy efficiency.	£3,000
Ederney Community Development Trust	Funding towards facilities to provide a space for isolated members.	£3,000
Cairde Eadarnaigh / Ederney Irish Language Group	Funding towards the purchase of signage for the hall.	£2,000
Ederney St Joseph's GAA	Provision of external lighting for safety purposes.	£3,000
Friends of Saint Caireall's	Purchase of an interactive whiteboard for learning.	£4,016
Lisleen Methodist Church	Funding towards upgrade of the current boiler to a more efficient boiler to reduce energy costs.	£1,500
Lislaird LOL	Purchase additional equipment.	£2,500
Lislaird Highland Dancers	Funding towards the purchase a fully insulated outdoor prefabricated building to use as a fitness suite for students.	£2,500
Killeter Presbyterian Church	To create a hardstand outdoor area.	£3,000
Killeter & District Development Trust	Funding towards resurfacing of the carpark.	£3,000
Derg Valley Hospitality Association	Funding towards the provision of stairs.	£1,778
Derg Valley Arts	Funding towards Derg Fest- 3-day Festival in Castledearg.	£1,340
Montiagh Chapel Advisory Committee	To repair the damp on gable wall which is affecting heating efficiency of the building.	£3,000
Ederney Youth Club	To purchase additional equipment.	£3,000
Open Door Centre (Ederney)	Funding towards the purchase of tablets to enable more members to participate in virtual meetings.	£1,745

COMMUNITY GROUP	PROJECT	AMOUNT (£)
St Cairealls Community Playschool	To support running costs.	£2,000
St. Patrick's Church Parish of Termonamongan (Aghyaran)	Upgrade the roof with new tiles as the current tiles are damaged.	£3,300
Friends of St Joseph's PS Ederney	Funding towards the development of a safe, outdoor, illuminated walkway to connect the primary school to the GAA grounds.	£3,000
SVP Ederney	To provide food assistance and help with utility bills during the winter months.	£4,000
The Recreation & Exercise Centre (The REC)	To purchase additional equipment to increase user capacity.	£3,000
Castledearg Methodist Circuit	Upgrade roof insulation for energy efficiency.	£1,000
Aghyaran St Davogs	Installation of CCTV for safety.	£4,000
Castledearg Credit Union	Make an area within the building for people to socialise and meet.	£3,000
NFC Kesh	Purchase of a container for storing equipment.	£2,000
Killeter Bowling Club	Upgrade to existing lighting to reduce energy costs.	£1,500
Gemma McHale Foundation	To set up a bereavement group.	£3,000
First Steps	To purchase safety tiles to fit under outdoor equipment.	£3,000
Castledearg Flute Band	To purchase a laptop and printer.	£474.98

**For further information about SSE Renewables,  
please contact:**

**SSE Renewables.**  
Registered Office:  
Millennium House  
25 Great Victoria Street  
Belfast BT2 7AQ

Registered in Ireland No.430282

**[sserenewables.com](http://sserenewables.com)**

Follow the latest news from SSE Renewables  
on Twitter at: [www.twitter.com/sserenewables](http://www.twitter.com/sserenewables)

