Great British ENERGY

GBE Local Partnerships Grant Guidance

Contents

What is the Partnerships Grant?

The Partnerships Grant is a new two-stage grant scheme designed to accelerate local clean energy projects through strong Local Authority and community partnerships. It directly supports Great British Energy's Local Power Plan by enabling Local Authorities and community organisations to jointly develop local and community energy projects that deliver long term local benefits.

The Partnerships Grant fills a critical funding gap at the early stages of project development where collaboration between Local Authorities and community groups often stalls due to a lack of revenue funding. While the Great British Energy Community Fund (GBECF) supports community organisations to develop and deliver community led clean energy projects, the Partnerships Grant focuses on the earlier partnership building, governance, feasibility and coordination activities needed to bring Local Authorities and community organisations together to develop projects collaboratively. The two schemes provide complementary support for different stages and models of project development.

Fund Objectives

The Partnerships Grant aims to support Local Authorities and community organisations to work together to develop local energy projects. Funding is intended to help establish and strengthen partnerships, develop project proposals, undertake feasibility and development activities, and build a pipeline of investable projects that can progress to delivery and secure future funding.

GBE also intends to use the fund to explore and strengthen the Local Authority–community partnership model, helping GBE to build its understanding of what makes successful partnerships, the barriers organisations face, and the support needed to bring projects forward.

Projects supported through the Partnerships Grant may contribute to a range of longer-term outcomes if they successfully progress to delivery. These could include:

- New local energy generation capacity.
- Reduced energy costs for local communities and public buildings.
- Increased community ownership and participation in energy projects.
- Jobs, skills and volunteering opportunities.

As this is the first year of delivery, the scheme is being introduced as a pilot to support Local Authority-community partnerships to develop local energy projects and to inform future GBE Local programme design. The pilot will help GBE understand how these partnerships are formed and delivered in practice, including common barriers, project development timelines and the support needed to help projects progress towards future investment readiness.

The pilot status of the scheme does not reduce the requirement for applications to demonstrate a quality project, clear need for grant funding, appropriate delivery arrangements and good value for money. Funding decisions will still be made in line with the published eligibility requirements, assessment criteria, value for money considerations, due diligence checks and available budget.

Partnership Definition

For the purposes of this guidance, references to a “partnership” mean a collaborative working arrangement between an eligible Local Authority and one or more community organisations for the development of a community energy project.

The term “partnership” is used in its ordinary, non-legal sense. The nature of the relationship between the parties will depend on the arrangements they choose to put in place. The requirements for partnership maturity differ between Stage 1 and Stage 2.

Who Can Apply (Eligibility)

The Partnerships Grant is open to Local Authorities in England, specifically:

- County Councils,
- District Councils,
- Unitary Authorities,
- Metropolitan Districts,
- London Boroughs,
- Combined Authorities.

Town and Parish Councils are not eligible for this funding.

Local Authorities must apply either with an existing community partner or use funding to identify and establish a suitable community partner during Stage 1. The Local Authority will act as the accountable body for the grant.

Application Windows & Timeline

- **The application window will open on 17th September and will close on 12th November 2026 at 11:55pm.**
- All grant funding must be defrayed and claimed by 31st March 2028.
- There will be a single window with the possibility of further windows if funding remains available.

Eligible Community Organisations

Eligible community organisations for the purpose of this scheme are the following:

- Charitable Incorporated Organisations (CIO),
- Community Benefit Societies (CBS or Bencom),
- Community Interest Companies (CIC),
- Co-operative Societies,
- Development Trusts,
- Pre-Commencement Societies,
- Incorporated Registered Charities (including eligible faith groups, sports clubs, etc.),
- Registered Social Landlords,
- Registered Societies.

In all cases, applicants must demonstrate how community involvement will be embedded in the project, and how this will develop into a formal partnership arrangement by the end of Stage 1. Where a community organisation has already been identified, applicants must provide evidence that the proposed partner has been involved in developing the application and has agreed in principle to work with the lead applicant. Evidence can include a letter or email of support, meeting records, an expression of interest, draft Heads of Terms, a draft Memorandum of Understanding, or an equivalent document.

Where a community organisation partner has not yet been identified, applicants must provide:

- a clear and time bound process for identifying and selecting an eligible community organisation;
- the proposed roles of the lead applicant and community partner;
- the proposed governance and decision-making arrangements; and
- a project milestone requiring a written partnership agreement, Memorandum of Understanding, Heads of Terms or equivalent document to be completed by the end of Stage 1.

Other Eligibility Points:

- Project Location: The site of the planned community energy asset must be located in England. Cross border projects are not in scope for this funding.
- A Local Authority may submit a maximum of two applications across the funding window: one Stage 1 application and one Stage 2 application. Each application must relate to a separate project.
- Applications are not eligible for funding where they:
  - relate to the same project;
  - would result in duplicate funding for the same activities, outputs or costs through other subsidies.

Each application will be assessed independently against the published eligibility and assessment criteria.

Eligible Technology Types:

- Anaerobic digestion (electricity generation)
- Biogas heat network
- Biomass heat network
- Heat pumps *(when combined with another eligible technology in this list)*
- Heat pump-fed heat networks *(when combined with another eligible technology in this list)*
- Hydropower
- Ground mount solar
- Rooftop solar
- Solar thermal
- Wind power
- Battery storage (*when combined with another eligible technology in this list)*

Roles & Responsibilities:

The Local Authority will be the lead partner. This means that they will be submitting the application, managing the grant funding, and ensuring project delivery and compliance with the grant terms and conditions. Grant payments will only be made to the Local Authority.

The community organisation partner must have a defined role in the proposal which extends beyond engagement and demonstrates involvement in the development, delivery or ownership of the project. Examples include co-leading project development, providing community investment, supporting governance arrangements, participating in project ownership, or undertaking agreed project activities. Community ownership arrangements must comply with the requirements set out in the Community Ownership section of this guidance (pg. 10).

Local Authorities are responsible for ensuring compliance with procurement, subsidy control and value for money requirements, including where the community partner is expected to receive financial or economic benefit (e.g. through delivery services, ownership returns, or operational roles). The partnership structure and delivery approach should be clearly set out and demonstrate how these requirements have been met.

For both Stage 1 and Stage 2 applications, a Local Authority must identify a local energy project opportunity or project concept and explain how the proposed activities will assess its technical, commercial, governance or delivery feasibility. Applications must demonstrate that the opportunity is credible and capable of meaningful assessment through the activities proposed.

Two Stage Structure

The Partnerships Grant operates in two stages. Each stage is a separate competitive award.

Stage 1: Partnership Formation and Feasibility

This stage supports Local Authority and community energy partnerships to establish working arrangements and assess whether a project is viable.

Funding can be used for the following activities:

- partnership development;
- feasibility studies;
- site identification;
- initial financial modelling;
- community engagement; and
- legal or governance arrangements, such as developing a Memorandum of Understanding or Heads of Terms.

At Stage 1, Local Authorities can either apply with an identified community partner or use funding to identify and establish a suitable community partner during the project.

To meet GBE’s partnership maturity requirements at Stage 1, applicants must demonstrate:

- a rationale for working in partnership on the project;
- an approach for identifying and engaging appropriate community partners where these have not yet been selected;
- how community involvement will be incorporated into project development from an early stage;
- proposed governance and decision-making arrangements for Stage 1 activities; and
- how the partnership will be formalised as the project progresses.

Where a partnership is not yet established, Local Authorities may apply without naming a specific community group and may use Stage 1 funding to undertake an open and transparent process appropriate to the circumstances, which may include market engagement, an expression of interest process or other proportionate partner selection approach. Where a partnership already exists, funding may instead be used to strengthen and formalise the relationship and undertake feasibility activities required to develop a project proposal. The Local Authority must name the community organisation involved and evidence the partnership arrangement.

Applications will not be disadvantaged where a community partner has not yet been identified, provided the applicant demonstrates a credible and proportionate approach to identifying, selecting and establishing an effective community partnership during Stage 1. Assessment will be based on the maturity of the proposal relative to its stage of development.

By the end of Stage 1, grant recipients must have completed the approved feasibility and partnership-development activities and produced evidence of the outcomes. Feasibility work may conclude that a project is not viable, and grant recipients will not be penalised where reasonable efforts to identify and establish a community partnership have been undertaken.

Stage 2: Development and Investment Readiness

This stage supports projects that have already demonstrated feasibility to complete the detailed development work needed to secure capital investment. This must be a feasibility report, that should provide sufficient evidence that the project is technically, financially and operationally viable. As a minimum, it must include:

- a description of the proposed project and technology;
- an initial assessment of technical feasibility;
- indicative project costs and expected revenues;
- an assessment of key project risks and constraints;
- consideration of planning, land and grid requirements (where applicable); and
- evidence that the Local Authority and community organisation have agreed to work together on the project.

Stage 2 funding can be used for the following activities:

- detailed technical and engineering studies;
- planning and permitting;
- securing land rights and site agreements;
- business case development;
- financial modelling; and
- investment readiness activities.

Before applying for Stage 2, a formal Local Authority – community organisation partnership must be in place. Applicants must provide evidence of established partnership arrangements.

To meet GBE's partnership maturity requirements at Stage 2, applicants must demonstrate:

- a clearly identified Local Authority and community partner;
- agreed governance and decision-making arrangements;
- defined roles and responsibilities for project delivery;
- arrangements for managing risks, finances, and project oversight; and
- formal partnership arrangements, which can include a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), Heads of Terms, Partnership Agreement, or other appropriate documentation evidencing the relationship between the parties.

The documentation must, at a minimum:

- identify the parties to the partnership;
- define the roles and responsibilities of each partner;
- set out governance and decision-making arrangements;
- describe arrangements for managing project risks, finances, and oversight; and
- explain how the partnership will work together to deliver the proposed activities.

By the end of Stage 2, grant recipients must have completed the approved development activities and produced evidence of the outcomes.

Community Organisation Due Diligence

As a minimum, lead applicants must undertake due diligence checks to verify that their community organisation partner is a legitimate organisation, has appropriate governance arrangements in place, and is not subject to any known fraud, sanctions, or significant reputational concerns.

This must include:

- verification of the organisation's legal status and registration (where applicable);
- review of governing documents;
- confirmation of named directors, trustees or committee members;
- checks against relevant sanctions lists; and

- consideration of any publicly available information that may indicate fraud, criminal activity, or significant reputational risks.

Lead applicants will be required to confirm that these checks have been completed and that no material concerns have been identified.

Community Ownership

Applicants must demonstrate that the community organisation will hold a defined legal and financial interest in the project. The community organisation must hold at least a 50% legal and financial ownership interest in the project company or project asset when the project is operational. In the case of a project company, the legal ownership interest requirement means holding at least 50% of the issued share capital and voting rights in the company that will own the project assets. In all cases, the 50% financial interest requirement means being entitled to receive at least 50% of the financial returns generated for the project's owners. [1]

Community Benefit

Applicants must demonstrate that a defined share of project benefits will be retained for, or delivered to, the local community.

Benefits may include:

- payments into a community benefit fund;
- community shareholders receiving annual returns on share investments;
- reinvestment of project income into local community activity;
- reduced energy costs for community facilities or local beneficiaries;
- funding for local services, energy advice, skills, training or other community priorities; or
- other social, economic or environmental benefits delivered locally.

Applicants must explain:

- what benefits will be delivered;
- who will receive or manage those benefits;
- how the level of benefit will be calculated;
- when benefits are expected to arise; and
- how the benefits will continue, where relevant, over the operational life of the project.

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[1] [1]*For 'split ownership' models, where a community organisation's ownership interest is in one or more parts of a wider project, these legal and financial ownership requirements apply only to those parts and not to the wider project as a whole."*

Benefits must be linked to the project and must be capable of being evidenced. General statements that the project will benefit the community will not be sufficient.

What the Fund Supports (Scope of Funding)

The Partnerships Grant provides revenue funding to cover early-stage development work for local energy projects. It does not provide capital funding for construction. It cannot be used to purchase or install equipment, or to deliver ongoing services to the public.

Grant funding may be used to procure goods and services from third parties where this is necessary for project delivery and complies with applicable procurement requirements.

Stage 1 – Partnership Formation & Feasibility

What you need before applying

To apply for Stage 1, you must:

- be an eligible Local Authority;
- have a clean energy project idea and technology;
- have identified either a prospective site, or a shortlist of sites; and
- have identified an eligible community organisation to conduct the feasibility work in partnership with or be able to demonstrate a plan to establish a partnership with one as part of the funded activity.

How much funding is available?

- At Stage 1, up to £40,000 is available to fund the feasibility stage of a project and to support partnership development.
- Your costs claimed from GBE should be exclusive of VAT, unless it is irrecoverable. VAT can make a big difference to costings, so be sure you understand whether your suppliers are charging you VAT or not in their quotes, and whether or not you can recover this VAT.

Cost category	Eligible expenditure	Conditions (in addition to being reasonable and proportionate)
Technical, legal and feasibility services	Technical feasibility studies, site assessments, site identification, high-level engineering advice, grid feasibility studies, planning and environmental advice, legal advice, financial modelling, business case	Costs must be directly linked to assessing project viability or establishing the partnership.

	development and procurement advice.	
Partnership development and coordination	Partnership formation activities, market engagement, procurement support, expressions of interest and partner selection exercises, governance development, legal advice, preparation of MoUs, Heads of Terms and other partnership documentation.	Costs must directly support the establishment and management of the partnership and not general organisational activity.
Community engagement	Events, workshops, surveys, consultation activity and engagement with communities and stakeholders.	Activity must directly support project development, partner identification or feasibility activities.
Project management including staff costs	Staff time and project management costs incurred by the Local Authority and/or community partner (if applicable) directly involved in Stage 1 activities.	Costs must be based on actual salary costs (including reasonable on-costs where applicable), be proportionate to project delivery and must not include any element of profit or general overheads.
Overheads	A reasonable and proportionate level of overhead costs may be included where directly attributable to project delivery, provided this is clearly evidenced and justified.	

Stage 2 – Development & Investment Readiness

What you need before applying

To apply for Stage 2, you must have:

- a Local Authority-community organisation partnership. Formal partnership arrangements can include a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), Heads of Terms, Partnership Agreement, or other appropriate documentation evidencing the relationship between the parties.

- a completed feasibility study demonstrating that the project is suitable for further development[2]
- evidence of community engagement and a basis for community support;
- a clear proposal for how the project will be owned, governed and delivered;
- identified the key development activities required before the project reaches investment readiness, such as planning, land agreements, grid connection, technical design or financial development

How much funding is available?

- At Stage 2, up to £100,000 is available per project, to fund development activities up to Final Investment Decision.
- Your costs claimed from GBE should be exclusive of VAT, unless it is irrecoverable. VAT can make a big difference to costings, so be sure you understand whether your suppliers are charging you VAT or not in their quotes, and whether or not you can recover this VAT.

Cost category	Eligible expenditure	Conditions (in addition to be reasonable and proportionate)
Technical, legal and development services	Detailed engineering studies, technical design work, business case development, financial modelling, grid connection studies, grid applications and associated development-stage charges, planning applications, environmental surveys, legal advice, governance advice and professional services required to progress the project towards investment readiness, legal	Costs must be directly linked to delivering agreed project outputs or milestones.

[2] This does not need to have been funded through GBECF Stage 1. The feasibility evidence should be sufficiently current and detailed to demonstrate that the proposed technology and site are capable of further development. It should ordinarily address technical feasibility, indicative costs and revenues, site or land considerations, grid requirements where relevant, planning and environmental constraints, principal risks, ownership options and the proposed route to delivery. GBE may request an updated assessment where the evidence is materially out of date or relevant circumstances have changed.

	advice associated with establishing ownership structures, project vehicles, joint ventures, community investment vehicles.	
Land, planning and consenting activities	Costs associated with securing land agreements, planning permissions, permits, preliminary property/title investigations, licences and other necessary consents, option agreements, leases, easements, licences, wayleaves, title reviews, landowner negotiations, property and legal due diligence, valuation advice, preparation and negotiation of land agreements, planning applications, planning consultancy, environmental assessments, ecological surveys, transport assessments, permit applications, consenting support, statutory consultation activity, and other professional services required to secure the land rights, permissions, licences, permits and consents necessary to deliver the project.	Costs must relate directly to the proposed project and be supported by appropriate evidence.
Community engagement	Community consultation, stakeholder engagement, investor engagement, preparing for investment/fundraising for community share offer, and other activities required to build support and progress project development.	Activity must directly support project development and future delivery.
Project management including staff costs	Staff time and project management costs incurred by the Local Authority and/or community partner (if applicable) directly involved in Stage 1 activities.	Costs must be based on actual salary costs (including reasonable on-costs where applicable), be proportionate to project delivery and must not include any element of profit or general overheads.
Overheads	A reasonable and proportionate level of overhead costs may be included	

	where directly attributable to project delivery, provided this is clearly evidenced and justified.	

Funding Conditions & Grant Parameters

As the lead applicant and grant recipient, the Local Authority is responsible for ensuring that all expenditure funded through the grant is in accordance with the Grant Funding Agreement, its own governance requirements, and any applicable procurement, subsidy control and other legal obligations.

Funding may be used to support activities delivered by community partners identified in the application. Applicants must clearly explain the role of each partner, how grant funding will be allocated, and how value for money will be achieved.

Applicants must identify all organisations that may receive a direct or indirect economic benefit from the grant-funded activity and disclose any relevant ownership and control arrangements, funding flows, contractual payments, connected-party relationships, and any non-cash economic advantages.

Approval of an application does not constitute confirmation by GBE that any proposed arrangement complies with procurement, subsidy control, Local Authority standing orders or other legal requirements. Compliance remains the responsibility of the Local Authority.

Grant funding will be paid in arrears to the lead Local Authority against eligible expenditure that has been defrayed. Where expenditure is incurred by a community partner, the Local Authority must reimburse that partner before including the expenditure in a grant claim. The Local Authority remains responsible for ensuring that all expenditure claimed is eligible and compliant with the Grant Funding Agreement and that appropriate agreements, records and monitoring arrangements are in place. Claims may be subject to verification checks, including requests for invoices, proof of payment and other supporting documentation. GBE may withhold, reduce or recover funding where expenditure is ineligible, unsupported or otherwise non-compliant with the Grant Funding Agreement.

Grant recipients will be required to inform GBE about certain material changes to the project and their circumstances. In some situations, this may lead to GBE varying the terms of the grant award, ceasing payments or recovering funding.

All funding is provided as a grant, awarded competitively. Payment will be made on a defrayal (reimbursement) basis meaning that the lead Local Authority will claim funds after incurring eligible expenses, supported by evidence (invoices, timesheets, etc.). The

Grant Funding Agreement (GFA) will set out the milestones and outputs against which claims can be made.

In appropriate cases approved by GBE, grant funding may cover costs incurred by the project company in which the community organisation holds an interest. Where this is the case, GBE will need to be satisfied that any third parties with an interest in the project company (e.g. other shareholders) are making suitable analogous contributions to the project company, to avoid those third parties receiving an undue indirect benefit from GBE. GBE would assess the proposal that the Partnerships grant covers the costs of project companies at the due diligence stage, and GBE may reject such a proposal at its discretion, for example, where in GBE's judgment the type of arrangements detailed above in respect of third parties would be insufficient.

Where a Local Authority proposes to use grant funding to fund activities delivered by an existing project partner, including a community group, it must ensure that the arrangement complies with its own governance, subsidy control and procurement obligations where applicable. Applicants should explain why the proposed delivery approach represents value for money and is the most appropriate means of delivering the activity.

Applications must demonstrate:

- clear justification for all costs;
- that costs are consistent with market rates or otherwise represent value for money;
- that community partners have the capability and capacity to undertake the proposed work (if any); and
- how the proposed approach will contribute to lasting local capability and benefits.

Where applicants propose to undertake activities through an existing partner organisation without a competitive procurement exercise, they must provide a clear rationale for this approach and demonstrate how value for money has been assessed.

An application will only be eligible for funding where the applicant demonstrates that the Partnerships Grant will bring about a material change that would not occur in its absence (this is referred to as 'additionality'). Applicants must explain what would most likely happen without the grant, including whether the proposed activity would proceed at the same time, scale, scope, pace or level of collaboration between partners. An application will not qualify because grant funding would make the activity cheaper, preserve an organisation's preferred level of reserves, increase project surplus, or replace funding that is reasonably available from other sources. This is a minimum requirement, meaning that applications that do not demonstrate additionality will not be funded, irrespective of their score against the other assessment criteria.

A difference in timing, scale, quality, delivery model or level of collaboration will be treated as additional only where it is material and contributes to the objectives of the Partnerships Grant. Applicants should explain how the grant funding is expected to change project outcomes in a meaningful way and provide evidence to support that conclusion. Improvements that are marginal, cosmetic, or would reasonably be expected to occur without grant funding are unlikely to demonstrate additionality.

Applicants should explain any financial or in-kind contributions that will be made to the proposed activity and why additional grant funding is required. The limited resources of a community partner alone will not automatically justify the maximum level of grant funding where other project participants may reasonably be able to contribute to the activity.

Ineligible Expenditure

The grant cannot fund any capital purchases or physical works (solar panels, wind turbines, construction labour, etc.), operational running costs of services or facilities, or retrospective costs (expenses incurred before the grant award). It also cannot simply cover normal Local Authority salaries or overheads that are not directly linked to delivering the funded tasks (with the exception of nominal cover for dedicated project coordination, if justified). Funds cannot be passed to any private sector partner unless in compliance with the Local Authority's procurement and subsidy control obligations when paying for goods or services for the project.

Additional Information

Responsible Sourcing

As a publicly owned energy company with purpose, we know that delivering on our mission depends not only on what we and our partners achieve, but on how those outcomes are achieved. We see responsible business conduct, including human rights and environmental due diligence, and consideration of social and environmental value, as integral to impact: it influences whether clean energy deployment genuinely supports good jobs, whether supply chains are resilient and ethical, and whether the benefits of the energy transition reach the communities and places that need them most, including respect for human rights throughout our activities and partnerships.

Social value - fair work, skills and communities

Promoting social value is fundamental to GBE. We encourage projects to support high quality, jobs and a skilled workforce, including through supporting entry-level placements, employability programmes and other opportunities that are proportionate to the applicant organisation's size and role. This should also take place-based factors into account, and work collaboratively with regional and local skills and education providers and partnerships. We also encourage high quality, safe and fair work, with decent conditions, fair pay and constructive industrial relations, alongside meaningful community engagement that demonstrates how local voices have been heard, reflected in project design and supported through plans for ongoing engagement and community benefit.

Human Rights and Ethical Supply Chains

GBE is committed to ethical supply chains and preventing human rights abuses, including modern slavery, forced labour, and human trafficking. We have ambitions to become a sector leader in ethical supply chains, and are embedding ethical standards across GBE, at the board and operational levels, and through the delivery of the Local Power Plan.

However, the technologies we rely on – such as solar and batteries - are embedded in global systems where perfect traceability and zero-risk sourcing do not exist yet. Small-scale projects face a particular disadvantage: they are exposed to the same modern slavery supply chain risks as larger projects yet are far less able to mitigate them. Smaller buyers typically lack the leverage to influence suppliers and the capacity to carry out resource-intensive due diligence or secure deep supply chain transparency. GBE recognises these challenges and is committed to helping smaller buyers tackle them in a practical and proportionate way.

Environmentally sustainable sourcing

GBE encourages projects to take a practical and proportionate approach to environmentally sustainable sourcing and development, including by considering opportunities to reduce energy use and carbon emissions across their operations and supply chains, increase the use of recycled materials where appropriate, and minimise wider environmental impacts.

Responsible Sourcing Conditions and Support Package

GBE will provide a package of awareness-raising and capacity-building support. This will include webinars and written guidance designed to raise awareness of ethical and sustainable supply chains and responsible business practices.

Successful applicants will be expected to engage with this support and consider how the learning could be applied to their project and future activities, in a way that is proportionate to their role, capacity and local context.

GBE has also embedded conditions within the Fund’s Terms and Conditions to promote responsible sourcing across projects. These conditions are proportionate and pragmatic, to reflect the particular challenges faced by small-scale projects. In the case of solar projects, for example, applicants will need to demonstrate that their chosen supplier(s) use manufacturers that are members of the Solar Stewardship Initiative (SSI) provide equivalent levels of ESG assurance.

These conditions do not replace existing legal or regulatory obligations. GBE expects all applicants to comply with all relevant laws and with internationally recognised minimum standards for workers' welfare and employment conditions, including those established by the International Labour Organization (ILO), and to operate in accordance with the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

Compliance with these conditions will be a requirement for receiving funding under the Scheme. Where there is evidence of unethical labour practices within an applicant's operations or supply chains, GBE will take appropriate action. Depending on the circumstances, this could include requiring remediation of identified issues, suspending funding, or, where necessary, terminating agreements.

The Fund's application form will also include questions on responsible sourcing. Specifically, applicants will be able to provide a narrative on their proposed or developing responsible sourcing, social value and environmental strategies.

How to Apply

Application Process

Applications for the Partnerships Grant must be made during the application window. GBE may decide to open a subsequent application window if the available funding is not exhausted. There are separate application forms for each stage.

Key steps:

Step	Event	Details
1	Check eligibility & prepare	Ensure your organisation and project meet the eligibility criteria.
2	Complete the application form	Provide information on organisation and governance, project scope and activities, community benefit, costs and delivery plan, and alignment with assessment criteria.
3	Submit by the deadline	Applications must be submitted via the designated portal before the window closes on **12th November 2026, 11:55pm**. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted. Applications received within an application window will be assessed together and funding decisions will be made following the close of the window.
4	Assessment & decision	Applications will be considered through the following stages: 1. Completeness and eligibility check: Confirmation that

		the applicant and project meet all mandatory eligibility requirements. 2. Scored assessment: Assessment against the published stage-specific criteria. 3. Moderation and ranking: Moderation of scores, application of minimum fundable standards, and ranking and allocation in accordance with the allocation methodology. 4. Due diligence: Verification of legal status, financial capacity, project information, subsidy control compliance, ownership arrangements, costs, match funding, and other material information. 5. Grant award: Agreement of the final award, deliverables, payment profile, and Grant Funding Agreement.

Subsidy Control & Procurement Considerations

Subsidy Control

The GBE Local Partnerships Grant programme is a subsidy scheme under the Subsidy Control Act 2022.

Projects located in England are eligible for grant funding under this scheme. However, projects which are in scope of Article 10(1) of the Windsor Framework will not be eligible for funding, unless the funding could be awarded under the European Union's de minimis aid principle or under the General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER). A project can be expected to be in scope of Article 10(1) of the Windsor Framework if the provision of funding would have a genuine, material effect on trade in goods or electricity between Northern Ireland and the European Union.

GBER is the European Union's State aid regulation which permits certain subsidies to be granted without prior notification to the European Commission, provided the subsidy satisfies certain conditions. For further information on GBER, including those conditions, please see here. The Full Application contains questions which allow GBE to determine whether the project is in scope of Article 10(1) of the Windsor Framework. The questionnaire has a yes / no format and applicants should consider the activities of their business in its entirety when answering. Applicants will be required to confirm relevant information about previous public funding and provide supporting information as part of the application process.

GBE will consider whether the proposed award constitutes a subsidy. Some activities may be non-economic and fall outside the statutory definition. Where an award constitutes a subsidy, it will only be made in accordance with the applicable legal requirements and the relevant scheme conditions. GBE does not intend awards under the Partnerships Grant to constitute a Subsidy of Particular Interest. Applicants must provide information about relevant subsidies received by the applicant and any enterprises under common control. Where a proposed award would cause the applicable Subsidy of Particular Interest threshold to be met, the award will not be made under this scheme.

How Partnership Grant Awards Will Be Determined

The Partnerships Grant is intended to support activities that would otherwise not proceed, would proceed more slowly, would be delivered at a smaller scale, or would be undertaken with reduced ambition or collaboration.

As part of an application's assessment and due diligence, GBE may consider:

- eligible project development costs;
- resources reasonably available to project partners;
- funding available from partner organisations;
- alternative public funding sources;
- in-kind contributions from project partners;
- expected outcomes and benefits of the proposed activity.

The Minimum Amount Necessary

The maximum funding limit is a ceiling, not a standard award. Applicants must request only the minimum amount necessary to enable the proposed activity or project to proceed in the manner described in their application.

The amount awarded will be the lowest of:

- the amount requested;
- the applicable stage cap;
- the reasonable eligible costs of the approved activity;
- the evidenced residual funding requirement; and
- the minimum amount required to bring about the material change identified in the applicant's additionality case.

GBE may offer a lower amount where the evidence demonstrates that a lower award would be sufficient. GBE will not offer a reduced amount where this would make the approved project undeliverable or prevent the identified policy outcome from being achieved.

Need for Intervention

Applicants must explain the problem, opportunity, market failure or barrier that the proposed activity seeks to address.

Applications should explain:

- the current situation;
- why existing arrangements are insufficient;
- the barriers preventing progress;
- how the proposed activity will address those barriers
- how the activity will add value rather than duplicate existing provision and;
- What would happen without this funding

GBE will not normally fund activity that substantially duplicates work that is already being delivered, or can reasonably be delivered, through existing arrangements.

Commitments Made Before Award

Costs incurred before the eligible expenditure date will not be funded. Applicants must disclose any contract, purchase order or other commitment entered into before grant award.

Where an applicant has committed unconditionally to incur a cost regardless of the outcome of its application, this will normally indicate that the grant is not causing that expenditure and the cost will not be eligible.

Reasonable preliminary work undertaken to prepare an application does not necessarily demonstrate that the activity would proceed without support, but application preparation costs will not be reimbursed.

Monitoring, Reporting & Learning

Successful applicants will enter into a Grant Funding Agreement with defined deliverables and conditions. GBE Local (via its delivery partner, CGL, which is part of the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero) will monitor progress primarily by reviewing these deliverables. Examples of deliverables might include a feasibility study report, partnership agreements, evidence of community engagement, etc., depending on stage. Payment of claims must be accompanied by proof of completion of deliverables and evidence of defrayal of project costs. If a project fails to deliver or significantly deviates, GBE reserves the right to withhold further funds, terminate the Grant Funding Agreement and/or claw back funding, as per standard grant conditions.

All grant recipients will be expected to participate in knowledge sharing and evaluation. Shared learning may involve providing a short case study about your project and outcomes or joining peer learning sessions where you share experience with other projects. This helps ensure the benefits of the grant extend beyond individual projects

Grant recipients will be required to provide periodic progress updates and final reports on their outputs and outcomes. During the period of grant funding, monitoring will be output-focused to evidence that projects are delivering against their agreed proposal. GBE will also require projects to provide monitoring data for up to 5 years after the funded activity, to capture longer-term outcomes (for example, to understand if the project successfully reached operation, the projects' final installed capacity, exploring the community benefits delivered).

Support Available & Contact Information

There are five Local Net Zero Hubs across England that provide free support and advice to community energy projects. These Hubs operate across the following geographical areas:

- North East & Yorkshire,
- North West,
- Midlands,
- South West,
- Greater South East

The Hubs will play a key role in the Partnerships Grant by advising prospective applicants, helping facilitate engagement between Local Authorities and community partners, and offering technical guidance before and during the application process. You are strongly encouraged to engage with your regional Hub at the earliest opportunity – they can help strengthen your proposal, provide guidance on eligibility, and connect you with resources. They might also run information webinars or workshops about the Partnerships Grant in your region.

Tip: *Get in touch with your Local Net Zero Hub as soon as you start thinking about applying – they can provide tailored advice, and review draft applications for feedback. The Hubs may facilitate introductions between organisations but will not select partners or endorse particular organisations. Many applicants to grant schemes have found early support from the Hubs improves their chances of success.*

Formal inquiries about the application process (deadlines, forms, submission) and completed applications will be handled through the designated portal or email as specified at launch. For general questions, you may contact GBE Local via localgrants@gbe.gov.uk

Always check the official GBE Local Partnerships Grant webpage, GBE.gov.uk/funding/gbe-local-partnerships-grant/ for the latest details, FAQs, and contact points. For specific local queries, the Local Net Zero Hub in your area is the best first port of call – they can escalate to the central team if needed.

By following this guidance and leveraging available support, you can craft a strong application for the Partnerships Grant. This scheme offers a unique opportunity to form new partnerships between councils and communities and turn ambitious local energy ideas into investable projects – accelerating the UK's journey toward net zero while delivering tangible benefits to local people.

Important Information Regarding the Process

- The fund will be open for applications during a single application window. If funding remains available at the end of this period, GBE may consider opening subsequent application windows.
- The size of the Fund is discretionary and is finite in size. GBE reserves the right to increase or decrease the size of the Fund at any time and for any reason.
- GBE reserves the right to extend the years of allocation at any time and for any reason.
- GBE may shorten or extend application windows and may decide to open further application windows until available funding is exhausted.
- GBE reserves the right to reject an application if an applicant refuses to disclose any information requested or does not provide information in a timely manner as requested.
- GBE reserves the right to offer an applicant a lower grant amount than that applied for.
- The Fund and grant funding awards from it are discretionary. There is no automatic entitlement to an award of funding or funding in the amount asked for.
- GBE reserves the right not to accept any application and not to make any grant and reserves the right to cancel the Fund before it has completed (whether in whole or in part) or at any time before any Grant Funding Agreement ("GFA") is agreed and executed.
- Until a GFA is agreed and executed, GBE will not be responsible for, nor will GBE make any commitment in respect of, costs that applicants may incur. Applicants are advised that they should not make any irrevocable commitments to incur project expenditure in reliance on funding by GBE at any point prior to finally executing a GFA.
- GBE is under no obligation to provide feedback to any unsuccessful applicant. However, applicants that are rejected at any step of the process outlined in this Guidance may request feedback and GBE may (at its discretion) provide feedback to the applicant based on summary comments from its assessment. There is no

set appeals process and GBE is not responsible for any costs associated with any application.

- Applicants will remain responsible for all costs and expenses incurred by them, their staff, and their advisers or by any third party acting under their instructions in connection with this competition. For the avoidance of doubt, GBE is not liable for any costs or expenditure resulting from any cancellation or amendment of this competition.
- Reasons for decisions in respect of applications will be recorded at all stages for the purposes of good administration and to ensure that there is a clear audit trail for all decisions. Administrative records will be maintained for all applications irrespective of whether they are successful or not.

Stage 1 – Assessment Criteria (Partnership Formation & Feasibility)

Scored questions will be awarded a score from 1 to 5. The descriptors below provide an overall guide to the standard of evidence expected across the questions contributing to each assessment area. For Stage 1 applications, weightings are detailed in the table below:

Assessment Criterion	Weighting
Organisational capacity and governance	**12.5%**
Project viability and deliverability	**25%**
Community ownership and benefit	**25%**
Finance, including value for money	**25%**
Risks and how they are managed	**12.5%**

Assessment Area	Weighting	We are looking for you to demonstrate	You should evidence this by providing	High-scoring response (4–5)	Medium-scoring response (3 – Minimum Fundable Score)	Low-scoring response (1–2)	Application Sections
Organisational Capacity and Governance	**12.5%**	That the Local Authority has the capability, governance arrangements, financial management processes, skills and delivery capacity required to deliver Stage 1 activities and establish an effective Local Authority-community partnership. Where a community partner has already been identified, applicants should demonstrate how proposed partners will work together. Where a community partner has not yet been identified, applicants should demonstrate a clear and proportionate approach to identifying, selecting and establishing a suitable partnership during Stage 1.	Governance arrangements, project team structure, organisational experience, financial controls, roles and responsibilities, partnership arrangements, a proposed approach to identifying, selecting and onboarding community partners, and evidence of capacity to manage public funding.	Demonstrates strong organisational capability, clear governance arrangements, appropriate skills and experience, robust financial controls and sufficient capacity to deliver the proposed Stage 1 activities. Where a community partner is identified, partnership arrangements are well developed, credible and clearly evidenced. Where a partner has not yet been identified, there is a clear, proportionate and well-evidenced approach to identifying and establishing an effective partnership during Stage 1.	Demonstrates sufficient organisational capability, governance arrangements, skills, capacity and financial controls to deliver the proposed Stage 1 activities and establish an effective Local Authority-community partnership. Some weaknesses or gaps may exist, but these are recognised and there is a credible plan to address them. Partnership arrangements, or partner identification and onboarding plans, may require further development or clarification.	Significant concerns exist regarding organisational capability, governance, financial management, delivery capacity, skills, or the applicant's ability to establish and manage an effective Local Authority-community partnership during Stage 1.	**Section 2: Project Details (**Governance, Delivery Arrangements and Partnership Arrangements questions)
Project Viability and Deliverability	**25%**	That the proposed project is appropriately scoped, represents a credible clean energy opportunity, and is capable of progressing through feasibility activities during Stage 1.	Project description, scope of work, feasibility activities, development plan, site information, technical rationale, owner engagement, planning considerations, consents and permits information. Evidence	Demonstrates a credible project opportunity with a clear route through Stage 1. Proposed activities are proportionate, well-	Demonstrates a realistic project opportunity and Stage 1 delivery approach, although some aspects require further evidence or refinement. Remaining uncertainties are appropriate for a feasibility-stage project and can	Significant uncertainties exist regarding the project concept, scope, technical feasibility, site access, planning considerations, stakeholder engagement or	**Section 2: Project Details (**Project Overview, Technical & Delivery and Project Plan questions)

			of existing or proposed stakeholder engagement, including plans for engaging landowners, communities and relevant delivery partners where relationships are not yet established.	defined and likely to generate the evidence required to inform future project development, investment or delivery decisions. The applicant demonstrates a strong understanding of the project's constraints, opportunities and development requirements.	reasonably be explored through the proposed activities.	deliverability. Alternatively, the application does not provide confidence that the proposed activities will establish whether the project can progress.	
Community Ownership and Benefit	**25%**	That the project has a credible pathway to community ownership, participation or influence and is designed to deliver lasting benefits for local communities. Where a community partner has not yet been identified, applicants should demonstrate a credible and proportionate approach to identifying relevant community organisations, engaging communities and developing community ownership, participation or benefit arrangements during Stage 1.	Information on community relationships, proposed ownership approach, community engagement plans, local support, community benefits, local need and plans for involving communities in project development.	Demonstrates strong existing community relationships and a credible pathway to community ownership, participation or influence. Where a community partner has not yet been identified, demonstrates a robust and well-evidenced approach to identifying partners and developing community engagement and ownership arrangements during Stage 1.	Demonstrates either credible existing community arrangements or a reasonable approach to developing these during Stage 1, although further work is required.	Community ownership arrangements, engagement plans, participation mechanisms or benefit proposals are poorly developed, unclear or insufficiently evidenced. The role of the community in shaping or benefitting from the project is unclear.	**Section 3: Community (**Community Partner Information; Community Engagement; Community Benefits; Ownership/Participation Approach)
Finance, Including Value for Money	**25%**	That grant funding is required, project costs are reasonable, necessary and proportionate, and that the proposal represents good value for money.	Project budget, cost breakdown, explanation of funding need, procurement approach, value-for-money information, high-level business model and evidence supporting cost assumptions.	Presents a well-justified grant request, realistic and proportionate costs, strong value for money and a convincing case that grant funding is necessary to progress the project. Costs are clearly linked to Stage 1 activities and supported by appropriate evidence.	Costs and funding requirements are broadly reasonable and proportionate, although some assumptions require further explanation, evidence or assurance. The value-for-money case is generally credible.	Significant concerns exist regarding value for money, cost assumptions, procurement approach, funding need, affordability or overall financial credibility.	**Section 4: Funding (**Funding Requirement; Financial Evidence)
Risks and How They Are Managed	**12.5%**	That key project risks have been identified, and that proportionate project management, delivery and risk management arrangements are in place.	Risk register, mitigation measures, monitoring and evaluation approach, partnership risks and procurement arrangements. Partnership development risks, including risks associated with identifying, appointing and establishing effective community partnerships where these are not already in place.	Demonstrates a clear understanding of partnership, delivery, technical, financial and project risks. Risk mitigation measures are realistic and proportionate.	Principal risks are identified and generally addressed, although some mitigations or delivery arrangements require further development.	Key risks are poorly understood, inadequately managed or missing altogether, reducing confidence in successful delivery.	**Section 5: Risks** (Delivery Risks, Risk register).

Stage 2 – Assessment Criteria (Development & Investment Readiness)

Scored questions will be awarded a score from 1 to 5. The descriptors below provide an overall guide to the standard of evidence expected across the questions contributing to each assessment area. For Stage 2 applications, weightings are detailed in the table below:

Assessment Criterion	Weighting
Organisational capacity and governance	**12.5%**
Project viability and deliverability	**25%**
Community ownership and benefit	**25%**
Finance, including value for money	**25%**
Risks and how they are managed	**12.5%**

Assessment Area	Weighting	We are looking for you to demonstrate	You should evidence this by providing	High-scoring response (4–5)	Medium-scoring response (3 – Minimum Fundable Score)	Low-scoring response (1–2)	Application Sections Assessed
Organisational Capacity and Governance	**12.5%**	That the Local Authority-community partnership has the capability, expertise, governance arrangements, financial controls and organisational capacity needed to deliver development-stage activities and progress the project towards investment readiness.	Formal partnership arrangements, governance structures, project team information, adviser appointments, delivery experience, roles and responsibilities, organisational capacity and financial management arrangements.	Demonstrates a strong, formalised partnership with appropriate governance arrangements, experienced personnel, relevant expertise, robust financial controls and sufficient capacity to manage development-stage activity and public funding.	Demonstrates sufficient capability, governance arrangements, expertise, organisational capacity and financial controls to deliver the proposed work. Some weaknesses or gaps may exist, but these are recognised and there is a credible plan to address them.	Significant concerns exist regarding governance, delivery capability, partnership arrangements, financial controls, expertise or organisational capacity to progress the project.	**Section 2: Project Details (**governance and capability questions within Project Overview); **Section 3: Community (**partnership governance questions).
Project Viability and Deliverability	**25%**	That the project is sufficiently developed, technically credible and capable of progressing towards investment readiness.	Detailed project scope, development programme, technical studies, site agreements, planning work, grid information, permits, surveys and development activities.	Demonstrates a well-developed project with a clear pathway to investment readiness. Technical, land, planning, consenting and delivery risks are substantially understood and managed. The proposed activities are likely to address remaining development requirements and support progression towards investment readiness.	Demonstrates a broadly deliverable project with a realistic route to investment readiness, although some issues remain to be resolved. Remaining uncertainties are understood and can realistically be addressed through the proposed development activities.	Significant uncertainties remain regarding the project's technical feasibility, planning position, site access, development requirements or ability to reach investment readiness.	**Section 2: Project Details (**project scope questions within Project Overview; Technical & Delivery).
Community Ownership and Benefit	**25%**	That community ownership arrangements are well developed and embedded within the project, and that	Ownership structure, partnership arrangements, community engagement	Demonstrates strong and credible community ownership arrangements, meaningful	Demonstrates a reasonable ownership and community	Community ownership, engagement or	**Section 3: Community (**Community; Community Energy Partner).

		meaningful community benefits will be delivered.	evidence, governance arrangements, community benefit proposals and supporting information.	community involvement in project development and decision-making, and clearly defined community benefits. The role of the community and the pathway to ownership are well evidenced and realistic.	benefit approach, although some arrangements require further development before investment readiness is achieved.	benefit arrangements are unclear, weakly evidenced or insufficiently developed. Alternatively, the community's role in the project is uncertain or poorly defined.	
Finance, Including Value for Money	**25%**	That the project has a suitable business model, realistic financial plan, strong value for money and a credible route to securing future funding.	Financial model, project budget, cost evidence, funding strategy, procurement information, future funding plans and explanation of grant need.	Demonstrates a robust financial case, realistic assumptions, strong value for money and a credible route to securing future investment and delivery funding. Costs are well evidenced, proportionate and clearly linked to project outcomes.	Financial arrangements are broadly credible and achievable, although some aspects require clarification, further evidence or confirmation. The overall value-for-money case remains reasonable.	Significant concerns exist regarding financial viability, affordability, value for money, cost assumptions or the ability to secure future funding.	**Section 4: Funding (**Funding, Funding Requirement)
Risks and How They Are Managed	**12.5%**	That the project has robust project management arrangements and a comprehensive understanding of delivery risks.	Risk register, mitigation actions, monitoring and evaluation approach, procurement plan and delivery programme.	Demonstrates a comprehensive and proportionate understanding of the principal risks and uncertainties affecting the proposed partnership activity or project pipeline. Risks are clearly assessed, with credible mitigation measures, named or clearly assigned owners, and appropriate consideration of residual risk. Critical and high-rated risks are actively managed. successfully.	Principal risks are identified and generally managed, although some mitigations or delivery arrangements require further development.	Risks are inadequately identified or managed, reducing confidence that the project can successfully progress towards delivery or investment readiness.	**Section 5: Risks** (Delivery Risks, Risk Register).

Annex

Annex 1 – Assessment and decision-making

Applications will be assessed against the published assessment criteria set out in this guidance. Each scored question within the application form will be awarded a score between 1 and 5 based on the quality of the response and supporting evidence provided. Question scores will be combined to produce scores for each assessment area, which will then be weighted to reflect their importance to the objectives of the Fund. Applications that pass the initial assessment will be ranked according to their overall weighted assessment score.

Score	Description
1	The response does not adequately address the question. Significant weaknesses, omissions or concerns remain.
2	The response addresses the question only in part. Important information is missing, unclear or insufficiently explained.
3	The response adequately addresses the question and provides sufficient information for assessment. Any weaknesses are not material.
4	The response addresses the question well and provides relevant and convincing information.
5	The response addresses the question comprehensively and provides clear, convincing and well-supported information.

Funding for both stages will be allocated on a competitive basis. The allocation processes for Stage 1 and Stage 2 will ensure each Local Net Zero Hub region receives a minimum level of funding. For each of these Stages, funding will initially be allocated on a region-by-region basis, allocating to the highest scoring applications from each region first, followed by the next highest, until the portion of the Stage's funding budget reserved for a region is exhausted. The remaining funding budget for each Stage will then be allocated on an all-regions basis, again allocating in descending score order until the funding budget is exhausted. GBE will be able to transfer any unallocated funding budgets for Stage 1 and Stage 2 between regions and between these Stages.

Funding will normally be offered to the highest-scoring applications until the available budget for that application window has been allocated. Where two or more applications receive the same overall weighted assessment score and there is insufficient funding to support all of them, GBE will apply the following tie-break sequence:

- The application with the higher score for Project Viability and Deliverability.
- If applications remain tied, the application with the higher score for Community Ownership and Benefit.
- If applications remain tied at this stage, the application requesting the lower amount of funding will be funded.

Applications recommended for funding following assessment will be shortlisted for due diligence. Shortlisting does not guarantee funding and does not create any entitlement to receive funding. Applicants recommended for funding must successfully complete all due diligence checks before any funding offer can be made, and all funding offers are at the discretion of GBE. Applications that are not shortlisted for due diligence will be notified of the outcome of their application and may receive feedback.

GBE reserves the right to offer a lower amount of funding than requested, where appropriate, and any funding offer will remain subject to completion of due diligence and agreement of a Grant Funding Agreement.

As this is a competitive fund with limited available budget, applications are encouraged to demonstrate a strong and compelling case across all assessment areas.

Annex 2 - How to Apply

Online Portal Applications must be submitted via the online application portal, available here. When completing the first stage of the application, organisations will be able to create a login and an application reference which will be used throughout all stages of the application. The person who submits the first stage of the application must be the person submitting all stages of the application as their email address will be used to access the site.

The online application allows for collaborators to be added by selecting 'invite collaborators' under the 'manage application' heading. The email address of the person who submits the first stage of the application should be monitored for communications related to the application. GBE is fully committed to ensuring applicants are supported throughout the application process, and that applicants' questions are answered at each stage. If applicants require any further clarification or information relating to their application, please email LocalGrants@gbe.gov.uk and GBE will endeavour to respond as soon as possible.

GBE Local will publish an online Q&A encompassing all questions asked, which will be located at https://www.gbe.gov.uk/.

Privacy Notice

The Privacy Notice sets out how personal data will be processed. To continue with the application, the applicant must confirm that they have read the Privacy Notice.

Disclosure of Information

This section provides information relating to GBE's obligations (including the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA), UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR)) in the event that a request for information is received. More information on the FOIA and EIR (including information on exemptions) can be found at: https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/.

Applicants are required to co-operate with GBE in the provision of such information relating to GBE's mandatory reporting obligations.-Great British Energy (GBE) is subject to a range of legal obligations relating to information and data handling, including the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA), UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR).

Applicants may be required to provide information to support GBE's statutory reporting and disclosure obligations and are expected to co-operate with reasonable requests for information.

Where GBE receives a request for information pertaining to an application, applicant, project of third party, it will consider the request in accordance with the applicable legislation and will determine whether any information should be disclosed or withheld. Further information about FOIA and EIR can be found on the Information Commissioner's Office website.

Annex 3 - Application Portal FAQ's

Can I save the application as I go?

Yes, you can save the application responses as you work on the application. You can view progress against different sections of the application form which will show as completed, in progress or not started.

I haven't received the account confirmation email

Check your spam folder. Add the portal email address to your safe senders list. The address is noreply@GBELocalPartnerships.energysecurity.gov.uk. You can then get the confirmation email to be resent by logging in again. If you think you may have mistyped your email address when creating your account, contact localgrants@gbe.gov.uk

I have forgotten my password

Use the forgotten password link on the login page.

My account is locked out

You may have entered an incorrect password too many times. If you know your password, wait for 10 minutes then try logging in again. You may not have an account associated with the email address you are trying to login with. Use the forgotten password link on the login page.

I am unable to create an account

You may already have an account, possibly from another scheme. Log in using the details you used to create the account originally. If you have forgotten your password, use the forgotten password link on the login page.

I am unable to log in

The email address you are entering on the login page may not match the email you used to create an account. Create an account via the link on the login page.

I am unable to complete the two-factor authentication stage when logging in

Log in using a recovery code:

1. Log in using your usual email address and password
2. When asked for a two-factor authentication code, click the link to "log in with a recovery code" instead of entering a code in the box
3. Enter a recovery code when asked.

You should now be logged in to your account If you did not make a note of your recovery codes when you first created your account, or you have lost them, contact LocalGrants@gbe.gov.uk.

After logging in with a recovery code, reset your authentication method:

1. Click on the “Account details” link in the top right corner
2. Click the “Two-factor authentication” link on the left side
3. Click the “Reset authentication method” link
4. Click the “Reset authentication” button and follow the instructions to set up an account for the portal in your authenticator app (as you did when you first created your account).

When complete, you will be able to use your authenticator app codes to log in as before. If you did not make a note of your recovery codes when you originally created your account, or you have lost them, it is recommended that you generate and make a note of new codes after logging in as above. You can do this by going to the “Account details” link, then going to “Two-factor authentication”, then “Reset recovery codes”.