

Maximising the local benefit

A Power for Good

RES seeks to be a power for good in communities that neighbour our projects by working openly and constructively to ensure tangible local benefits. We believe that onshore wind should provide direct, lasting benefits to local communities and there are a number of ways that this can be achieved.



Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDs)

Our unique Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDs) was developed in response to research and feedback from local communities around RES' operational wind farms. LEDs delivers direct and tangible benefits to people living and working closest to participating projects by providing an annual discount on electricity bills. The index-linked payments are made direct to the energy provider and there is no need to change energy supplier. If LEDs is something that you are interested in as a potential part of a tailored community benefits package at Carn na Saobhaidh, please note this in your formal written feedback to RES and also let our project team know if you would like more information.

"The Local Energy Discount Scheme is in its third year in The Royal Burgh of Sanquhar and District Community Council (CC) area, for all properties where an electricity meter is installed. It has been very well received and has been the most talked about and appreciated project in our area."

"As a community councillor it was a pleasure to be able to give monies off electricity bills to all properties in the CC area and especially the older generation, the unemployed, some local businesses and churches who have been struggling financially for some time. We have just over 1200 properties eligible to apply with an uptake of nearly 900."

"Running the project was very easy and as we are small community I was contacted for help to complete forms, it was a great help that Donna [from RES] came down to Sanquhar and completed a lot of forms in the Town Hall, and she was always available on the phone to answer any queries."

Ronnie Johnstone – Sanquhar Community Council

Tailored community benefits package

We are committed to a Community Benefits package that would be worth £5,000 per megawatt* (or equivalent) of installed capacity per annum. With the current layout, this would mean over £864,000 per annum (index linked), which over a 50-year operational lifetime would mean in excess of £43m for the local area.

We take a tailored approach and work directly with the community to understand how the wind farm could support the local area and help to secure long-term economic, social and environmental benefits. This approach will help to deliver a tailored community benefits package that is aligned with the priorities of the local community and could, for instance, provide funding for projects that sit outside the parameters of a traditional application-based fund.

As part of this exhibition and consultation period we are seeking feedback on your ideas for local benefits and priority projects that you would like to see supported or delivered in your community from the Carn na Saobhaidh Wind Farm project, should it receive consent.

It is important to note that voluntary community benefits are not a material planning consideration.

*The £5,000 per MW per annum benchmark is drawn from the Scottish Government's current Good Practice Principles for Community Benefits from Onshore Renewable Energy Developments. We are aware of the ongoing consultation on proposed updates to this guidance and will have regard to any revised recommendations when finalised.

Carn na Saobhaidh Wind Farm Proposal

www.carnnasaobhaidh-windfarm.co.uk

