



## **Guidance notes for applications to the Collective Power Fund.**

### **About the fund.**

Addressing the energy and climate emergency by increasing the efficiency of buildings is a crucial task. Buildings in the UK alone contribute approximately 17% of the country's total greenhouse gas emissions and energy costs are now the principal concern of most groups operating these vital community assets.

Recognising the urgent need to combat rising fuel prices, the Collective Power Fund aims to assist community organisations in Kirklees in their efforts to minimise the energy costs of their buildings.

Our research shows that one of the main challenges faced by community groups is determining the starting point for energy reduction initiatives. It can be difficult to identify which improvements will have the most significant impact, prioritise the necessary work, and secure financing. New opportunities for onsite generation such as solar or heat pumps also increase the complexity.

We also know that where volunteers and centre managers have the requisite support, training and information then they can make great strides forward with their energy saving programmes.

To address this opportunity, the Collective Power Fund is focussing its support on community groups to take their initial steps towards energy reduction. In particular, this year, we will prioritise applications from organisations seeking assistance with conducting awareness raising and training for volunteers and auditing of their building.

Applications will be accepted from organisations that have already started taking steps to reduce their energy use and carbon emission. For example, applications for solar panels will also be accepted.

However, as the focus of the round is on reducing emissions from the community, we will not be accepting applications for projects such as tree planting. If you would like to contact us before starting your application to ensure your project meets the criteria, please email [Anne@one-community.org.uk](mailto:Anne@one-community.org.uk)

### **About the application process.**

Applications from charitable organisations that own and/or operate their own building will be accepted.

This fund opens and closes at the same time as the Hirst Brierly Fund which has the same aims as this fund. Applicants can apply to both funds.

The maximum grant award from this fund is £3,000 (or £6,000 across both twinned funds).

You will need to contact an agency which provides volunteer training and/or conducts audits to find out the cost for your budget. You are free to choose a supplier of your choice however you might like to contact Green Doctor, Groundwork, or the Energy Saving Trust.

If you have already audited your building and wish to make improvements, you will need to supply a calculation of the carbon saving your proposed improvements will make. A useful website for this is [carbonfootprint.com](http://carbonfootprint.com) - [Home of Carbon Footprinting](http://carbonfootprint.com)

### **How to apply.**

If you require support from both the Collective Power and Hirst Brierly Fund, please ensure you apply to both funds.

The decision will be communicated a maximum of 8 weeks after the closing date of the round. Please make sure your project start date is after this date, we cannot fund activity that has already taken place.

All applications are to be made online.

### **What documentation do you need to supply with your application form?**

#### **Organisations that have not applied before or have not applied in the past two years must provide:**

- Constitution or governing document
- Bank statement (no older than 3 months)
- If you are a registered charity your latest accounts. Constituted organisations should supply a cash flow.

**If your organisation has applied in the past two years and is not a registered charity, you will need to supply:**

- Cash flow or accounts.
- Bank statement (no older than 3 months).

Applicants will be required to confirm (on the application form) that they have no changes to their constitution since their last application.

**If your group has applied in the past two years and is a registered charity, you need to supply:**

- Bank Statement (no older than 3 months).

Applicants will be required to confirm (on the application form) that they have no changes to their constitution since their last application.