



Your Questions Answered

South Kyle Wind Farm Community Investment Fund

Vattenfall is building South Kyle Wind Farm which lies between Dalmellington, New Cumnock and Carsphairn. Once completed, the wind farm will not only generate electricity, it will also generate a fund to benefit local communities. Here we answer some of the initial questions local people have raised about the Fund and the programme of engagement and preparation now being undertaken ahead of the Fund opening.

When will the Fund start?

South Kyle Wind Farm Community Investment Fund will be available once the wind farm is operational, which is expected to be in the early part of 2023.

How much will the Fund be?

Vattenfall's commitment on South Kyle is to provide £5,000 per MW per annum. This will be index linked for the operational lifetime of the wind farm which amounts to approximately £38million.

Who will provide the Fund?

Common practice is that following construction and commissioning of a development, voluntary community benefits are paid by wind farm owners. At South Kyle Wind Farm, this will be Greencoat UK Wind PLC. Greencoat will acquire full ownership of the wind farm once it is built and operational, and will make ongoing contributions to the Fund over the lifetime of the wind farm, as outlined above.

Who will benefit from the Fund and why?

Carsphairn, Dalmellington, New Cumnock and Patna are the communities who will benefit from the Fund. Prior to planning consent, Vattenfall engaged extensively with local communities as to key priorities for the community benefit. Vattenfall used engagement events, questionnaires, surveys and broad consultation (within a 15km radius of the proposed site) to gather this information. Engagement revealed that local residents felt that the neighbouring communities of Carsphairn, Dalmellington, New Cumnock and Patna should be the main focus of the community benefit dialogue if the planning application was to be successful. As a result, our local engagement regarding the Fund will principally be with these four communities and those organisations and groups who serve and represent them.

What is Foundation Scotland's role?

During construction of the wind farm, Vattenfall is working with local communities to develop a bespoke and sustainable community investment fund that reflects local priorities and aspirations; exploring questions such as how the Fund is used, governed and accessed. Foundation Scotland will help facilitate this community conversation.

Foundation Scotland is a charity that specialises in supporting developers and communities to set up and implement community benefit Funds, ensuring they are tailored to local needs, capacity and ambitions.

This community conversation is at an early stage and we will be encouraging as many local people as possible to get involved in the process.

What can the Fund be used for and how will it be managed?

Foundation Scotland will work with the communities to determine what the Fund can be used for, the different ways it could be made available and how it will be managed.

Why can't the Fund simply be split evenly between the four communities?

Vattenfall is committed to establishing a Fund that will enable maximum impact. By liaising with all four communities we can identify common challenges and opportunities and look at ways the Fund can bring transformative benefits across the area. We will work with the communities to establish a Fund that can support local issues (which some of the Action Plans already highlight) as well as needs and opportunities across a wider area.

What does Vattenfall's commitment to fossil free living within one generation mean for the Fund?

This means activity or projects supported from the Fund will need to consider any implications their project may have on the climate emergency. Depending on the nature and focus of the project this may be a significant factor (for example, improving a community building). In some cases however, it may be less relevant (for example, operating a local befriending service). Vattenfall will provide more guidance on this in due course as this is something being implemented across all of its Funds.

I belong to a group that has ideas for future projects, how can we tell you about them?

We know there are some projects already identified in local action plans, but we'd love to hear about other projects in the pipeline. Please complete the **South Kyle Community Investment Fund Expression of Interest Form** if you want to share a future project idea. Submitting the form doesn't guarantee future funding but it will help inform overall plans for the Fund. And who knows? Maybe it will be a project that does get support from the Fund in the future.

What were the results of the 'Give My View' poll and how will this influence the Fund?

Over 500 residents responded, many of whom were residents who had not previously replied to communications relating to the wind farm. As a result, a larger group of residents are now aware of the Fund and wish to be kept informed as plans develop. The poll revealed that people wanted to see 'more jobs and training', 'sports and leisure activities' and 'things to do for young people'. These results will help shape future discussions as we work with communities to consider the priorities in their community action plans.

If you want to see the results in more detail have a look **here** or on the project webpage.

South Kyle Poll on Community Investment 18.09.20 - 16.10.20



What are the opportunities to become involved in developing the South Kyle Community Investment Fund?

In November 2020, Foundation Scotland met with residents and community group representatives online at the Inform and Inspire sessions.

These sessions gave people from across the area the opportunity to learn more about what community benefit funds are and how Foundation Scotland will be supporting the set up of the South Kyle Fund. Further thematic Inform and Inspire sessions will be scheduled in the spring to look at how other community benefit funds are supporting key emerging priorities across the South Kyle communities, such as education and training and tourism and heritage.

Foundation Scotland will also work through local networks and groups to establish an area wide South Kyle Community Investment Fund Working Group.

Please contact suzy@foundationscotland.org.uk to register your interest if you wish to become part of this Group.



Where can I keep up to date with news about the Fund?

A new dedicated Facebook page has been created for the South Kyle Community Investment Fund. This page will provide updates on the Inform and Inspire sessions and the work going into creating the Fund. Follow the page at www.facebook.com/southkylecommunityfund.

You can also sign up for updates about South Kyle by emailing southkyle.windfarm@vattenfall.com putting "Community benefit" in the subject line.

My question isn't covered above?

If you have a question you would like answered, please don't hesitate to email us at southkyle.windfarm@vattenfall.com and we'll do our best to answer it.