

Argyll and Kintyre 275kV Local Fund – Community Briefing Document & Survey

Document Classification | Public



Our Argyll and Kintyre 275kV Local Fund

Our Approach to Community Benefit

SSEN Transmission welcomes UK Government Guidance, released on 10 March 2025, on the delivery of Community Funds for Transmission Infrastructure. Since the release of the guidance, we have been working hard to ensure that the outlined requirements will be appropriately embedded into our future fund delivery. Full information on our approach, including FAQs, can be found on our <u>website</u>.

What is the Argyll and Kintyre 275kV Local Fund?

The Argyll and Kintyre 275kV Strategy is a series of projects aimed at increasing our network capability across Argyll and Kintyre, enabling the exporting of electricity to the wider GB transmission network.

The Community Benefit Fund associated with these projects is aimed specifically at communities who are situated close to the infrastructure and will be developed in partnership with these communities. This is the first Local Fund to be designed in accordance with the UK Government Guidance on Community Funds for Transmission Infrastructure, released in March 2025.

The <u>Argyll and Kintyre 275kV Local Fund</u> supersedes the Inveraray – Crossaig 275kV Overhead Line Local Fund, which was announced ahead of the release of the UK Government Guidance. The total value of the Inveraray – Crossaig 275kV Overhead Line Local Fund (£203,000) now forms part of the total value of the Argyll and Kintyre 275kV Local Fund, as detailed below.

What is the Fund Value?

The fund value, as per <u>UK Government Guidance</u>, is made up of community benefit funding associated with the infrastructure of the following projects:

- Inveraray Crossaig 275kV Overhead Line
- Crarae Substation
- An Suidhe Substation
- Craig Murrail Substation
- · Creag Dhubh to Dalmally Overhead Line
- Creag Dhubh to Inveraray Overhead Line

The current total lifetime value of the Argyll and Kintyre 275kV Local Fund will therefore be £3,268,000. As per our fund delivery approach, the remaining funding associated with these projects will be allocated to the Regional Fund.

Community Engagement

It is important to us that our local funds are designed in collaboration with the communities within that local area, ensuring that the funding is distributed to have the maximum possible impact.

We are pleased to be launching our community engagement activity for the Kintyre Local Fund in September 2025. We would welcome thoughts and views of all community members who live and work throughout the Kintyre peninsula and surrounding area, particularly those who are situated close to the infrastructure. The aims of this community engagement activity is to define:

- The area of benefit for the fund (i.e. where the funding should be available)
- The priorities for the fund (i.e. what is most important to your community and how should the money be best used)
- The structure of the fund (i.e. how many years the fund should be available and what level of funding should be available for projects)

Area Map



More Information

For more information, please see the following website resources:



Argyll and Kintyre Local Fund



SSEN Transmission Community Benefit Approach



UK Government Guidance on Community Funds for Transmission Infrastructure

You can also speak to our dedicated Community Investment Team by emailing: community.benefit@sse.com

Feedback Survey

General

What is your connection to the Kintyre area? (live in the area / work in the area)	
If you live in the area, please provide a Post Code or details of which Community Council area you live in.	
Are you a member of or involved in running any local community organisation(s)? If so, please name the organisation(s).	
Priorities	
What do you like most about your community?	
For example, what is good about living and working in the area? What things most need to be protected for the future?	
What do you think are the challenges for your community in the future? What would make your community a better place to live and work?	
In your view, what are the key community priorities for the area?	☐ Cycle / Footpaths
Please choose a maximum of 3 priorities.	☐ Transport
	☐ Broadband connectivity☐ Green Spaces / Nature
	☐ Amenities / Local Services, e.g. community shop,
	community centre activities □ Education
	☐ Employment and Skills

	☐ Heritage and Culture
	☐ Community Infrastructure, e.g. village hall redevelopment
	□ Tourist Services
	☐ Housing
	☐ Health and Wellbeing
	☐ Youth Engagement
	□ Social networks for older people
	☐ Carbon footprint / Climate Change
	☐ Other
If you have selected 'Other', please provide further details of what you believe the key community priorities are. Why have you chosen these as your priorities?	
Community Capacity	
In your view, does the local area have the relevant organisations to support in progressing community projects? E.g. Community Councils, Community Trusts, local charities.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure Please provide reasons where possible and name any relevant organisations.

Fund Structure

Where do you think Community Benefit Funding should be available? This is defined as the area of benefit.	
How much money do you believe should be	☐ Microgrants (up to £500)
available for individual projects? (Please tick as appropriate)	\square Small scale community projects (up to £10,000)
	☐ Medium scale community projects (up to £100,000)
	☐ Large scale community projects, e.g. capital
	redevelopment (up to £500,000)
Please provide reasoning for your answer above.	
above.	
How long do you believe community benefit	☐ 1-2 years (aiming to fund large scale projects)
should be available? (Please tick as	☐ 3-5 years
appropriate)	☐ 6-10 years (funding smaller projects over a longer
	period)
What types of projects should be prioritised for funding?	☐ Capital projects (e.g. the purchasing or renovation of a community building)
	☐ Revenue (e.g. community group staff costs, events and activities)
	□ Both
Please provide reasoning for your answer above.	

Additional Comments

Please provide any additional comments	
you may have on the Local Fund, that has	
not been covered in previous questions.	

Personal Information

Your answers to the following questions will help us understand the view of different groups of people. You do not need to provide any personal details that could identify you if you do not wish. In that case, please select the "Prefer not to say" option, or leave the box blank.

	·
Name	
Email Address	
Which age band are you in?	☐ Under 16
	□ 16 to 24
	□ 25 to 34
	□ 35 to 44
	□ 45 to 54
	□ 55 to 64
	□ 65+
	☐ Prefer not to say
How do you describe your gender?	☐ Male
	□ Female
	□ Other
	☐ Prefer not to say
Are you happy for us to contact you again	□ Yes
in the future to further discuss your provided answers?	□ No

Form Return

Please return this form by the end of Friday 10 October.

These forms can be returned in two ways:

- Via email to community.benefit@sse.com
- Via post to the following address:

FAO Laura Read-Norrie SSE 10 Henderson Road Inverness IV1 1SN

Once all consultation responses have been gathered, we will produce a fund proposal document, to be reviewed by key community representatives. This fund proposal will take into account all discussions throughout the consultation process, as well as desk-based research (e.g. reviewing of local authority and community plans). Once agreed, all fund proposal information will be made available on our website, with a view of launching the fund in early 2026.