

Orsted

Community Benefit Funds

Autumn newsletter
2025





Empowering Communities, Driving Green Futures

At Ørsted, our commitment to the communities where we live and work is just as strong as our vision to create a world powered entirely by green energy. We believe that delivering renewable energy projects goes hand in hand with delivering real, tangible benefits for the people who live closest to them.

Through our Community Benefit Funds, we are proud to invest in projects that bring lasting improvements, strengthen local connections, and create opportunities for people of all ages. Whether it's helping a community centre upgrade its facilities, supporting skills and training programmes, or protecting and enhancing local green spaces, these funds are a way for us to give back and say thank you.

As the year unfolds and new applications come in, we are continually inspired by the creative ideas and commitment shown by the people who lead these initiatives. Working closely with the independent grant-making charity, GrantScape, we carefully review and support projects that will have the biggest

positive impact, and it's always a privilege to see them come to life.

These initiatives reflect the passion, dedication, and vision of people across our coastal regions. They not only deliver practical benefits but also build community pride, foster inclusion, and encourage innovation. Every project tells a story – of teamwork, resilience, and the power of working together for a shared goal.

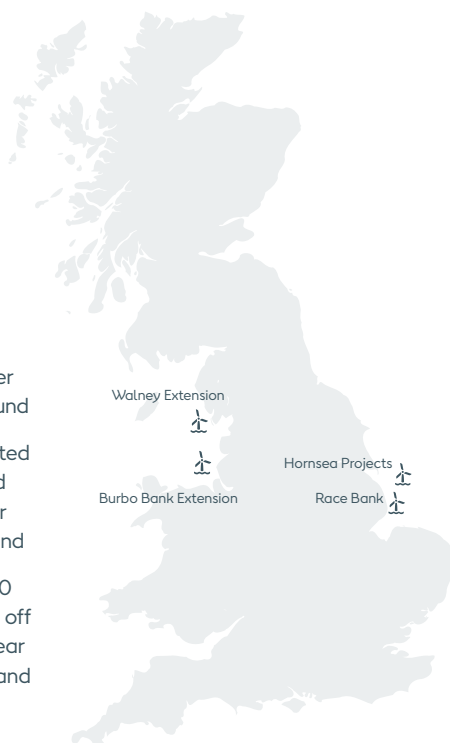
In this edition of our newsletter, we invite you to explore the diverse range of projects supported by our funds. Each one embodies the spirit of innovation, sustainability, and community that Ørsted champions, and we hope you find them as inspiring as we do.

To discover more about all the funds we proudly provide, please visit GrantScape's website at www.grantscape.org.uk.

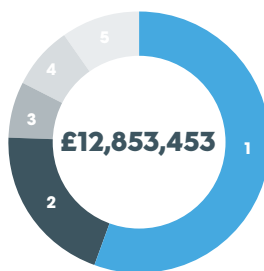
Imran Nawaz
Senior Advisor & CBF Manager, Ørsted

Ørsted provides Community Benefit Funds for the following offshore wind farm projects

- Burbo Bank Extension in Liverpool Bay – £225,000 per year
- Walney Extension in the Irish Sea off the Cumbria coastline – £600,000 per year which includes £100,000 Skills Fund
- East Coast – Race Bank project located in the North Sea off the Yorkshire and Lincolnshire coastline – £465,000 per year which includes £75,000 Skills Fund
- Hornsea 3 located approximately 120 km off the Norfolk coast and 160 km off the Yorkshire coast - £700,000 per year which includes £100,000 Skills Fund and £100,000 Legacy Fund



Funds awarded to date:



1. Community activities and services



2. Community buildings and facilities



3. Nature and public open space projects



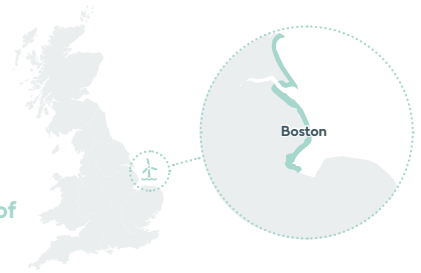
4. Sports, recreation and play



5. Skills Fund projects

East Coast Community Fund

The East Coast Community Fund is linked to the Racebank offshore wind farm and has £465,000 available each year. In the coastal areas of Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, 298 projects have been supported so far.



£4,027,963
awarded since
the fund launched
in 2016



Support, Connection & Compassion



A grant of £2,387 from the East Coast Community Fund helped Make 2nds Count launch a dedicated Tea & Chat support group for secondary breast cancer (cancer that has spread from the breast to other parts of the body) patients in Boston, Lincolnshire – a population often overlooked in traditional cancer support services.

Set up in partnership with St Barnabas Hospice, the group provides a safe and compassionate space for patients to share experiences, reduce isolation, and receive peer-led emotional support. The sessions promote psychological well-being, empowerment, and resilience, helping individuals to better manage their health journey.

"By fostering a supportive community, the project has provided secondary breast cancer patients in Boston with a vital lifeline of understanding, empathy, and companionship. This sense of connection has not only improved participants' emotional well-being and quality of life but has also empowered them to navigate their cancer journey with resilience and hope... We are grateful to the East Coast Community Fund for their support." - Susan Sheridan, Trust fundraiser at Make 2nds Count

Over 10 patients in the Boston area now benefit directly, with the wider Tea & Chat network reaching more than 750 people across the UK.



Rebuilding a Rural Hub

A grant of £25,000 from the East Coast Community Fund supported the complete rebuild of a century-old Parish Hall in a rural village in East Lindsey, Lincolnshire – securing its place at the heart of the community for future generations. The original Walpole St Peter Parish Hall building was no longer fit for purpose, and this ambitious £385,000 redevelopment will enable over 3,000 local residents annually to benefit from a warm, modern, and flexible space for events, exercise classes, youth groups, social clubs and more.

"The continued availability of our Parish Hall will mean so much to so many. It will be able to remain a central hub of the community for many years to come." - Gilli Galloway, Volunteer, Parish Hall Committee Representative

The new facility ensures that groups like the Scouts, Good Companions, and many others can continue meeting, while also opening the door to future events previously impossible due to the old hall's limitations.

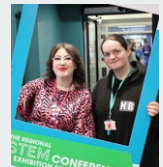


Skills Fund

Each year, up to £75,000 of the East Coast Community Fund is set aside for the Skills Fund. The aim is to provide educational and learning opportunities for people within the fund's benefit area to help improve their skills and employment opportunities. The fund, so far, has awarded over £600,000, supporting 33 projects across the funding area.

Theory into Practice

A grant of £11,015 from the East Coast Skills Fund helped deliver the 6th Annual STEM Conference at Franklin Sixth Form College, drawing a record 1,789 participants from across Greater Lincolnshire. The event featured hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) workshops led by employers, universities, and industry experts – from engineering and renewable energy to healthcare and game design. Students from 23 schools explored real-world career paths and connected with over 100 exhibitors at the Careers & Progression Evening.



"This event is fundamental in raising awareness and aspirations and gives the young people the chance to take part in interactive workshops, talk to industry professionals and visit our careers and progression event. We're so grateful to the East Coast Community Fund for making it possible." - Emma Swinburn, Associate Principal Centre for Professional Development.

The event far exceeded its original aims and continues to inspire thousands of young people toward future careers in STEM.

Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund

The Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund provides £225,000 each year and has so far awarded 238 grants across Merseyside and North Wales.



£2,267,985
awarded
since the fund
launched in 2015



A Space to Belong



A grant of £4,464 was awarded to The Quirky Community Hub CIC to support the launch of a dedicated youth club for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in Hoylake.

The project created a safe, inclusive environment where participants took part in hands-on learning activities focused on healthy eating, gardening, creativity, and life skills. Sessions included cooking meals with ingredients grown in the hub's garden, learning food hygiene, and engaging in sensory wellbeing and arts-based activities – all designed with accessibility in mind.

"Before coming to the youth club, I didn't really go out much or feel like I fitted in anywhere... now I've found people who get me, and I've learned so many things I never thought I could do." - Jamie (15), Participant

The funding covered staff and venue hire, equipment, and session materials, directly benefiting 79 young people while offering much-needed support to families facing barriers to mainstream youth services.



Planting Roots, Growing Connections



A grant of £4,500 was awarded to Brighter Futures to support their Postcode Gardener Rhyl initiative – a community gardening project aimed at improving local green spaces and boosting wellbeing through nature-based activities.

Over the first four months of delivery, more than 350 people took part in workshops, seed planting, and community greening events. Activities included planting over 200 pollinator-friendly plants, creating benches and planters, and helping local groups like Beaver Scouts and women's centres run gardening sessions.

"This has given our project a great boost to get started and will help us grow!" - Katy Park, Brighter Futures representative

The project has created measurable improvements in biodiversity across urban areas of Rhyl and helped reduce social isolation by bringing residents together through shared environmental action.



Powering a Greener Future

A grant of £15,000 from the Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund supported the installation of an advanced battery storage system at Formby's Leisure Centre (managed and operated by the Formby Pool Trust – a group originally formed by local residents to raise money for a swimming pool), boosting its commitment to carbon neutrality.

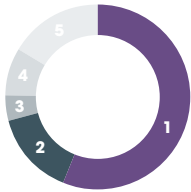
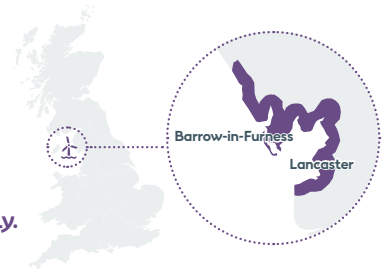
The new system stores surplus solar energy for use during peak times, reducing energy waste and cutting dependency on the grid. It's expected to eliminate up to 90% of current energy export, while supporting the Trust's target to generate 50% of its electricity from renewables by 2028.

"It's fantastic to see funding directed towards local organisations, bringing long-term benefits to our community." - David Kiernan, CEO, Formby Pool Trust

With over 5,100 members regularly using the gym and swim school, this investment is already benefiting thousands and reinforcing the Trust's role as a sustainability leader in the community.

Walney Extension Community Fund

The Walney Extension Community Fund is linked to the offshore wind farm off the Walney Island coast in Cumbria and has £600,000 available annually. To date, 295 local projects have been supported.



£5,507,762
awarded since
the fund launched
in 2016



Access for All Outdoors



A grant of £12,030 from the Walney Extension Community Fund helped Outdoor Mobility launch a new Trampler scheme at Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway, making the countryside more accessible for people with restricted mobility.

Trampers are all-terrain mobility scooters that allow users to explore rugged trails, enjoy estuary views, and visit historical Roman ruins – experiences often inaccessible to those with mobility challenges.

The Trampler enables around 200 users each season to share the outdoors with friends and family, promoting social inclusion, well-being, and independence. The new site forms part of a wider network across Cumbria, helping to reduce loneliness and encourage active lifestyles for those who might otherwise be left behind.

"We're so grateful to the Walney Extension Community Fund. We hear so often that our members were left behind on family adventures – at home, in the café, or in the car. This Trampler will allow them to enjoy the outdoors with loved ones." - Penny Swann, Bids and Trusts Officer, Outdoor Mobility.



Restoring the Gregson



A grant of £29,866 from the Walney Extension Community Fund enabled the Gregson Centre in Lancaster to carry out essential sustainability and restoration improvements to its historic community-owned building. The funding contributed to the repair, restoration, and double-glazing of original sash windows, plus critical upgrades to key doors and entrances to help reduce heat loss, improve energy efficiency, and enhance the overall appearance of the 1889 Victorian building.

Thanks to the grant, the centre is now warmer, more welcoming, and better equipped to serve its 40,000+ annual users. The building's revitalised look is also helping to boost its commercial viability and long-term sustainability.

"It's out with the rotted wood and in with new wooden double glazing. It looks good, is in keeping with our heritage building, and will reduce our astronomically high energy bills." - Charles Tyrer, CEO, The Gregson



Skills Fund

Each year, up to £100,000 of the Walney Extension Community Fund is set aside for the Skills Fund. The aim is to provide educational and learning opportunities for people within the fund's benefit area to help improve their skills and employment opportunities. The fund, so far, has awarded nearly £800,000 supporting 33 projects across the funding area.

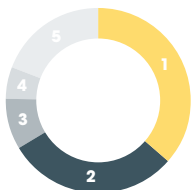
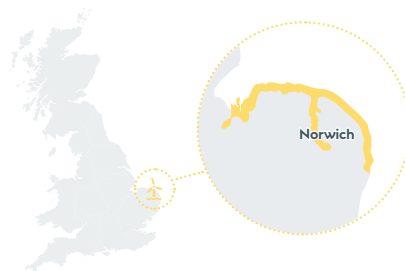
Inspiring Future Engineers

A grant of £27,000 from the Fund enabled the delivery of the Primary Engineer Construction Programme across Barrow-in-Furness and Lancaster. The project reached over 910 pupils across 20 schools, with 26 teachers participating in hands-on training sessions. The programme aimed to ignite curiosity and confidence in STEM learning by allowing students to build real-world projects like shoebox tipper trucks and electronic towers, all while engaging directly with professional engineers from organisations including BAE Systems, Siemens Energy and EDF.



Hornsea 3 Community Fund

The Hornsea 3 Community Fund is linked to the Hornsea 3 offshore wind farm for the coastal and cable route areas of Norfolk and Suffolk and has £700,000 available each year. To date, 63 projects have been supported.



£1,049,743
awarded since
the fund launched
in 2024



Nature, Skills & Support



A grant of £3,768 from the Hornsea 3 Legacy Fund enabled Break Charity to run a year-long outdoor programme at Wrong's Covert, a 25-acre ancient woodland site near Norwich, supporting children in care and their foster families. The project offered a range of enriching activities, including paddleboarding, archery, woodworking, and conservation work – designed to build resilience, independence, and positive relationships.

Over 300 hours of sessions were delivered, benefiting 30 young people and 22 foster parents. Many participants gained new confidence, social skills, and a vital connection to nature in a calm, therapeutic setting.

"Your generous grant has facilitated access to the countryside and engagement in activities that would otherwise not be possible and has made a real difference to the lives of the young people at Break. In a very real way, you have helped them flourish and bloom; to forge friendships; gain skills and grow in confidence in their ability to succeed in life. Thank you so much!" - Caroline Keates, Senior Trusts and Foundations Fundraiser, Break



Stitching Sustainability Together

A grant of £3,850 from the Hornsea 3 Community Fund, enabled the delivery of a community sewing initiative focused on sustainable fashion and creative skill-building. The "ReVamp" project brought together participants of all ages to learn essential sewing and upcycling techniques using recycled materials, while a dedicated hand-sewing group offered weekly sessions for home-educated children. The project fostered creativity, confidence, and practical skills – encouraging participants to repurpose old clothes and embrace sustainable choices. It also provided a valuable social outlet, where friendships formed and a sense of community flourished. Participants are now exploring ways to keep the group going, highlighting its ongoing impact.

"Thanks to the grant from the Hornsea 3 Community Fund supported by the generosity of Ørsted, we have been able to build a community interested in sewing skills based on sustainable fashion." - Alison Kramarchuk, Director, Crea Norfolk

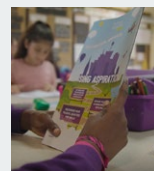


Skills Fund

Each year, up to £100,000 of the Hornsea 3 Community Fund is set aside for the Skills Fund. The aim is to provide educational and learning opportunities for people within the fund's benefit area to help improve their skills and employment opportunities. The fund, so far, has awarded nearly £100,000 supporting seven projects across the funding area.

Inspiring STEM Futures

A grant of £11,940 from the Hornsea 3 Skills Fund is supporting Regenda (Positive Footprints) to deliver its award-winning Raising Aspirations Programme in seven primary schools across the Hornsea 3 funding zone. The project aims to ignite STEM career ambitions among pupils aged 7–11 by offering interactive workshops, classroom sessions, and real-life employer engagement. By connecting children with STEM role models and careers early on, the project will empower nearly 300 pupils to explore sustainable futures and broaden their horizons. Over three years, it's expected to benefit 600 children and generate more than £100,000 in social value through enhanced aspirations and increased awareness of green careers.



"The grant builds on the impact we are having with Ørsted in the area. It means seven primary schools can receive our award-winning programme. It will meaningfully connect business with education and transform the way children see their potential." - Joshua Cliff, Head of Service, Regenda (Positive Footprints)

Crosby Wombles: Tackling Litter, One Recycled Bottle at a Time

Spotlight

We caught up with Dawn D'Auvin, Joint Founder of Crosby Wombles, to learn more about how a £1,260 grant from the Burbo Bank Community Fund is empowering volunteers to clean up their community more sustainably.

Q: Dawn, can you tell us a bit about the Crosby Wombles and what inspired this project?

Absolutely! Crosby Wombles was founded to empower our community to tackle litter independently and safely. We organise weekly group litter picks to clear "grot spots". Sustainability is at our core, so this new initiative – equipping volunteers with recycling carts – is a natural next step.

Q: What exactly did the funding support?

We purchased seven 'Duo' Handy Carts designed to separate recyclables from general waste during litter picks. This makes it easier for volunteers to dispose of glass, plastic and cans in household recycling bins after their pick.

Q: How did you know there was community demand for this equipment?

We asked! We ran a poll in our Facebook group, and the response was clear – people wanted to recycle more as they picked. Our volunteers are passionate and eager to do the right thing, they just needed the right tools.



Q: Who gets to use the carts?

They're shared among our 14 core volunteers and are also made available during community picks with youth groups and organisations like Mencap, a charity that works with people with learning disabilities. We're seeing a ripple effect – our members lead by example and inspire others to think twice before dropping litter.

Q: What's been the impact so far?

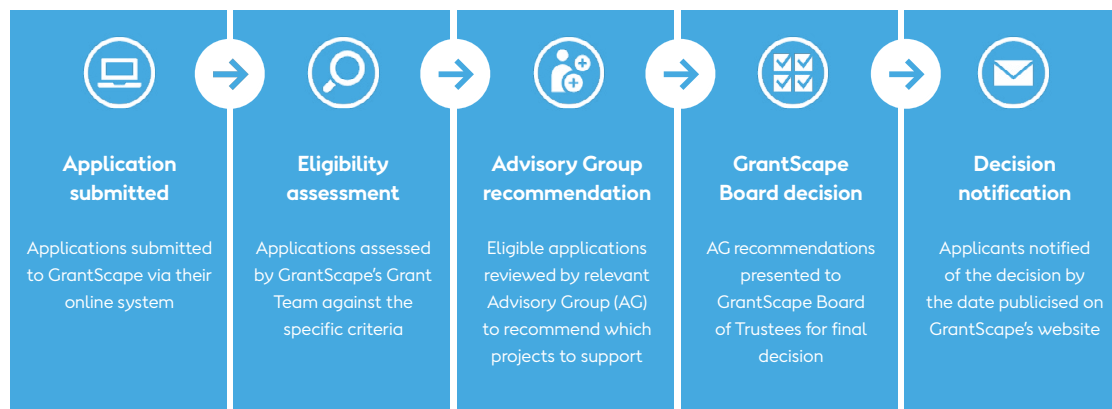
Visually, the area's cleaner. But more than that, we've noticed improved community pride. Conversations with passers-by often turn into impromptu mini lessons on recycling and protecting local wildlife. It's incredibly rewarding.

Q: Any final thoughts?

This small grant is creating a big shift in how we care for our streets and coast. We're grateful to the Burbo Bank Community Fund – it's not just supported a project; it's reinforced a movement. For more information about the project, please visit: www.crosbywombles.com



Applying to the Community Benefit Funds



Next closing dates:

Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund

1 April 2026, midnight
(decisions end June 2026)
23 Sept 2026, midnight
(decisions mid December 2026)

East Coast Community Fund

4 February 2026
(decisions end April 2026)
29 July 2026
(decisions end October 2026)

Walney Extension Community Fund

9 January 2026
(decisions early April 2026)
24 June 2026
(decisions end September 2026)

Hornsea 3 Community Fund

26 November 2025
(decisions end February 2026)
3 June 2026 (decisions end August 2026)

Hornsea 3 Legacy Fund

26 November 2025
(decisions end February 2026)

STEM Skills Fund - Walney Extension, East Coast and Hornsea 3

27 March 2026
(decisions early June 2026)

Hornsea 3 Fisheries Fund - Southwold Quay Upgrades



This fund supports community projects that benefit the fishing industry near Ørsted's Kittiwake nesting structures. It can be used for infrastructure, safety, training, equipment and more, recognising the positive cooperation between fishing communities and offshore wind developers.

Thanks to a grant from the Ørsted Hornsea 3 Fisheries Fund, the Southwold Fishermen's Group has invested in essential equipment

to support local inshore fishing operations. The funding enabled the purchase of a portable pressure washer, a skinning machine, and commercial weighing scales. These upgrades are already delivering practical benefits: improving hygiene standards at the quay, helping fishers track landings more accurately, and enabling them to skin species like skate and sole for local sale – adding value to their catch.

Simon Drake from Southwold Fishermen's Group said, "The equipment has been a bonus to all the fishermen and provides long-term efficient work and financial benefits."

How the funds are managed

Independent grant-making charity, GrantScape, administer Ørsted's Community Benefit Funds. GrantScape is committed to enhancing the environment and strengthening local communities through its grant programmes. Their experience stretches back to 1997 and they have awarded grants totalling around £90 million to deserving projects over this time.

The decision-making process is supported by a local Advisory Group (AG) established for each Community Benefit Fund. Their help and

advice in the process is absolutely vital in prioritising projects at a local level. The AG members have been carefully selected to ensure all areas that can benefit from the Fund are well represented by people with good local knowledge of the community and environment.

Each fund has its own specific funding criteria and eligible funding area, available on GrantScape's website. Please contact the team at GrantScape with any queries.

GrantScape

www.grantscape.org.uk

Tel: 01908 247630

E-mail: info@grantscape.org.uk

Information correct as at 26 August 2025

Cover: 6th Annual STEM Conference at Franklin Sixth Form College