

Mountlucas Wind Farm Community Gain Scheme 2026

Terms and Conditions

Please note the key dates for the Mountlucas Wind Farm Community Gain Scheme are as follows:

- **Scheme opening date: Monday 23rd February 2026.**
- **Scheme closing date: 5pm on Friday 10th April 2026.**

No applications or required accompanying documentation will be accepted after the closing date.

These guidelines have been prepared by BnM, the Fund Administrator, on behalf of Mountlucas Wind Farm Ltd. Please keep a copy to hand when completing your application.

If you need help or guidance at any stage, contact BnM at:

Email: Mountlucaswindfarm@bnm.ie • Website: www.Mountlucaswindfarm.ie



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1. Overview of the Mountlucas Wind Farm Community Gain Scheme

Mountlucas Wind Farm Ltd is now inviting applications to the 2026 Mountlucas Wind Farm Community Gain Scheme (“The Scheme”).

The Scheme provides grants to local community groups, not-for-profit organisations or social enterprises that operate or service communities near the wind farm, for projects that will create positive social and environmental impacts. The overall aim is to increase public and environmental wellbeing in the community and to ensure the communities adjacent to the wind farm receive real and tangible benefits from its development in recognition of their support.

The Scheme is open from **23rd February 2026 to 10th April 2026** to local community-based project groups and voluntary organisations located within, or working with, communities in the vicinity of the development. Please ensure to read these terms and conditions before beginning your application.

The 2026 fund value for the Mountlucas Wind Farm Community Gain Scheme is €104,064.73.

Note: Submission of an application does not guarantee funding. Each funding application will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the Scheme Criteria outlined in this document. As per the Scheme Terms and Conditions, only one application per group, per year may be submitted.

Should your application be successful, in order to drawdown the grant award, each applicant group will be required to upload invoices, receipts, testimonials, project images and additional evidence to demonstrate project expenditure was undertaken in accordance with the Grant Agreement. **It is essential to note that payment cannot be made until the project is complete, the goods are in hand, and any other conditions set out in the Grant Agreement are met.** If, for some reason, the project has been delayed and will not be completed by the closing date, the Fund Administrator (BnM) should be notified immediately.

The Fund may facilitate advance payments should the Awards Committee and/or BnM/Mountlucas Wind Farm Ltd wish to do so. These projects will be decided on a case-by-case basis. However, on completion of the project the applicant group will be required to upload invoices, receipts, testimonials, project images and additional evidence to demonstrate project expenditure was undertaken in accordance with the Grant Agreement.

1.1. BnM

BnM is a leading renewable energy provider supporting Ireland's journey to net zero by delivering secure, renewable energy for the country.

Working with our landbank, strategic partners and local communities we are building a 5GW renewable energy pipeline, including onshore and offshore wind, solar, biomass and biogas projects – enabling industrial growth while contributing to our sustainable future.

BnM has been serving communities across Ireland for over 90 years. Today we continue to support business and local communities not only by safeguarding renewable energy supply, but also through our dedicated programme of community initiatives including Community Benefit Funds, Lough Boora Discovery Park, our business accelerator Accelerate Green, our Pathways to the Future educational supports and other initiatives.

For more information about BnM visit: [bnm.ie](https://www.bnm.ie)

1.2. Scheme Administrators

BnM have been appointed by Mountlucas Wind Farm Ltd as the Fund Administrators for the Mountlucas Wind Farm Community Gain Scheme. The Mountlucas Wind Farm Community Gain Scheme Team will be available to answer any questions about the Scheme and to help community groups and organisations throughout the application process.

2. Eligibility

2.1. Eligible Funding Area

Mountlucas Wind Farm Ltd wish to ensure that communities adjacent to the wind farm should be the immediate beneficiaries of this Scheme. Projects in the vicinity of the wind farm will be considered first and given priority, subject to the project meeting the overall terms and conditions of the Scheme and meeting all other eligible criteria set out in this document.

If there is insufficient demand for project funding within the immediate area, other projects from the wider locality may be considered. We recognise that some organisations and groups which serve the immediate communities may operate out of areas that are located within the wider locality of the wind farm. These applications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis but note that applicants will be required to show evidence of current or future service provision within the eligible funding area to be considered eligible.

2.2. Eligible Groups

- Applications are welcome from not-for-profit groups such as community and voluntary groups, charities, social enterprises and clubs and societies. A key criterion is that the Scheme should be used to benefit the local community as a whole.
- Groups/organisations applying to the Scheme should be members of their local Public Participation Network (PPN) or can demonstrate that they are in the process of registering.
- Collaborative applications between groups are eligible, however your application must have a clear lead applicant and include your organisation's structure and project management structure. If the application is from a partnership or consortium, you will need to clearly identify who will 'be in charge' of the facility or project. The lead applicant will be the sole point of contact during the grant process and contract duration (if applicable).
- Schools are eligible to apply for funding however you will be required to demonstrate that the Scheme is not a substitute for government funding.
- Applications will not be accepted from groups who are currently in receipt of funding from the Cloncreen Wind Farm or any other funding scheme for the same project spend. Applicants will be required to indicate where they have also applied for funding for the same itemised project costs through the Cloncreen Wind Farm Community Funds of any other funding scheme.
- A maximum of one application can be submitted from each group/organisation per Scheme cycle.

Note: If your organisation is granted a multi-annual award in a given fund cycle then it cannot reapply to the Scheme until the Multi Annual has been fully drawn down.

The following qualifying criteria will apply:

- Benefiting entity must be satisfactorily constituted.
- Benefiting entity must be not-for-profit
- Benefiting entity must be tax compliant (where relevant).
- Membership of the benefiting entity must be open and non-discriminatory.
- Benefiting project must not espouse any political, religious, or social exclusion philosophy, doctrine or policy.
- Projects must have a clearly identifiable benefit for their community, and its local residents.

3. Projects and Grant Values

3.1. Ineligible Costs

The below costs **will not be eligible** to receive funding:

- Projects operated by individuals/private sector organisations
- Projects which directly promote/advance any religion/faith
- Projects which directly promote/advance any political party
- Projects which provide unnecessary duplicate activities/services/infrastructure within the community
- Projects which do not directly benefit the local community and are not deemed as 'not-for-profit'
- Projects which seek to purchase/cover the cost of the following: Salaries of core staff, recurrent operational or running costs
- Projects that duplicate work that the sponsor or other third parties have already committed to or completed in the area
- Projects that may damage the reputation of the sponsor or that conflict with or adversely affect the aim, objectives, or policy of Mountlucas Wind Farm Ltd and BnM or other associated company.
- Existing loans, debts, or retrospective supports – you must apply for future needs
- Applications that only benefit an individual
- General sponsorship requests (i.e. Funds that are not associated with particular project costs)
- Projects that are receiving funding from Cloncreen Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund, BnM or any other funding stream for items and costs you will be listing in your application. Duplication of Funding is prohibited.
- Projects beyond the timeframe (see details in relation to Funding strands)
- The direct replacement of statutory Funding*

* The Scheme does not normally support statutory or other accountable bodies (including schools) unless they can provide evidence that the project is community-led, open, accessible and for the benefit of the community and not a statutory responsibility. Therefore, if a school wishes to apply to the Scheme, they must demonstrate that their project would not normally be funded by the Department of Education and Skills. If in doubt, please contact the Fund Administrators, BnM via email to Mountlucaswindfarm@bnm.ie with your enquiries.

3.2. Grant Values

We recognise that community groups may be at different stages in their projects and have different capacities to deliver projects. In order to ensure a range of community organisations can benefit from the Scheme and to suit a multitude of project types, there are three strands of grant funding you can apply for:

Strand	Value	Timeframe for delivery	Maximum grant available
A. Small Grants	€200 - €4,999	6 months	100% - however contribution of own funds viewed favourably
B. Medium Grants	€5,000 - €10,000	6 months	90% - at least 10% contribution of own funds is required
C. Large Grants (Also includes Multi-Annual Funding)	€10,001 +	6 months – 5 years	80% - at least 20% contribution of own funds is required

Small Grants: Between €200 - €4,999

Applications are welcome from new and established community groups for this strand.

Projects must be delivered within 6 months of the signing of a Grant Agreement by the successful applicant. The final date for project completion will be indicatively December 2026, however the exact date will be detailed in the letter of offer (if applicable). Up to 100% Funding can be granted under this strand.

Medium Grants: Between €5,000 - €10,000

Applications are welcome from new and established community groups for this strand. Projects must be delivered within 6 months of the signing of a Grant Agreement by the successful applicant.

Up to 90% funding can be granted under this strand. At least 10% contribution of own funds is required. The final date for project completion will indicatively be December 2026, however the exact date will be detailed in the letter of offer (if applicable).

Large Grants €10,001+

For larger grants, applicants will be required to demonstrate sustainability and lasting impact including plans for maintenance, running and upkeep if the application relates to infrastructure or large equipment.

Evidence that your group is well-established with experience of delivering projects will also be required. Large-scale projects that need capital, facilities and equipment must show how they will benefit the entire community and engage more than one local user group. Up to 80% funding can be granted under this strand. At least 20% contribution of own funds is required.

Depending on the volume of eligible applications, successful applicants may not be awarded the full amount applied for and instead may be awarded a percentage of their proposed budget. Applicants may be asked what they will prioritise if they do not receive the full amount.

Depending on the value of the award, Projects under this strand must be delivered within 6 months to 5 years of the signing of a Grant Agreement by the successful applicant. The final date for project completion will indicatively be December 2026, however the exact date will be detailed in the letter of offer (if applicable).

The ability of applicants to deliver their project within this timeframe will be a consideration during the evaluation phase, particularly for larger projects.

Multi-annual Funding Explained: €10,000+

As the Scheme is established for the lifetime of the wind farm, there is an opportunity for transformative projects to be delivered in the area. Given that there is limited Funding available each year, support to large or phased projects is facilitated through a multi-annual agreement. These projects will likely have strategic or legacy benefits to the area. Up to 80% funding can be granted under this strand. At least 20% contribution of own funds is required.

A Multi Annual Scheme Award occurs when the Funding requested by an applicant is greater than the amount of Funding available (to offer) for example if a project requests a grant of €50,000 but only €10,000 is available, a multi annual fund award of €10,000 each year for 5 years may be offered. This lump sum is a guarantee of funds over a number of years. If you require bridging finance to complete the project your group can now take this offer of a multi annual fund award to a social finance organisation* such as Clann Credo and Community Finance Ireland who can offer you an upfront loan based on this offer.

*Similar supports may be available through your local credit union and banking institutions.

A part of a Multi Annual contract is issued to the group for an overall sum, which is then paid in set installments on an annual basis over 2-5 years. For projects seeking high value multi-annual funding, clear and long-lasting benefit to the community at large must be demonstrated in their application. It will be important to demonstrate that satisfactory and appropriate governance is in place as well as a clear financial plan alongside the capacity to deliver a project at scale. The award must be fully drawn down before a group can apply for further funding.

3.3. Community Contribution

Under Medium Grants, applicants must show they will contribute at least 10% of the total project costs. While under Large Grants, applicants must show they will contribute at least 20% of the total project costs. The contribution towards the costs can come from public funding, the groups own savings, or borrowings. This demonstrates the community groups involvement and commitment to the project.

3.4. Co-Funding

Projects which are seeking co-funding from the Scheme are welcomed. You will be required to outline this in your proposed budget and provide proof that you have secured, or are in the process of securing, this additional funding.

If the additional funding will not be secured in time for project commencement, we recommend you wait until the next round of annual funding from the Mountlucas Wind Farm Community Gain Scheme to apply.

4. Creating Positive Impact

The overall aim of the Scheme is to increase public and environmental wellbeing in the community and support projects that will improve the area and quality of life for residents. Applications will be marked according to how well they demonstrate alignment with the Priority Themes of the Scheme.

4.1. Priority Themes

Projects will also be required to demonstrate they meet at least one of the seven priority thematic areas which are detailed below. Some examples for projects are given under each of the themes. However, these are for inspiration only, and we welcome new ideas which are self-generated to suit the specific needs of your community.

Biodiversity

This theme includes projects which help to protect, preserve and enhance habitats and life in your community, in particular those that contribute to ecosystem restoration in your area. For example:

- Pollinator plants and wildflower meadows
- Feeders and nest boxes for birds, bugs and bats
- Biodiversity signage and walking trails
- Native hedgerows around sports facilities
- Wildlife ponds
- Native tree and other native species planting programmes
- Living walls and green roofs
- Pollinators friendly car parks
- Community gardens
- Wildlife monitor initiatives
- Initiatives for education and raising awareness

Environmental Sustainability

This theme includes projects which enhance the local, natural and built environment for the community, community energy efficiency and climate action schemes, or actions as part of a Sustainable Energy Community. For example:

- Energy efficient lighting and appliances to reduce energy use
- Solar panels for renewable energy generation
- Water efficiency projects
- Community building insulation and energy upgrades
- Initiatives to tackle food waste
- Circular economy initiatives which enable “reduce, reuse and recycle”
- Sustainable energy communities
- Cycling and walking infrastructure and supports for active travel
- Community transport

Recreation

This theme includes projects which deliver community-based recreation and sport activities. For example:

- Outdoor recreation space
- Developing and upgrading sports facilities
- Sports equipment
- Art, music and other equipment
- Playgrounds
- Leisure amenities
- Nature based or outdoor recreation facilities

Social Solidarity

This theme includes projects which generate greater social cohesion and/or generates health and well-being benefits at a local level. For example:

- Developing and enhancing community meeting space and facilities
- Youth and active age facilities and initiatives
- Improving accessibility in community spaces
- Sensory gardens
- Community wellbeing initiatives
- Projects to support the integration of new communities
- Enhancing community kitchen facilities
- Addressing dereliction in the community
- Defibrillators and other safety equipment
- Community transport initiatives
- Technology for community spaces

Culture and Heritage

This theme includes projects which increase cultural awareness and preserve and promote local heritage or enhance local museums or heritage centres. For example:

- Town and village enhancement
- Culture, heritage, community led tourism and festivals
- Music and arts equipment
- Public art and murals
- Local and heritage signage and education
- Community noticeboards
- Irish language activities and supports
- Protecting/restoring local artefacts or structures

Tourism

The theme includes projects which develop new, or strengthen existing, tourism initiatives, and/or which contribute to the local economy. For example:

- Walking trails
- Eco-camp sites
- Water-based activities
- Festivals
- Signage

Education

This theme includes projects which develop new and strengthen existing education initiatives and make a contribution to the local community. For example:

- Recycling initiatives
- Biodiversity awareness programmes
- Training programmes and workshops
- Sustainability awareness programmes

We would also encourage groups to consider local strategies or plans that have been developed for their area which may outline local needs or projects already identified.

5. How to Apply

Before you begin your application, please ensure you have read the Scheme Terms & Conditions thoroughly. Applicants should allow approximately 45-60 minutes to complete their application.

All documentation needed to make an application, including these Scheme guidelines, will be made available on the application portal home page.

All applications must be made via on the online platform – Submit.com. The link can be accessed by visiting www.mountlucaswindfarm.ie. You will be asked to set up an account on this platform and verify your email address. No postal or email applications will be accepted.

The application portal will close on **April 10th at 5.00pm** and you will no longer be able to access the application. Once your application is submitted it cannot be amended. Late applications will not be accepted.

5.1. Application Requirements and Documentation

The following lists the documentation you will need to submit when applying to the Scheme. If any documentation is missing, your application may be rejected and not considered for evaluation.

Please note any documentation supplied at application stage or thereafter should always be in the name of the group/organisation/individual applying for the grant.

Please read this section carefully before submitting your application

Constitution Document

Please submit your groups/organisations constitution document. Your group/organisation should be properly constituted. You will be asked to provide a **signed and dated** constitution which outlines your group/organisation's purpose and provides a clear mission statement, as well as your governance and committee structure. Please note, at a minimum a constitution should include confirmation that

- The organisation has charitable purposes.
- Is not-for-profit in nature and its income and assets will only be applied for community benefit.
- No directors or trustees are remunerated.

PPN Registration

It is preferred if applicants are registered with their local Public Participation Network (PPN). You may be required to submit your PPN number on application or evidence that you are in the process of registering. Evidence may include a record of correspondence with your PPN Coordinator or that an application is in progress.

Planning Permission/Landowner Permission

For **all** project works relating to renovation / construction / refurbishment / groundworks / installation / structural projects / civil works etc, the following is required:

1. Proof of planning permission, or a letter of exemption/email from the relevant Local Authority or local area engineer.
2. A lease or letter of permission from the owner/landowner to undertake the proposed works is required if the applicant group is not the owner of the premises/location. The lease must be valid for the next 5 years at a minimum. The letter of permission must be dated within 3 months of the application submission date and remain valid for a minimum of 5 years.

If you do not have planning permissions or planning exemptions in place for your project or evidence is not included in your application (planning permission, planning application number, or a letter of exemption from the relevant Local Authority or local area engineer), your application will be deemed ineligible and your project will not be funded. If you are in the process of getting planning permission, please wait until this has been granted and then apply for the next round of funding.

If you are unsure if your project requires planning permission/exemption, please check with your Local Authority or local area engineer. It is important to note that it is the responsibility of the applicant group to provide the relevant permissions. If your project passes evaluation stage, and it is later determined that an aspect requires planning or exemption from planning the Funding offer will be withdrawn.

Quotations

Quotations must be submitted with your application to verify the value of each item/service you wish to purchase.

- If any individual item is less than €5,000 (i.e. Up to €4,999), a minimum of **one** quote is required.
- If any individual item costs €5,000 or more, you must provide **three** quotes from three different suppliers.
- Where a proposed project involves the contracting of work or the purchase of materials, **three** quotations from three different suppliers for **each** of these should be obtained and submitted.

All quotes must be clear and include the suppliers name, address and VAT id (if the quote is greater than €10,000). Quotes must be dated within **3 months** of application submission.

Bank/Credit Union Account

You will need to ensure you have a bank/credit union account in the name of the group/individual applying for the grant. All project expenditure must be made through this account and grant payments will be paid into this account. A bank/credit union statement will be requested once a grant offer has been made to your group.

Tax Clearance/Charity Status

For grant awards of €10,000 or over, you will need to ensure you have Tax Clearance (tax reference number and access number) in place for the duration of the grant contract. Evidence of this will be requested once grant offer has been awarded to your group. Similarly, if you are a registered charity, you will need to provide proof of your CHY number (Charitable Tax Exemption) from Revenue once grant offer has been awarded.

Tax Compliance of Contractors/Service Providers:

For expenditure by your group to any one contractor/service provider in excess of €10,000, you will be asked to confirm you have ensured the contractor/service provider is Tax Compliant throughout the period of the contract. You are required to retain proof of same for inspection if necessary. If you use a contractor/service provider that is not tax compliant it may result in your group being unable to drawdown for those project costs.

VAT Registration Status

Please ensure you are aware of the VAT Registration Status of your group/organisation. Applicants will be asked to confirm at application stage if they are registered to claim back VAT or not from Revenue.

The reason applicants are asked this, is to establish if applicants have any other way of claiming back the VAT costs related to their projects. If a group has a VAT ID and **is registered** to claim back VAT, then they can claim back the VAT costs on their project from Revenue. Therefore, this group is **not eligible** to claim the VAT costs on their project from this Scheme.

If an applicant is not registered to claim back VAT, and have no other way of claiming back the VAT costs on their project, therefore they are eligible to claim the VAT costs related to their project from the Scheme.

VAT Registration Status	Can I claim my project VAT costs from the Scheme?
My group is registered to claim back VAT	No
My group is not registered to claim back VAT	Yes

Registered Charities

Registered charities can also claim certain VAT costs through the VAT Compensation Scheme. Charities will be asked to declare whether they can claim any of the project related VAT costs through this scheme. If they can, the charity will not be eligible to claim those project related VAT costs from this Scheme.

When detailing your project costs, if possible, please provide a breakdown of your costs exclusive and inclusive of VAT.

6. Support for Applicants

6.1. How to Prepare a Strong Application

The Awards Committee will assess the potential impact of your project and the capacity of your group to deliver it based on your application. In order to make sure you have put the best case forward for your project to receive Funding, please make sure you:

- **Complete all questions on the application form** – If some questions are not answered your application may be deemed ineligible.
- **Upload all supporting documentation required** – If your application is missing some required information, it may be deemed ineligible.
- **Use photos and videos to explain your group and your project** – A picture or video footage can bring your project ideas to life more effectively than words. Including imagery in your application can help the Scheme Awards Committee to better understand the good work that you do, the needs of your group, and the project you are proposing.
- **Demonstrate the positive impact this Funding will have in your community and who will benefit** – Try to elaborate on this by including metrics such as the numbers of users who will benefit from your project, for example numbers of users/participants from within the eligible Funding area, how much will it reduce your energy bills for your group, will there be a potential increase to membership or users using your facilities as a result of the project etc.
- **Refer to the priority themes and how your project will address one or more of them** – Supporting the delivery of these priority themes in communities is a core goal for this Scheme.
- **Include a clear plan for how your group can deliver on the project** – The Scheme Awards Committee who are evaluating the project will want to ensure that the project can be completed on time in order to offer grant funding. Help them to understand your capacity to manage delivery and include a clear timeline.
- **Clearly outline who will benefit from your project** – include numbers of users/participants from within the priority area who will directly benefit from your project, and those who will indirectly benefit from it.
- **If you are applying for part funding, demonstrate that you have further funds in place or a clear pathway to accessing these funds** – The Awards Committee will need to be sure that you will be able to deliver the project you have planned. Include evidence of additional funding sources and your budget for delivery.
- **Examine the evaluation criteria used by the Awards Committee** (see 7.2. Evaluation Criteria) and demonstrate how your project should score well in these areas.

We advise you to avoid these common errors:

- Proposing a project that is not within the eligible funding area outlined or does not provide a service to a community within the eligible funding area.
- Not reading and adhering to the guidelines.
- Submitting an incomplete application.
- Poor project description or lack of information.
- Missing paperwork such as quotes, evidence of planning permission or an exemption from planning permission.
- Project costs that do not tally with quotes.
- No appropriate governance or committee structure demonstrated.
- Lack of clarity around ownership or planning permission.

7.

Evaluation of Applications

Once the application window has closed, all applications will be:

- Screened for eligibility. If an applicant does not meet any of the below criteria, it will not proceed to the next phase of evaluation.
- Scored against the Evaluation Criteria.

The Awards Committee will be responsible for assessing all applications and ensuring a fair and objective distribution of grants across the funding area. This Committee will be chaired by BnM as Fund Administrator and representative for Mountlucas Wind Farm Ltd., will also include local volunteer members of the community. Please note, canvassing or lobbying of any Awards Committee member will result in automatic disqualification.

7.1. Screening for Eligibility

Eligibility Criteria	Objective
Applicant Status	The project is proposed by a community group, not-for-profit entity or social enterprise.
Eligibility of Project / Qualifying Criteria	The project meets the qualifying criteria, is eligible for funding, and not on the list of ineligible items or activities.
Completeness of Application	The application is complete. All questions have been provided with a response and all required documentation has been submitted with application.

Any Project that does not pass this stage will be deemed invalid and will not be forwarded to the Awards Committee for consideration.

7.2. Evaluation Criteria

Applications which meet the eligibility criteria will then be scored under the following evaluation criteria. These criteria will be given weightings in accordance with their importance for the local community. Extra weighting will be given to project location and proposals that have a sustainability aspect, such as energy efficiency, sustainable energy, and climate action initiatives.

- Proximity to wind farm (this carries the most weight).
- Sustainability
- Value for Money of the Project to the Community
- Range and number of people served.
- Range of categories served.
- Degree to which socially marginalised are catered for
- Robustness of Application
- Flagship project (where relevant).

The decision to award funding depends on the outcome of the evaluation process. Clarifications and additional information may be sought for applications.

For Large Grants/Multi-Annual Grants, you may be asked for an interview to further discuss the proposal

8. Grant Offer

Applications will be evaluated throughout May and June 2026, and it is expected that applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application by June 2026. Please note, if we are experiencing any delays due to application volume, we will inform you of same. All applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application through electronic communication.

8.1. If your application is successful

If your project is successful, a Grant Letter of Offer containing the terms and conditions of the offer will be issued to you. Accompanying this letter will be:

- The Grant Agreement to be signed by the successful applicant. This agreement must be entered into between Mountlucas Wind Farm Ltd and the group/organisation/individual receiving the Funding.
- An information document providing details in relation to (i) the grant process, (ii) how to draw down the grant and (iii) what documentation needs to be submitted.
- A request for further documentation. Similar to the application form, this documentation will be submitted via the online portal.
 - Bank Account Details
 - Applicant Tax Clearance Certificate - Must be valid for duration of the Grant Agreement.
 - Any additional documentation requested by evaluation committee.

The Grant Agreement must be signed by successful applicants and all requested documentation submitted online within 15 working days. Due to this deadline, project groups should ensure all documentation is ready and available in the event of a successful grant award. The provisional grant offer email may also stipulate conditions which will need to be fulfilled within the 15-day timeframe in order to finalise your grant offer.

Please note, no expenditure in relation to grant aided elements of the project should be incurred until the Grant Agreement has been signed. Projects should not commence until applicants are advised by BnM that you can commence your project.

8.2. Drawdown

In order to drawdown the grant award, each applicant group will be required to submit invoices, receipts, bank statements, testimonials, project images and additional evidence to demonstrate project expenditure was undertaken in accordance with the Grant Agreement. It is essential to note that payment cannot be made until the project is complete, the goods are in hand, and any other conditions set out in the Grant Agreement were met.

If, for some reason, the project has become delayed and will not be completed by the closing date, the Fund Administrator should be notified immediately, and the Awards Committee can consider the matter. Successful applicants will be required to monitor and report progress in relation to the supported projects at agreed intervals.

Evaluation reports will be made available for completion. In the event a group does not complete a project in full accordance with the contract, the Scheme may seek reimbursement of the initial funding provided to the group/organisation. Inspections may take place or additional information requests may be made to ensure compliance with the Schemes obligations.

The Scheme may facilitate advance payments should the Awards Committee and/or BnM/Mountlucas Wind Farm Ltd wish to do so. These projects will be decided on a case-by-case basis. However, on completion of the project the applicant group will be required to upload invoices, receipts, testimonials, project images and additional evidence to demonstrate project expenditure was undertaken in accordance with the Grant Agreement.

Acknowledgement

Please be aware that Mountlucas Wind Farm Ltd and BnM will publicise successful grants for promotional and information purposes. Information on grant awardees including name of group, information on project and grant value received may also be made public.

It is important that the work of the Mountlucas Wind Farm Community Gain Scheme and BnM is acknowledged in any published materials, which relate to the grant-funded project.

Therefore, if an application is successful, organisations are required to:

1. Acknowledge the contribution of the wind farm development and BnM in any publicity they might produce, and
2. Allow and participate in any publicity that the wind farm development and BnM might organise.
3. Where applicable, permanent signage will be required to be erected acknowledging the support of the wind farm.

Appropriate signage will be supplied by Mountlucas Wind Farm Community Gain Scheme and/or BnM.

Construction and Electrical Certification Costs

You may be carrying out construction or electrical works of some kind. If so, at the drawdown stage, you may be required to supply any necessary:

- Engineer's report
- RECI certification in the case of electrical works
- Installation report
- ROSPA report in the case of playgrounds

This report should certify the value of the work undertaken and confirm that the work conforms to relevant planning, building and fire regulations and other statutory building/ other regulations. You may include the costs associated with any of these reports in your application. Please make sure to provide a quotation with your application.

Note that ROSPA reports are required in relation to the installation of playground equipment. Applicants are expected to cover the cost of this report themselves and book an inspector to inspect the work in a timely manner to avoid any delays to project completion.

Project groups must also ensure that works completed and or goods/vehicles purchased must be adequately insured.

Case Studies and Testimonials

The last section of the claim form asks for a testimonial from the applicant group and a picture suitable for future publication. This is for use in future reports and case studies. Project groups will be required to get the permission of everyone photographed before submitting an image. For people under 18, permission from their parent or guardian will be required.

8.3. If your application is unsuccessful

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing by BnM.

Throughout the evaluation process, care will be taken to assess all applications against criteria in a consistent and equitable way.

There is no process of appeal on the decisions of the Awards Committee.

9. Important Dates

Please note the key dates for the Mountlucas Wind Farm Community Gain Scheme are as follows:

- Scheme opening date: **Monday 23rd February 2026.**
- Scheme closing date: **5pm on Friday 10th April 2026.**

No applications or required accompanying documentation will be accepted after the closing date.

10. Contact Information

Applicants requiring help or support with their application can contact the project team via Mountlucaswindfarm@bnm.ie with their enquiries, or alternatively call our Community Liaison Specialists:

- Niall on 087-9951174
- Padraig on 087-0643734

11. Publicity Notice

Mountlucas Wind Farm Ltd and Bord na Móna are committed to operating the Mountlucas Wind Farm Community Gain Scheme (the “Scheme”) in an open and transparent manner. Mountlucas Wind Farm Ltd and Bord na Móna will publish details about the Scheme on the Mountlucas Wind Farm project website, and the application portal. Where appropriate we will use social media and local media to highlight the benefits of the Fund to the local community.

12.

Data Protection

Any personal data you provide to Bord na Móna Plc in connection with your application to the Community Gain Scheme will be processed in accordance with our obligations under the Data Protection Act 2018.

13.

Disclaimer

Mountlucas Wind Farm Ltd and Bord na Móna Plc shall not be liable in respect of any loss, damage or costs of any nature arising directly or indirectly from this application or the subject matter of the application. Mountlucas Wind Farm Ltd and Bord na Móna Plc, its servants or agents shall not at any time in any circumstances be held responsible or liable in relation to any matter whatsoever arising in connection with the development, planning, construction, operation, management and/or administration of individual projects.

Best of luck with your application!

