

Household Energy Efficiency Grant

GUIDANCE

Household Energy Efficiency Grant/s can provide funding for household works strictly restricted to VRG’s charitable objectives and focused on object 4.1 Advancing environmental protection. To ensure the scheme can support more participation, particularly from those residents who have not benefitted previously, we are amending the criteria to allow payment to be made upon application, rather than completion.

The grant should fit into one of the following themes:-

Heating your home	Reducing Home Heat loss	Generating Renewable Electricity
<i>Having an efficient heating system running on a low carbon fuel is one of the most important steps you can take to reduce your fuel bills and your carbon dioxide emissions. This might include replacing or purchasing one of the following items.</i>	<i>If you want to reduce your carbon emissions and keep your energy bills low, installing insulation or draught-proofing will reduce heat loss</i>	<i>It's possible to generate your own electricity or heat from renewable, or replenishable, sources of energy, such as the sun or wind</i>
Heat pumps	Cavity Wall insulation	Solar Panels
Boilers	Floor Insulation	Wind Turbines
Electric Heating	Loft Insulation	Hydroelectricity
Biomass including wood burning	Solid Wall Insulation	
Solar	Draught proofing, including thermal curtains and blinds	
Heating controls (thermostats)	Windows and doors	
Thermal energy stores	Insulating tanks pipes and radiators	

We would prefer a project approach with one application covering all measures applied for, however, residents can apply for a number of grants until they have reached the maximum funding of £1000. We are piloting a “funding round” approach so the grant fund **may** close early if all funding has been used up in any given financial year.

Example of grant funding below:-

Resident would like to focus on reducing heat loss from their property. They have a few things that they consider would meet this aim and the total cost is just under £1000 so all could be funded from the grant. No more funding under this scheme would be available to this household during the initial funding cycle.

1. Purchase a HIVE system to control room temperatures. Cost £350
2. Purchase thermal linings for their curtains. Cost £250
3. Buy draught excluders for three doors. Cost £75
4. Secondary glaze one of their windows. Cost £300

Total funding application = £975

Note - This household could also apply for E Bike funding, Get the Valley Growing, New Venture, Bursary and Young Person's grants if they have projects that meet the aims of those schemes.

Eligibility criteria. Applications must:

- Be from a permanent resident living in the Carron Valley Community Council area
- Be signed by someone 16 years of age or over
- Deliver against VRG's Objectives.

VRG Objects.

VRG's objects can be found in full within the [VRG Articles of Association](#). The Household Energy Efficiency grant focuses on Object 4.1. Advance environmental protection. Grant applications should support one or more of the following areas:

- Tackle climate change;
- Promote energy efficiency;

Households may find the free to use [WWF Carbon Footprint Calculator](#) a useful tool to use when considering a grant application to lower their carbon footprint.

The procedure for making a grant application is as follows:

- Read these guidelines in full
- Obtain a quote or price for work or items
- Complete the application form and send it to the VRG Admin Officer <mailto:admin@valleyrenewables.co.uk> with the quotes

The Administrator, in association with the **Grants Sub-committee** will review applications as and when they are submitted and distributed, with a response typically provided to the applicant within **four to six weeks** for individual and community grants. This timeline is for guidance since the VRG is run by unpaid volunteers who give their time voluntarily to the group.

In making grants the Administrator and Sub-Committee will be guided by how well the project will address the VRG Objectives. The Board reserves the right to decline to support an application which they consider does not address these or is ineligible. Applicants refused a grant will be entitled to receive an explanation for the decision and the Board's decision will be final. The guidelines specify the upper limit of any award to be made. Should you not be happy with any part of the process please inform us as soon as possible in writing to Secretary.

For approved grants, VRG will pay the applicant once the grant has been approved and estimates/quotes submitted. The applicant **must** submit all receipts after their project is completed. This is to allow VRG to meet the requirements of the charity regulator. Failure to submit receipts would mean that this household would not be able to apply for any further grant funding.

VRG Grant Conditions

Any award made will be subject to the following conditions:

- Except in exceptional circumstances no work or purchase for which a grant is sought should take place until notification of an award has been made in writing. Once grant is approved by VRG payment will be sent to applicant.
- All receipts must be submitted to VRG upon completion of the project.
- Awards will only be made to permanent residents operating within the Carron Valley Community Council area.
- Valley Renewables shall be entitled to reclaim any funds that it considers to have been used inappropriately, or where spend is not evidenced.