



## **Solar Farm Grant 2026 – Criteria and Conditions**

Please ensure that you have read this document in full and feel that your project is suitable for this grant before completing your application.

### **What is the Solar Farm Grant?**

1. The Solar Farm Grant is a grant given by Lightsource BP, the owners of Hafod-y-Dafal Solar Farm, to Abertillery and Llanhilleth Community Council (ALCC).
2. They award an amount to ALCC depending on the amount of electricity generated at the Hafod-y-Dafal Solar Farm on an annual basis.
3. The grant is not for the Council's use. It is for Community Organisations; the Council only administer the process.
4. It is for the Council (as the elected representative body closest to local communities) to decide how to allocate the grant to local community projects, groups or organisations.
5. The funding is to be allocated to projects which are sustainable, have a lasting legacy so the benefits are shown over a number of years, are environmental in nature and are for wide community benefit.
6. ALCC require evidence (reports and photos) that any money granted has been spent in the manner envisaged and that the stated community benefits have been achieved.
7. Any grant from the Council (including Solar Farm Grants) must help local communities and organisations improve the wellbeing of local people. This includes health, environmental and mental wellbeing for any age and social group – there is no strict definition.

### **Solar Farm Grant Process:**

1. Lightsource BP informs ALCC of how much funding is available for the following year.
2. Lightsource BP asks ALCC to decide how to allocate the funding.
3. ALCC agrees how to allocate the funding and seeks agreement from Lightsource BP.
4. If Lightsource BP agrees, it pays the funding to ALCC.
5. ALCC distributes the funding, monitors the spending and reports back to Lightsource BP.
6. This document describing the process and criteria, and the application form, will be issued to all ALCC Councillors and placed on the Council's website.
7. Interested groups must supply their completed form and required supporting documents by 12pm on June 30<sup>th</sup> 2026.
8. The Council will meet in September 2026 to decide which application(s) to approve.
9. A suitable representative from the group may be requested to attend to answer questions.
10. Payment will be issued as soon as practicable to the successful organisation(s).

### **Eligibility Criteria:**

- Grant recipients must be based in, or operate substantially in, the Abertillery & Llanhilleth Community Council area. The majority of members it serves should live in the area.
- Applications will not normally be considered from national organisations or local groups with access to funds from national 'umbrella' or 'parent' organisations, unless funds are not available from their national bodies, or the funds available are inadequate for a specified project.



- Grants will not be awarded:
  - To organisation(s) that have received a Solar Farm Grant within the last five years, unless in exceptional circumstances;
  - To groups without their own bank account;
  - To profit organisations/businesses (Community Interest Companies are eligible);
  - To informal groups;
  - To individuals;
  - To religious organisations, unless the grant benefits the wider community without regards to religion;
  - To schools, unless the grant is for extra-curriculars (i.e. not covered by the school's budget) and is paid direct to supplier by the Council;
  - Retrospectively, for costs already incurred;
  - Towards running costs, unless in exceptional circumstances;
  - On an ongoing basis (e.g. annually) ;
  - To any cause which the Council considers inappropriate or in opposition to its aims.

#### **Conditions:**

- The minimum grant amount is £5,000, and the maximum is £35,000.
- Grant applications must be submitted on our application form. Grant applications in a different format will not be considered.
- The council will not reclaim VAT on any grants awarded.
- Grant applications will be reviewed in the first instance by Council's officers, to ensure the form is completed correctly and the applicant is eligible. Applications which do not meet the eligibility criteria will not be considered by Council or the relevant committee.
- Grant recipients should acknowledge the support given by ALCC in any advertising, programmes or other publicity for an event.
- Grant recipients should mention ALCC in any social media posts relating to the grant funding.
- ALCC will send grant recipients relevant assets such as logos and social media links upon confirmation of the grant allocation.
- Grants are awarded at the discretion of ALCC and we must have the legal power to incur the spending.
- In the event of any activity or service funded by a grant from the Council not proceeding, ALCC is entitled to require repayment of some or all of the grant.
- In the event that a grant recipient wishes to use the funding for a different purpose than it was awarded for, they must not spend the funding and should submit a new grant application to re-allocate it for the new purpose.
- In the event of grant funding being used for purposes other than which the grant was awarded for, ALCC is entitled to require repayment of some or all of the grant.
- In the event that a grant recipient is successful in securing funding from a different source for the same project, ALCC may request repayment of some or all of the grant.
- If requested, grant recipients must provide a completed Grants Completion and Feedback Report detailing how the funding was spent. Council will not consider further grant applications from the organisation if this report is not received, unless in exceptional circumstances.