SSE Achany & RWE Rosehall Wind farm Fund Community Advisory Panel
Panel Member Role Profile

Overview

SSE Achany & RWE Rosehall Wind farm Fund Advisory Panel makes decisions on grants from the RWE Rosehall Wind Farm owned by RWE Renewables and administered by Foundation Scotland; and SSE Achany Wind Farm owned and administered by SSE.

The Advisory Panel makes grant making decisions for both funds in the same meetings and Foundation Scotland and SSE work in partnership to ensure funds are distributed fairly and strategically across Ardgay, Creich and Lairg Community Council areas; known as the area of benefit (AOB).

Not-for-profit groups and organisations working to benefit people in the Ardgay, Creich and Lairg Community Council areas (defined by the Community Council boundaries) can apply for grant support.

The Panel is an informal body of residents drawn from the Ardgay, Creich and Lairg Community Council areas for the following purposes:

- To review the Fund's purpose and priorities, informed by wider community engagement
- To advise Foundation Scotland and SSE on grant awards from the Funds
- To advise Foundation Scotland and SSE on how the Funds can be promoted locally and to assist where necessary with that promotional activity
- To work with Foundation Scotland and SSE to review how the Fund is operating with a view to ensuring it is widely available, accessible, and achieving impact.

Panel members may come from any walk of life. In fact, the more diverse the Panel, the more representative of the local communities it is likely to be. The only qualifications for Panel membership are that you:

- are aged 16 or over
- are resident in the Ardgay, Creich and Lairg Community Council areas
- take a healthy interest in community issues and activities, and
- are keen to see the Fund make a real difference for the communities.

There are two types of Panel member, Community Council members appointed to the Panel directly by the Community Councils, and Community members drawn from the wider community. Community Panel members are selected through an open and transparent process and are expected to serve for between two and four years.

A conflicts of interest policy ensures that Panel members are not involved in decisions about grant applications from groups they are directly involved with.

Key Responsibilities

- **Determine / review the Fund Strategy:** The Panel decides on any local priorities that the Fund should support, award sizes, application deadline, and the overall grant-making approach.
- **Attend an induction session and any further training:** Provided by Foundation Scotland and SSE, these will focus on building an effective Panel that understands its role and responsibilities, the grant making process, and policies relating to the smooth functioning of the Panel.
- **Review assessment reports:** Foundation Scotland and SSE assesses all applications to the Fund and provides reports for consideration by Panel before each grant-making meeting.
- **Attend Panel meetings and make decisions on awards:** Panel members also review the Fund's financial position, information on the achievements and outcomes reported by grant recipients and consider any other relevant items of Fund business.
- **Promote the Fund locally:** Panel members are encouraged to play a role in promotional activity e.g.: distributing posters, forwarding emails, attending publicity events.
- **Providing information on the Fund to the community council (or equivalent):** Panel members nominated by the Community Council (or equivalent body) will share information to ensure the Community Council is informed of Fund activity.

Additional information

- The Panel is supported by a Fund Advisor at Foundation Scotland and a Community Fund Manager from SSE . The Foundation and SSE will assess applications, arrange Panel meetings, and provide papers for these.
- Currently the Fund receives applications twice a year with application in April and October and decision meetings in July and January. There is an additional fund

review meeting each September to review fund performance and priorities and to hear annual presentations from grantees with multi year awards.

- This role is voluntary but all reasonable expenses (travel and/or childcare) incurred by Panel Members in the line of duty may be met from the Fund.
- The Foundation (and SSE) promote openness and transparency in their community benefit work and will make brief information about Panel members available on our website. This will not include their contact details.

For further information or to discuss the role, please contact Chris Lee at Foundation Scotland on 07912 7595 or clee@foundationscotland.org.uk