

# Orsted Community Benefit Funds

Autumn newsletter  
2024





# Hornsea 3 Community Fund First Round Grants Awarded

In this edition of the newsletter, we are thrilled to be able to share details of the Hornsea 3 Community Fund's recently awarded grants.

As with all of our first rounds, there was an incredible amount of interest and we received over 100 eligible applications. With £250,000 available to allocate for this round, the Grant Making Panel had to work very hard to prioritise the projects. A full day was spent reviewing all of the applications and 21 were recommended for funding. Unfortunately, many requests for funding were unsuccessful, although this is not a reflection of the projects applied for, merely the nature of a competitive process.

The Hornsea 3 Skills Fund also received a fantastic response, with 19 eligible applications submitted and six successfully securing their requested grants.

The Hornsea 3 Legacy Fund deadline is 27 November 2024. Each year £100,000 of the £700,000 Hornsea 3 Community Fund annual commitment is ring fenced to support a single capital flagship project that is 'Inspired by Green'. For more information, please see the back page.

It is our absolute pleasure to be able to support so many important projects that help strengthen the communities we are so committed to support. Please take a look at the projects featured in this newsletter and if you represent a group which can deliver a project in our eligible funding areas, we encourage you to check the closing dates on the back page and apply to the next round.

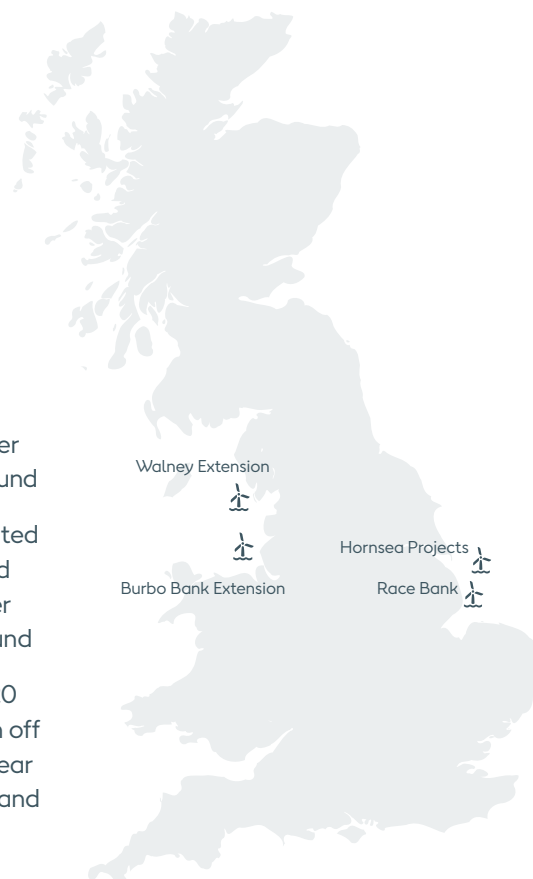
For more information about the Hornsea 3 Community Fund and our other funds, please visit GrantScape's website, [www.grantscape.org.uk](http://www.grantscape.org.uk).

**Imran Nawaz**

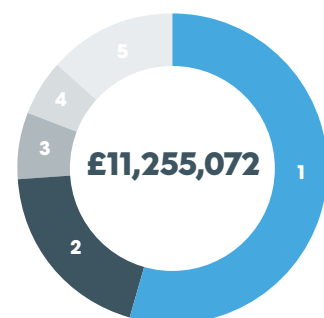
Senior Advisor & CBF Manager, Ørsted

## 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.



**£3,754,203**  
awarded since  
the fund launched  
in 2016



**So Much More**



A grant of £25,000 was awarded to The Long Sutton Men's Shed towards the refurbishment of a self-contained, converted commercial nursery glass house into a youth training facility on the same site as the Men's Shed. At any one time, it can accommodate approximately 20 young people aged 11-15 from local schools in the area. It provides a unique opportunity for the local school children (both girls and boys) to learn a variety of construction skills. Skilled members of the Men's Shed share their construction expertise including brick laying, woodwork / carpentry and electrical work, creating a bond between old and young in the community.

Frank Heinrich-Tiller, Trustee and Funding Officer, The Long Sutton Men's Shed, said: "The Long Sutton Youth Shed started in April 2023 and has grown out of all expectations. David Thompson has been the driving force behind this well-regarded initiative which has been so well received by children, parents and teachers in the area. It is now open 5 days a week with full kitchen / toilet facilities for a variety of full-day courses. David and his team of willing volunteers are very grateful for the significant grant funding provided by the East Coast Community fund."

"The youth shed is more than teaching a skill, it's a safe place that supports mental health and wellbeing."  
David Thompson, Long Sutton Youth Shed.



**Carbon Reduction**



Snettisham Beach Sailing Club was awarded £13,645 to replace obsolete gas boilers with a large solar thermally heated water storage system for use in the showers, toilets and kitchen. Shower and changing room accessibility was also improved by the installation of grab handles and shower seats.

Adrian Tebbutt, Commodore, Snettisham Beach Sailing Club, said: "We are particularly proud to have been able to use the generous grant funding we have received from the East Coast Community Fund, to make our green sport even greener."

Not only have we significantly reduced our carbon emissions, increased the sustainability of the club and helped ensure its viability in the future, but we have also improved the accessibility of the club to make sailing available to even more members of the community."



## 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 improve their skills and employment opportunities. The fund so far has awarded over £600,000, supporting nearly 33 projects across the funding area.**

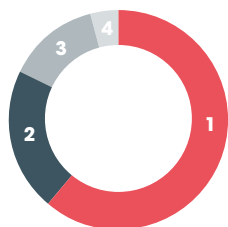
### Theory into Practice

College of West Anglia was awarded £23,238 for their 'Students Build Offshore Floating Wind Turbine Project'. The project saw the learners construct an offshore floating wind turbine. The structure required the students to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of design, construction of buildings and infrastructure. This real-life learning opportunity enabled students to apply STEM in context and connect curriculum to a working environment including learning about green skills and sustainability.



# Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund

The Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund provides £225,000 each year and has so far awarded 214 grants across Merseyside and North Wales.



**£2,026,695**  
awarded  
since the fund  
launched in 2015



**Re-establish, Redefine & Upskill**



A grant of £5,000 was awarded to Home-Start Southport & Formby towards a part-time First Response Worker for a period of 12 months to support families in crisis referred by social workers, health visitors, or the families themselves. The First Response Worker visited families for a few hours each week to offer crisis support, both practical and emotional, to ensure families received the early intervention help they needed to avoid their difficulties spiralling. This reduced the harm to children and ensured parents felt supported to cope on their own again.

Karen Cooke, Manager, Home-Start Southport & Formby, said: "Thanks to Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund for their grant towards our Home-Start Family Support Project. This has made a significant difference to families in our community, especially during these challenging times marked by the cost-of-living crisis and rising mental health concerns. As a local charity offering long-term support to struggling families, your contribution is crucial in helping us continue this vital work. Thank you for standing by us and making a meaningful impact on the lives of young families."



**Sensing Nature**

A grant of £4,332 was awarded to Wirral society of The Blind and Partially Sighted, to develop an outdoor space. This made the greenspace accessible and sensory-rich, for people of all ages and abilities. The idea was that plants, hard landscaping and other garden materials and features would be selected for their appeal to all five senses with the aim of offering a richer therapeutic feel to a range of people with different needs.

Lynne Sedgwick, Development/Finance Manager, Wirral society of The Blind and Partially Sighted, said: "The support given through this grant from the Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund means we have been able to create a valuable green space that is providing more opportunities for people with different needs, challenges, and life changes to experience the natural environment. We are extremely grateful for this support and now have an on-going project that can grow and develop through our community."



**Support, Training and Advice**

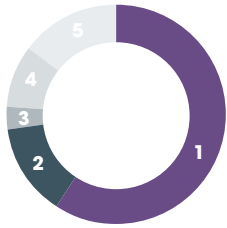
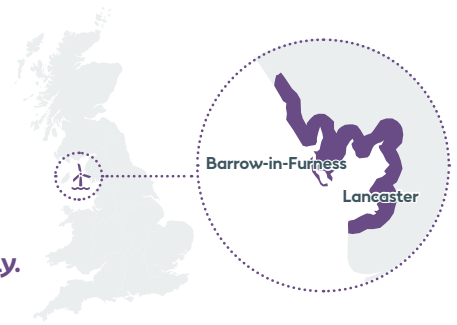


A grant of £19,850 was awarded to Ykids Limited towards supporting families living in the Bootle area. Many were struggling from the effects of poverty before the Covid pandemic and rising prices of essentials such as food, utilities, and fuel. Many also faced a myriad of other issues such as poor mental health, uncontrolled debt, domestic violence or substance misuse. Some, living isolated lives away from family and friends with no one to turn to for support or advice.

Claire Morgans, Ykids CEO, said: "Thanks to the Burbo Bank Extension Community Fund, Ykids have been able to support a huge number of local families facing real challenges because of the cost of living crisis. Not only have we been able to provide practical support such as our Community Pantry and Toy Pantry at Christmas but also ongoing activities that help to build mental health and wellbeing. For many facing yet another year of decreasing income and increasing bills, the support, training and advice that has been offered has been a lifeline. We could not have done it without your support, and we want to say a heartfelt thank you for the impact you have made in this 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, 276 local projects have been supported.



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



## Resilience and Wellbeing



Rusland Horizons Trust was awarded a grant of £5,000 to deliver 10 monthly sessions for groups of 8-12 Mind in Furness clients who are experiencing poor mental health and other challenges such as social isolation, poor physical health and poverty. This included woodland activities and ecotherapy to enable participants to connect with the landscape and better understand its flora and fauna. By positively contributing to the landscape's management, individuals can overcome social isolation, learn new skills, build personal resilience, and improve wellbeing.

Marion Brown, Project Lead, Rusland Horizons Full Cycle Project, said: "This grant has allowed us to run a substantial number of our monthly mindfulness and wellbeing sessions, all of which have been well attended with excellent participation. These sessions are highly valued by our Mind clients and make a huge contribution to supporting their mental and physical health as well as teaching them new skills. With their limited transport and access to nature options, these sessions are one of the few precious opportunities they have to get out into the countryside with all the benefits it brings."



## Opportunities and Support



Dignity in Dementia CIC was awarded a grant of £15,000 to provide a much-needed range of services for people affected by dementia in Silverdale and South Lakeland. Services included family carers training courses and activity groups such as poetry, ceramics, walking, woodland wellness, and table tennis. The group also hosted a monthly supper club, as well as a regular 'cuppa and chat' support group. The funding went towards the salary costs of two full-time team members.

Lesley Gill, one of the Directors at Dignity in Dementia CIC said: "We are very grateful to the Walney Extension Community Fund for the grant towards the salaries of two of our staff. The money helped ensure our sustainability and allowed us to continue to offer support to those affected by dementia. The wonderful feedback that we continue to receive confirms our philosophy, that people living with dementia can, with the right support and opportunities, continue to live fulfilled lives and experience joy."



## 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 improve skills and employment opportunities. The fund, so far, has awarded nearly £800,000 supporting 33 projects across the funding area.

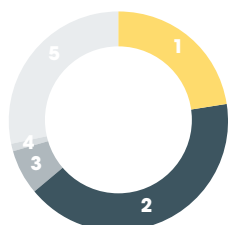
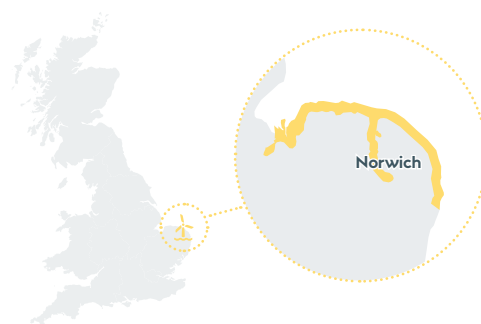
### Impactful Cyber-STEM

STEMFirst was awarded £37,000 to extend the reach of their Cyber Escape Challenge, to schools in the eligible area. This exciting interactive half-day activity involves Key Stage 2 and 3 students. Working in teams as Cyber Crime Prevention officers, they are set a challenge to unlock a nest of locked evidence boxes and save the internet. It links to the Computer Science curriculum and teaches students to keep themselves safe in our increasingly digital world. Students develop essential employability skills, whilst learning about spam, passwords, encryption and cyber-crime. Cyber related careers are embedded in the session, particularly those in Nuclear, Security and Energy provision.



# 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, 28 projects have been supported.



**£346,905**  
awarded since  
the fund launched  
in 2024

Twenty-one groups are celebrating the good news that they have been selected to be the first to receive grants through the new Hornsea 3 Community Fund. The groups will share a huge £249,052 windfall. A further seven groups received grants through the Hornsea 3 Skills Fund and benefited from awards totalling £97,853, details of which will be featured in the Spring 2025 issue.

Launched earlier this year, the Fund has £700,000 per year available to support local groups and organisations in North Norfolk and areas of Suffolk. The Fund is split into three pots: the main Community Fund of £500,000 (awarded through two funding rounds each year), an annual Skills Fund of £100,000, and an annual Legacy Fund of £100,000 which will go to one capital green project per year, to encourage long term positive influence in the region.

One of the successful groups is Cromer Cares, who have been awarded £10,000 to provide beds for children who currently do not have one.

Julie Chance, Trustee/Treasurer/Co-Ordinator at Cromer Cares, said: "Cromer Cares are delighted that this grant has been approved. This will provide beds for children who are sleeping on the floor still in this day and age. This means the children will be able to get a good night's sleep and be ready to learn at school the next day. It is unbelievable that children are still sleeping on the floor, and we wish to do everything we can to try and address this problem."

Also celebrating is Marine & Wildlife Rescue, who will receive £2,180, towards their 'Seal Pup Coastal Welfare Monitoring' project.

Dan Goldsmith, Chairman of Marine & Wildlife Rescue, said: "We are extremely grateful and incredibly pleased to receive the grant to enable us to assist with vital winter checks for grey seal pups along the coast in Norfolk."



Image credit: Richard Longley



Image credit: Craig Morris

The full list of organisations awarded grants in the first Community Fund round can be found on GrantScape's website: <https://grantscape.org.uk/?p=11029>

Monies for the fund are being made available as part of Ørsted's project to create the world's single largest offshore wind farm, Hornsea 3, which will be located in the North Sea, approximately 121 km off the Norfolk coast and 160 km off the Yorkshire coast.



The wind farm will be capable of generating 2.9 GW of green electricity, enough to meet the average daily needs of **3.3 million homes**. The Hornsea 3 Community Fund will award a total of £7 million over a targeted ten-year period.

**Imran Nawaz, Senior Advisor & Community Benefit Fund Manager at Ørsted**, said: "We're very proud to see our first set of worthy applicants be successful, and look forward to seeing these projects come to fruition. Remember our next closing date is the 27th November, we'd love to hear from you."

# Furness Education & Skills Partnership (FESP)

## Spotlight

The Future of Furness - Exploring STEM Careers project received a grant of £49,650 for activities to engage young people, aged 7 to 11 years old, in STEM skills and careers through the delivery of the first Furness Children's STEM Skills Conference.

The Children's Conference took place and feedback was extremely positive from 470 children and staff who attended this inspirational new event. An introduction video about exciting career options set the scene for the carousel of employer workshops. Children learned about each business, what they do, the skills they are looking for in employees and their future labour needs. Key Employability/STEM skills were promoted throughout the conference.

The children loved having a conference for them and many said they felt very grown up. Whilst children took part in workshops, teachers participated in focus groups which sought their views on the most impactful future projects, effective delivery models and opportunities to enhance curriculum learning. This information has already informed FESP's delivery planning.

Nationally and locally, improving careers education is a priority. Recent national research has shown that Careers Education helps tackle disadvantage. So what did the children get out of the event? Teachers and school leaders said:

'Opens their eyes to opportunities they didn't know exist and raises aspirations. Children often want to be a YouTuber or footballers.'

'The children need to see things to understand them. Seeing things for themselves, has a lasting impact.'

'Visiting businesses and seeing people reading and writing gives them an incentive to learn and a purpose for education.'

Teachers who attended with their students added:

'The event had a very positive feel. STEM skills and work-related skills such as teamwork, working to a time limit and being part of something was inspiring for their futures.'

'The children said they would like to attend more conferences and be part of practical group tasks. They said they worked better as a team because the activities were interesting and everyone was involved.'

'The event was brilliant, thank you. I am excited about how we can develop this further in school, and I know FESP will be able to support me in this through projects offered and contacts with businesses.'



The Teacher Focus Group also fed back:

'It was nice to be heard and focus on what each individual school requires but also feel part of a network. It was helpful to cover parts of the curriculum that are challenging to complete with a small budget or lack of experience.'

Since the conference many schools have asked for the Children's Conference to be an annual event as their children gained so much from attending. Follow on projects were also planned and delivered, in partnership with local businesses, focusing on key career areas: Green, Digital and Engineering. Feedback from teachers, children and business partners has been extremely positive. FESP supported businesses to plan tasks/briefs that linked to the curriculum so that the partnership work enhanced key learning.

FESP has followed up suggestions from schools and business partners to develop Careers Education at primary age even further. Visitors into schools have been provided, resources have been provided for schools so that they can continue to work with business partners and contact details have been shared to establish new employer/school partnerships. Every opportunity has been taken to share learning with organisations making strategic decisions to improve the area. Listening to suggestions from staff at the chalk face in both schools and businesses is shaping FESP's work and wider strategic plans so that delivery models are most effective. To find out more about the work FESP do, please visit their website: [fesp.org.uk](https://fesp.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)

### East Coast Community Fund

12 February 2025  
(decisions early May 2025)  
30 July 2025  
(decisions end October 2025)

### Hornsea 3

27 November 2024  
(decisions early March 2025)  
4 June 2025  
(decisions end August 2025)

### Hornsea 3 Legacy Fund

27 November 2024  
(decisions end February 2025)

### Walney Extension Community Fund

10 January 2025  
(decisions early April 2025)  
2 July 2025  
(decisions end September 2025)

## Hornsea 3 Legacy Fund – Apply for £100,000 by 27 November 2024!

Ørsted is keen that organisations applying for funds are reflecting on their environmental impact and are taking positive action in relation to environmental sustainability and carbon reduction. The application asks groups if they are taking steps to minimise the carbon footprint of the project they are seeking funding support for and will the project actually make a positive impact on the environment – is the project 'Inspired by Green?'.

The project must also meet one of the following two themes:

- Community buildings and facilities. For example: capital improvement works to village halls, community centres, sports centres, museums, heritage centres. Projects that help transition to greener operations are particularly encouraged.

- Environmental, green initiatives and public open space projects. For example: projects involving habitat/species conservation.

The total project cost must not exceed £1 million.

Match funding is not a requirement, but it is expected the project will need a level of other funding as it is unlikely that your project will cost exactly £100,000. If your total project cost is less than £100,000 you are not eligible to apply.

For full details about the Hornsea 3 Legacy Fund and how to apply, please visit 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.