

Stroud Town Council Grants and Funding

Carbon Reduction Fund Guidance

Aim of the fund

Stroud Town Council set up the Carbon Reduction Fund in 2019 in order to provide funding towards projects where a primary aim is to reduce CO₂ emissions from households, organisations or individuals in Stroud. The fund is designed to support various activities such as (but not limited to); practical work, feasibility studies/research projects, awareness raising or training.

We anticipate projects which fit into one or more of the following themes to be eligible for this grant, though we also welcome innovative schemes which further the aims of this grant, but do not fit within these categories.

- Energy conservation and renewable energy,
- Reduction in energy use in homes, businesses and elsewhere,
- Low carbon transport,
- Farming and food, particularly the production, sale and consumption of locally sourced food
- Reduction in the consumption of animal products
- Community involvement in reducing CO₂ emissions

The **primary criterion** for applications to the fund is **CO₂ savings per pound spent**.

The fund can endorse projects which enable applicants to leverage income from other sources or be the full and only sponsor of the project. The carbon reduction grants are intended to help facilitate projects whose primary aim is to reduce CO₂ emissions within Stroud parish. Although not required, applications which are able to provide a quantitative estimate of CO₂ savings which result from their proposed activity will be favoured. (*See separate guidance on CO₂ reduction.*)

Funding priorities

In addition to the primary aim of the fund, applications will be at an advantage if the project fulfils one or more of the following criteria:

- Is innovative in its approach to the reduction of CO₂
- Develops a stronger and more sustainable community
- Encourages community engagement around sustainability and reduction of CO₂

How to use these guidance notes

These guidance notes accompany the grant application form and are provided to help you make the best possible case for an award from the fund. To make best use of the guidance notes, follow the steps below:

FIRST – check that your project meets the fund conditions. If it does not, you will not receive funding.

SECOND – if your project meets the conditions, it is important that you make this clear on the application form. Make sure that your answer to the question indicated after each condition clearly demonstrates that you meet that condition.

THIRD – the more of our **funding priorities** that your project fulfils, the better chance you have of receiving a grant. So, when you fill in the form, be clear as to which of the funding priorities your project addresses and how it does so. The questions where you can do this most easily are indicated after each funding priority below; you may find other opportunities. You do not have to address all the priorities and you could still be funded even if your project does not address them as long as it addresses the main **aim** of the fund (as above).

Fund Conditions

Funding will be awarded *only* if:

- There has been no successful application to Stroud Town Council for funding for the same project in the previous twelve months
- The project is designed primarily to focus on the reduction of CO₂ in Stroud parish, ultimately for the benefit of the global community but also for the residents of the parish
- The project does not financially benefit any private individual or private company (for example, the fund could not be used to fund solar panels on a person's roof).

Additional extras

It would also be beneficial to provide the following information to assist the Council with its decision making.

- List potential beneficial effects that extend beyond the period of the project itself
- Where the project is likely to be long-term or open-ended, the application includes a projection of how it will be funded after any grant awarded by the Town Council is spent