

**Orsted**

Community  
Benefit Funds

Spring newsletter  
2025





# More Than 800 Projects, Totalling Over £11.5 Million Supported

At Ørsted, our commitment to the communities in which we work is as important as our vision to create a world that runs entirely on green energy.

Our Community Benefit Funds have awarded over £11.5 million and supported more than 800 projects in the areas where we construct and operate our offshore wind farms and other projects.

As this year progresses and more applications are received, we are excited to hear about the projects that the independent grant panels have recommended for funding.

The Hornsea 3 Legacy Fund, which supports a single capital flagship project that is 'Inspired by Green' with a £100,000 grant, awarded its first grant in February. You

can find out more about the successful project on the Hornsea 3 Community Fund page.

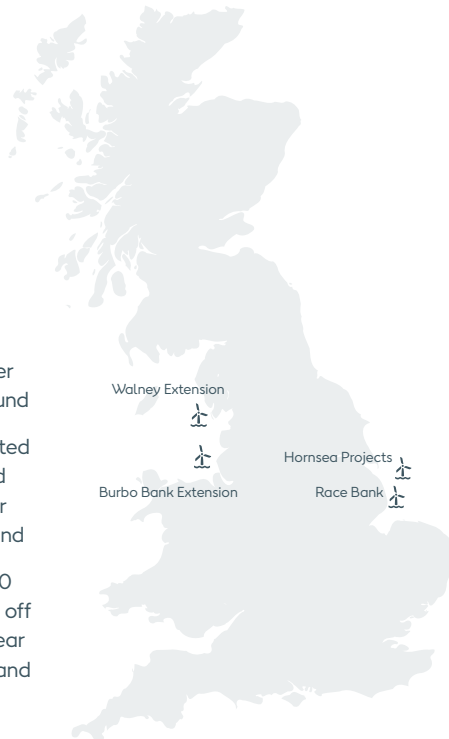
Please take a look at all of the featured projects in this edition of the newsletter. Hopefully, you will feel as delighted and moved as everyone here at Ørsted does. The projects being delivered around our coastal areas, by incredible people every single day, support so many communities in such incredible ways.

For more information about the Hornsea 3 Community Fund and our other funds, please visit GrantScape's website, [www.grantscape.org.uk](http://www.grantscape.org.uk).

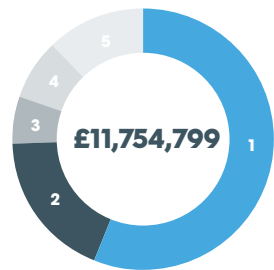
**Imran Nawaz**  
Senior Advisor & CBF Manager, Ørsted

## 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**



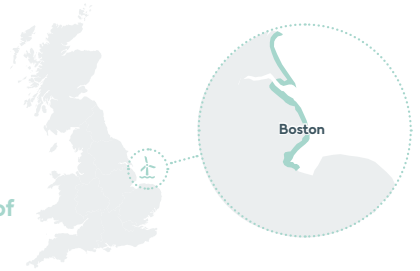
**4. Sports, recreation and play**



**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, 281 projects have been supported so far.



**£3,754,202**  
awarded since  
the fund launched  
in 2016



**Knowledge and Appreciation**



The Fitties CIC was awarded £11,470 towards refurbishing a horsebox into a mobile outdoor classroom. The Humberston Fitties is a Heritage Chalet Park that began as an inter-war plotland in the civil parish of Humberston, North East Lincolnshire.

Caroline Carr, The Fitties CIC, Director, said: "This project has enabled us to share the conservation of Humberston Fitties and the surrounding coastal flora and fauna. The project has been advantageous to the Fitties and wider community by helping them to gain a greater knowledge about the sealife, birds and plants on our saltmarsh and in the estuary. Thanks to the East Coast Community Fund, the refurbished trailer will continue to bring people together to share sightings of birds and wildlife they see, when out enjoying the places they love."



**Confidence Building**



City Church (Great Grimsby & North East Lincolnshire) was awarded a grant of £5,000 to cover a coordinator's salary for one day per week to secure the continuation of their Little Gems Toddler Group.

Joy Wooffindin, Project Leader, City Church (Great Grimsby & NE Lincs), said: "Thanks to the East Coast Community Fund grant, we have continued to support parents, carers and children in our community. Our parents have shared with us that Little Gems: "is so welcoming to anyone who comes", and "provides endless opportunities for children." Other parents have said: "I would definitely recommend this playgroup to my friends as my son and myself love it. Best playgroup ever!" and "it has helped my little girl with her confidence...her social skills have really come on."

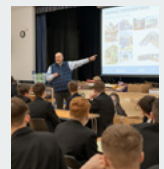


**Skills Fund**

**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.**

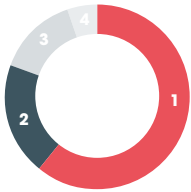
**Theory into Practice**

National Careers Week CIC was awarded £14,902 towards a design challenge project. Its aim is to nurture sustainable futures via STEM to inspire, engage and help young people learn about green careers. The added theme is community with the students planning a new 'Youth Zone' in their local area which provides a safe, inclusive and vibrant space for a whole range of activities for young people.



# Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund

The Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund provides £225,000 each year and has so far awarded 228 grants across Merseyside and North Wales.



**£2,155,485**  
awarded  
since the fund  
launched in 2015



A grant of £9,969 was awarded to Litherland Youth and Community Centre (LYCC) to support the creation of an outdoor classroom using new and recycled timber.

Amy Johnston, Litherland Youth and Community Centre, Centre Manager, said: "This fantastic new facility, in our community garden, will enable us to support and improve our participants physical health, wellbeing and the development of new skills. Centred around gardening, we can use this space in all weather conditions, for potting plants, building bird boxes and many other activities.

Thanks to the Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund grant, we have achieved the perfect outdoor-indoor space which the whole community can benefit from. The interior will, over time, be a brilliant space to display the children and young people's work."

Dave Tinsley, Community by Nature, Operations Manager, said: "This will be an excellent resource to deliver our Level 3 Forest School Training from. We could also work together to train your young people and give them some outdoor bushcraft skills, using this as a base."



Emmas Merseyside was awarded £14,400 to fund the provision of a safe walkway surface at the Emmas Gardens.

Marc Bamber, Emmas Merseyside, Chief Operating Officer, said: "We are incredibly grateful for the generous grant. This has improved the community space and ensured that the area is safe and accessible for all participants. The garden helps promote healthier lifestyles, support vulnerable individuals, and provide a welcoming environment for the community to come together, learn, and grow.

Your support has made a real difference, enabling us to create more opportunities for learning, connection, and empowerment within the local community. Thank you for making this possible."



A grant of £4,950 was awarded to Music In Mind CIO for 'Sefton Coastal Voice' - a community arts project.

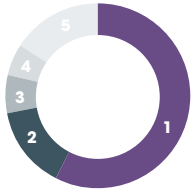
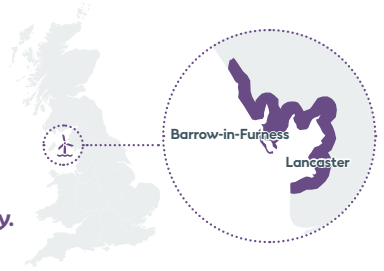
John McHugh, Music In Mind CIO, Director, said: "We used creative writing, visual art, dance and music in educational and community sessions to open a collective enquiry about how we speak, why we speak the way we do and how the environment in which we live has helped to shape our accent and dialect. The performances and exhibitions displayed a wealth of talent, understanding, and knowledge. All the schools and organisations involved have given very positive feedback."

Miss S Wilson, Waterloo Primary School, Assistant Headteacher, said: "Our children and teachers have benefitted hugely from taking part in this project. Children have developed a better understanding, and in some cases pride, in their accents and their heritage. They thoroughly enjoyed their art workshops and produced fantastic pieces. They loved the guided tour of our coastline and gained an appreciation of local wildlife and the landscape.

This project complemented our Year 5 curriculum, supporting the students' geography, local history and art studies."

# 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, 276 local projects have been supported.



**£5,127,269**  
awarded since  
the fund launched  
in 2016



**Resilience and Wellbeing**



A grant of £10,000 was awarded to Ulverston Inshore Rescue towards the purchase of a new Hovercraft. Ulverston Inshore Rescue was formed in 2002 after the death of a father and son in Morecambe Bay to provide a rescue service to aid anyone in trouble on sea or sands.

Patricia Prosser, Ulverston Inshore Rescue, Company Secretary, said: "We now have a fantastic, custom-built hovercraft. It has been inspected and given the coding for a rescue hovercraft and added to our 'declared facility' status with HM Coastguard.

Ulverston Inshore Rescue are very grateful to the Walney Extension Community Fund for supporting this purchase. The new Hovercraft 'Patricia' will now enable faster and more efficient responses to emergencies in Morecambe Bay, having passed the government's code of practice."



**Knowledge and Creativity**



A grant of £9,500 was awarded to Escape2Make towards recruitment of creative professionals to help deliver activity workshops.

Saul Argent, Escape2Make, Chief Operating Officer, said: "Thanks to the grant from the Walney Extension Community Fund, we were able to provide a vast array of free creative activities for young people in Lancaster and Morecambe over the summer holidays. Over 150 young people took part in more than 50 free workshops, led by local artists, which supported them to learn more about the environment and sustainable practices through creative approaches. These workshops culminated in an event at More Music on 24 August, where the young people's achievements and learning were celebrated and shared with over 500 members of the local community."



**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.

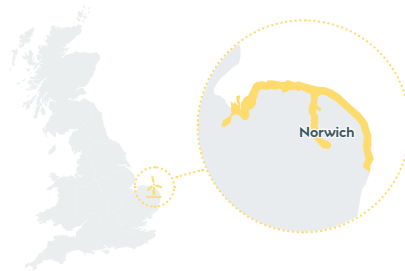
## Impactful Cyber-STEM

Engineering Development Trust was awarded £34,557 to give young people from Lancaster & Wyre the opportunity to take part in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) activities, learning how STEM is relevant to their lives and how STEM skills are used to tackle social challenges such as climate change. With a focus on the environment and sustainability, the project will deliver experience days, 12-week team projects and annual community events. The projects will bring participants together to challenge perceptions of who can be successful in STEM, learn about and take inspiration from each other's projects and build connections with local companies.



# 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, 44 projects have been supported.



**£717,842**  
awarded since  
the fund launched  
in 2024



**Skills & Accreditation**



**Inspired by Green**

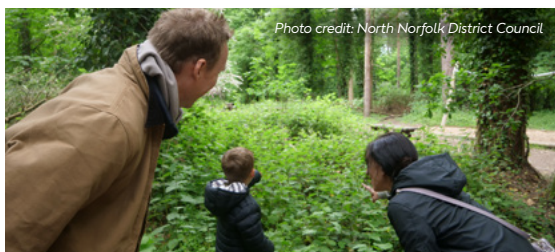


Photo credit: North Norfolk District Council

North Norfolk District Council are the first organisation to receive a £100,000 Legacy grant.

Holt Country Park will accommodate a new indoor/outdoor eco-learning space. A sustainable, functional and didactic indoor learning hub will incorporate energy efficient insulation, a sedum roof and rainwater harvesting. A range of interactive learning stations will also be included to educate users on sustainability, environmental impact and local renewable energy production. The outdoor gym offers an immersive experience - generating human-powered green energy to create usable electricity to charge devices and feed an on-site energy storage display unit able to power lighting.



A grant of £62,695 was awarded to Volunteer It Yourself CIC towards energy-efficiency retrofit works at three community venues in Great Yarmouth. The organisation engages with and benefits local young people who are not currently in education, training or employment as a compelling and rewarding skills development and work experience opportunity.

Ed Sellwood, Volunteer It Yourself CIC, Chief Operating Officer, said: "For this project, we're working in Great Yarmouth. Our Volunteer It Yourself projects focus on retrofit works to help boost energy-efficiency and reduce operational costs in community buildings, improving the EPC rating of the buildings in question. To achieve this we deliver progressive green skills critical to the growing sustainability sector. This includes the chance to gain green skills accreditations, such as City & Guilds Level 2 Award in Retrofit and National Open College Network (NOCN) Entry Level 3 Award in Energy Efficiency and Sustainability."

You can read more about the significant impact of their projects, to date, here: [bit.ly/VIYHornsea](https://bit.ly/VIYHornsea)



**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.**

## School Conservation Plans

Norfolk Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) was awarded £12,675 to raise awareness of biodiversity loss and the measures that schools can take to support wildlife and habitats. Norfolk FWAG will provide training to teaching staff at schools across Norfolk to ensure effective delivery of the programme. This will upskill teaching staff in areas such as biology, conservation, and environmental science. A student-led school conservation plan will be created for entry into a competition and the opportunity to win an award.



# Lancashire Wildlife Trust

Spotlight

A grant of £22,500 was awarded towards 'The Bay: A Blueprint for Recovery' project in Wyre.

The Bay is a wellbeing programme that offers people struggling with mental health issues, isolation and loneliness the opportunity to get outdoors and connect with nature.



As part of the programme, Nature & Wellbeing group members and volunteers contributed 867 hours to cleaning up their natural environment. Working in conjunction with Great British Spring Clean, 102 bags of rubbish from beach cleans and litter picks were collected. Members and volunteers removed invasive species from sand dunes, cleared shrubs and dead hedges, planted 269 trees, created a wildlife pond, built bug hotels and made sand dunes with old Christmas trees.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as a participant with The Bay, it has really helped me find myself again. I have looked forward to every session, which have often been the highlight of my week," said one participant.

"The Bay has been brilliant for me! I've loved getting out into nature, reconnecting with my community, and meeting new people!" said another participant.

"I learnt that I need people, and I am not alone. My mood has improved and stabilised. My self-confidence has increased. I am not as restricted by agoraphobia anymore," said another.

Rhoda Wilkinson, Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Head of Community Engagement, said: "Many thanks for the grant from the Walney Extension Community Fund in supporting Lancashire Wildlife Trust

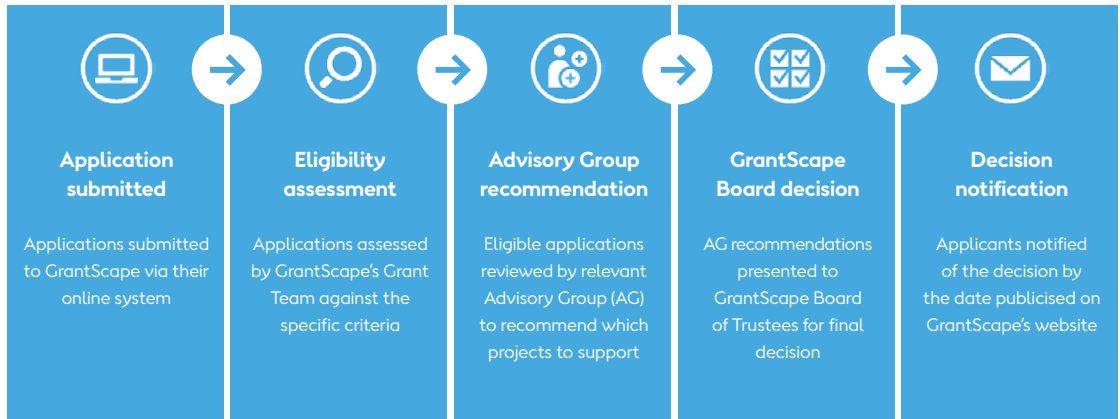


to run Nature & Wellbeing groups across Wyre. The Bay project has acted as a catalyst for so many people to get out of the house, build their ability to interact with others, grow confidence, and find meaningful ways of connecting with nature to help their mental health resilience."

For more information about the project, please visit: <https://www.thebay.org.uk/>



# Applying to the Community Benefit Funds



## Next closing dates:

**Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund**  
9 April 2025  
(decisions end June 2025)  
24 September 2025  
(decisions mid-December 2025)

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

**Walney Extension Community Fund**  
2 July 2025  
(decisions end September 2025)  
9 January 2026  
(decisions early April 2026)

**East Coast Community Fund**  
30 July 2025  
(decisions end October 2025)  
4 February 2026  
(decisions end April 2026)

**Hornsea 3 Legacy Fund**  
26 November 2025  
(decisions end February 2026)

**STEM Skills Fund - Walney Extension, East Coast and Hornsea 3**  
2 April 2025  
(decisions early June 2025)

## Ørsted Fisheries Fund - Hornsea 3 Awards First Grant



Each year, £20,000 will be available until 2027, for commercial fishers and companies supporting the wider fishing community that are located between Corton (north of Lowestoft) and Sizewell.

The fund helps finance, set up and support community projects that are a direct benefit to the fishing industry operating in the same areas as the kittiwake artificial nesting structures. It can be used for

improving fishing port infrastructure, supporting training in the fishing industry, improving safety, providing necessary equipment and many other projects.

Grants of up to £10,000 are available and the first grant of £9,944 has been paid to provide a skinning machine, pressure washer and weighing scales for use by any commercial fishermen at Southwold Harbour. The next closing date is 21 May 2025, so view full details and apply today via GrantScape's website!

## 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.



[www.grantscape.org.uk](http://www.grantscape.org.uk)

Tel: 01908 247630

E-mail: [info@grantscape.org.uk](mailto:info@grantscape.org.uk)

*Information correct as at 3 March 2025*

*Cover: Lancashire Wildlife Trust - 'The Bay: A Blueprint for Recovery'*