



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

Community Energy Saving Competition 2015

Application form

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Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at communityenergyunit@decc.gsi.gov.uk

Community Energy Saving Competition - Application form

Please note: completed bids should be submitted by **5pm on 10 February 2015** by email to communityenergyunit@decc.gsi.gov.uk. Our preference is for submissions to be made electronically but if you do not have internet access we will accept printed applications in the post or hand delivered.

Postal address:

Community Energy Unit, Area 2C
Department of Energy & Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London SW1A 2AW

Each applicant must complete the entire form.

If successful, you will be required to enter into a grant agreement with DECC.

Key dates:

26/01/2015 – applications open

10/02/2015 – deadline for receipt of applications

End Feb 2015 – we aim to notify successful applicants and issue grant agreements and Purchase Orders

For further information on the aims of the fund and the criteria by which bids will be assessed, please see the Community Energy Saving Competition guidance notes, which are published alongside this form.

Any activity funded through this competition must be completed by 31 March 2015, with invoices for work completed submitted in advance of this date.

1. Applicant details	
Name of organisation (and payee, if different)	Greater Reading Environmental Network (GREN)
CIC/ Charity etc number	Community group
Name of primary contact	Tony Cowling
Address	35, London Street, Reading, RG1 4PS
Telephone number of contact	0118 969 8326
Email address of contact	AntonyCowling@gmail.com
Do you have any access needs that we should be aware of when contacting you?	

2. Project Idea (500 words) (30% weighting)
<p>Please give details of your project idea and how it will help to stimulate innovation in community energy saving.</p> <p>If you can, please state why it is different – it could be different for your organisation or in your local area or working with a new organisation for example?</p> <p>Who else is involved in your project and what community energy activities have already taken place?</p> <p>Is your area classed as ‘fuel poor’?</p>
<p>We intend to trial an innovative approach, designed to reduce energy usage in domestic homes. We believe our process will have the potential to save a significant proportion of current energy use. The idea is to insulate below suspended floors. Now this may not initially sound “innovative” since new or recently built houses are already constructed with insulation included. However almost all the rest of the housing stock which was not built within the last 25 years, will have been constructed without any floor insulation and remains largely in this state today.</p> <p>Once the trials are completed a considerable amount of research and consultancy will be needed to validate the effectiveness of the process. Our objective is to create a method</p>

that will be simple, cost effective, quick to install whilst being largely unobtrusive to the home owner. We firmly believe major new business opportunities will be generated, however, without the trials it is proving difficult to interest possible funders in the project.

Our aim is to help, us as a nation, to reduce its energy demand by facilitating the widespread, economic installation of floor insulation.

The project is targeted towards existing houses with suspended floors, both wooden and concrete. We expect a savings of up to 25% of their current energy use. We will measure usage by noting the reductions in energy meter readings and bills. We will monitor energy use and indoor and temperatures, and calculate energy savings using heating degree days to ensure that the results are due to the insulation and not a function of the weather. The trial homes will be asked to maintain their present heating regime (it is known that people generally use as much energy after reduction measures are in place in order to be warmer for longer).

The impact of this will be that awareness will be raised and more people will insulate their floors. This is intended as a pilot project that can be rolled out nation-wide.

Some areas of Reading are classed as fuel poor.

This technique has been successfully used privately elsewhere.

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3. Minimum project outcomes (30% weighting)

Please detail the minimum project outcomes associated with your idea. This could include carbon saved, awareness raising or behaviour change outcomes.

Also explain how receiving the funding will help to meet DECC's aspirations as part of the Community Energy Strategy.

Include details of:

1. How many people you expect to engage with
2. Behaviour change implications
3. How will you maintain sustainability of the project beyond the DECC funding
4. How will you build links with existing initiatives in the area and whether you have commitment from another organisation to provide additional support, whether in-kind or financial
5. How you will engage with vulnerable consumers as part of your work

- 1) Five households initially
- 2) Once people realise that by insulating their floors they will save energy/money/carbon this could be next boom industry.
- 3) It will become a business opportunity and sustainable in our economically driven society. Once awareness of floor insulation issues are raised many will start to insulate their floors.
- 4) We have already talked to:-
 Reading University (interested party/supporter)
 Thames Valley Energy (supporters/advisers)
 Reading Borough Council (supporter and possible funder)
 Atkins (consultants)
 Joy-David (contractor)
 'Andyman' a keen home renovator who is willing to help with trials
 Suppliers
- 5) We intend to do five trials one for a vulnerable client. Eventually those in most need will be able to have this work done on a grant similar to loft or wall insulation through the old ECO routes.

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4. Project Costs and Value for money (20% weighting)

Please provide detail on how much your project will cost and how it will offer value for money against the aims of the community energy saving competition objectives (see separate guidance document). For example, are you working with local partners to maximise value for money?

The maximum grant you can apply for is £20,000.

Project cost £9,800, grant applied for £9,800

Funding:-

Costs for pilots will be more expensive than the anticipated cost of doing the work on the wide scale envisaged and is budgeted at £1800 per home x5. Reports and monitoring £800 The total applied for is therefore £9,800.

Economics:-

Taking the average three bedroomed semidetached house with heating bills of £1200p/a, the 20% saving equates to £240p/a.

If the lifetime of the house is a hundred years, savings reach £24,000 and even if we assume 50 years, £12,000 is still offering a considerable saving ensuring the insulation costs which we are hoping will be between £600 and £1000 will disappear into insignificance. Please note that many heat loss diagrams for houses assume that lofts and walls have not been insulated. Further the savings including the added effects from draught proofing could be in excess of 25% in many cases in which case all the above figures will improve.

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5. Project delivery (20% weighting)

Please identify the key milestones of your proposal. Describe how the project will be managed day to day and how issues will be escalated and resolved. Please also identify the risks to delivering this project (by 31 March 2015) and what steps you have identified to mitigate these risks. (max 400 words). Please detail who will be working on the project and number of days. We do not require a detailed project plan, but if you already have an existing one you may attach it to this

application form.

Milestones: grant funding, identify five trial properties, arrange installation of insulation and monitoring equipment, carry out insulation works, monitor and report by March 2016, (apply for further funding to validate trials and obtain consultants reports, gather research data and approvals for system, not part of this project).

The project will be overseen by the GREN committee and managed on a voluntary basis by member Tony Cowling. He will instruct contractors and deal with all site issues and problems and be responsible for the delivery of this whole project. Each job will take one day but there is a chance of running out of materials and so return visits have been allowed for. Monitoring will be carried at intervals after installation and the whole project reported on in writing with photographs and records of the energy use reduction achieved.

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6. State Aid Implications

Please list the amount of State Aid funding you have received over the past 3 years to comply with State Aid legislation. Please refer to guidance document for more information.

Source of public funding	Date received	Amount received/pending
nil		
Total		

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7. Supporting competition documents

We confirm that we have provided the following:

*Click on box
(as appropriate)*

1	Proof of the Board of Trustees/Management Committee agreement to the project and appropriate Governance documents
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8. Declaration

The project funding that is being applied for is for the project detailed in the 'Project Idea' box

We confirm that the proposed use of this fund complies with de minimis state aid funding. *(click on relevant box below)*

Yes No

We declare that all the information provided on the form is accurate

Name	Tony Cowling
Title	Committee member
Signature	
Organisation	Greater Reading Environmental Network
Date	28 th January 2015

The decision of the assessors is final and further correspondence will not be entered into.

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London SW1A 2AW
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