



Subject:	Strand 1a Shared Island Community Climate Action Funding
Date:	8 February 2024
Reporting Officer:	John Tully, Director of City and Organisational Strategy
Contact Officer:	Kevin Heaney, Head of Inclusive Growth and Anti-Poverty Mark Mulholland, Strategic Policy and Planning Officer

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.	
Insert number <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Information relating to any individual2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime	
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide Members with information in relation to a current climate related funding call under the Community Climate Action Programme – Strand 1a Shared Island Community Climate Action, formally announced in January by the Irish Government’s Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, Eamon Ryan.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	It is recommended that the Committee notes the update in relation to the current Shared Island funding opportunity under Strand 1a Community Climate Action Programme and agree to share details of this opportunity with their community networks.
3.0	Main Report
	Strand 1a - Shared Island Community Climate Action
3.1	Officers wish to bring to the attention of the Committee a recently announced funding call under the Irish Government’s Community Climate Action Programme. Strand 1a Shared Island Community Climate Action, is the Shared Island strand of the Programme which looks to enable communities/local authorities to take forward a cross-border climate action project in partnership with organisations in Northern Ireland, with at least 50% of awarded funding under Strand 1a for project delivery in Northern Ireland. Information on this funding opportunity has been shared across all elected members via Democratic Services colleagues. An outline brief on Strand 1a Shared Island Community Climate Action Fund is provided at Appendix A for your information.
	<u>Application Requirements</u>
3.2	Some of the key points for Members to note under this funding opportunity includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strand 1a projects should address the following five themes, 1. Community Energy, 2. Travel 3. Food and Waste, 4. Shopping and recycling and 5. Local climate and Environmental action. • The types of projects/initiatives, within communities, which are eligible for funding under strand 1a, must seek to do the following on a cross-border basis on the island of Ireland: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce, or support the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions • increase the production, or use, of renewable energy

- improve energy efficiency
- increase climate resilience
- identify nature-based projects that enhance biodiversity and seek to reduce, or increase the removal of, greenhouse gas emissions or support climate resilience
- assist regions within sectors of the economy impacted by the transition to a low carbon economy and involve potentially innovative solutions to address the above asks.

3.3

Shared Island projects may be applied for under three tiers:

- Small sized projects of up to €20,000. Communities should submit expressions of interest to partner the Local Authorities in these projects, by way of the small project application form which contains a menu of options e.g., community composting, water refill stations, pollinator projects, small renewable energy projects, rewilding. Projects are not limited to the examples listed.
- Medium sized projects are valued in the range of €20,000 - €50,000. Communities should submit expressions of interest to partner the Local Authorities in these projects.
- Larger projects are in the range of €51,000 - €100,000. Communities should submit expressions of interest to partner Local Authorities in these projects.

3.4

Shared Island projects must involve both a community organisation and Local Authority in Ireland and a partner in Northern Ireland. The partner in Northern Ireland may be a Local Authority or a community organisation, or it may involve both. Ideally there should be community organisations based in both Ireland and Northern Ireland involved. Only one application per lead organisation may be submitted for consideration – projects proposed could cut across several of the themes and be bundled together as part of a single application.

3.5

Applications will be accepted via the Community Climate Action Officers across local authorities in the South, contact details for these officers are provided at **Appendix B**. Members are invited to direct your network of community/civic society groups to these Community Climate Action Officers to scope out a project and make introductions with groups in their respective council area. The Community Climate Action Officers in the local authorities in the South will be responsible for the administrative support in collating and submitting the final application as agreed with partners.

Financial and Resource Implications

None associated with this report.

	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> None associated with this report.
4.0	Appendices - Documents Attached
	Appendix A – Strand 1a Community Climate Action Programme Brief Appendix B – Community Climate Action Officers contact details