



Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP) Strand 1 and Strand 1a

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), Version 1 (07/02/2024)

Q1: Is my project eligible if it requires planning permission (or other regulatory permissions)?

Applicants are required to ensure that their project has all the required planning and regulatory permissions and consents in place prior to the submission of their application. The onus is on the applicant to ensure that their project has sufficiently considered these factors. Projects that require planning permission are only eligible to receive funding if this permission is in place at the point of submission. Projects will not be deemed eligible to receive funding if this criterion is not met.

Q2: Does my community organisation need to own the land/building that my project will be delivered on?

Where a project will be delivered from a site/building(s)/floor space that are not in the ownership of the Local Authority, it must be in the ownership of the partner organisation of the Local Authority or either party must have a minimum five years' lease must be in place from date of project completion. Where this is not possible there must be a written agreement with the site owner to enable access to the site for the benefit of the community for a period of five years.

If the premises/land is owned by the Local Authority (Cork County Council), the applicant is required to submit written confirmation from the relevant Municipal District that they have consent to deliver the project on the premises/land. This should be included at application stage.

Q3: What documentation am I required to submit in relation to project costs?

Applicants are required to include a minimum of three quotes for any purchases of goods, services or works for the project. Any additional supplier quotes may be attached separately. Quotes should be applicable for when the project is due to commence (i.e., not before Q3 2024), and take into consideration any envisaged cost increases. Applicants should consider green procurement, where possible. Where 3 quotes for a particular product/service is not possible or overly burdensome in the case of multiple project components, the requirement for 3 quotes per item may be waived and the application may be evaluated on the quotes available. Documentary evidence should be provided showing efforts made to obtain 3 quotes where possible. The applicant is advised to consult with their Community Climate Action Officer prior to submitting their application. Cork County Council must be satisfied that the application represents value for money and that the applicant has engaged with suppliers in developing their proposal.

Q4: When a community project generates a by-product that can be income generating, is it eligible?

Income generating projects are not eligible to receive funding. However, projects where a by-product is generated can be eligible, as long as the objectives of the **Community Climate Action Programme** are being met, though the applicant would need to demonstrate how the income from that by-product will be reinvested back in to the community group/project. The exchange must be reasonable and not excessive and a natural/necessary by-product of the project.



Q5: Is the purchase of electric vehicles (EVs) an eligible expense?

No, the purchase of EVs is not covered under the Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP). However, the installation of EV charging stations/points is considered an eligible expenditure. It is advised that this would be proposed as part of a wider and more holistic local climate action project.

Q6: What type of projects are eligible to receive funding as part of the Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP)?

The Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP) focuses on empowering communities, large and small, rural and urban, to address climate change and build low carbon communities in a considered and structured way. The CCAP supports projects which address at least one of the five programme themes: home (community)/energy; travel; food and waste; shopping and recycling, and; local climate and environmental action. Each project is required to address at least one of these themes; however, it is advised that projects seek to consider several project themes and build a proposal which provides a holistic local climate action project. Provided the applicant meets the eligibility requirements, projects will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, in line with the requirements outlined by the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications.

Q7: Can a large project combine funding from the Community Climate Action Programme with alternate Government funding if it is broken down into components?

The component would have to be assessed individually and stand up on its own merits, exclusive of the alternate funding, against the eligibility criteria, objectives, and themes of the programme. It must also be noted that there cannot be a duplication of funds. It must be clearly demonstrated that the individual component(s) can be advanced in fulfilment of the objectives of the Community Climate Action Programme without being subject to or compromised by the delivery of the larger project.

Q8: Are Partnerships/consortiums eligible under Strand 1? For example, more than one community is involved in the project.

Partnership is permitted, but they must be in the jurisdiction of the Local Authority, with the exception of Strand 1a. No duplication should be allowed, this would not allow them to multiply their funding. There would have to be a lead partner identified.

Q9: Is rent and set up an eligible expense?

No, renting/leasing is not an eligible expense.

Q10: Can communities get reimbursed for assessments done during the application period (if they are chosen) for example energy audits?

No, funding is only available for costs incurred after project selection.

****Please note: Responses to the FAQs are based on guidance provided by the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC). These responses may be subject to change****