

Leader aims to use innovative methods to assist communities in addressing the need in their areas by developing basic services, creating sustainable, resilient communities and improving the local environment.

Projects should be community led, respond to community need and be able to sustain themselves long term, after funding has ceased.



Final Tip.....

An important consideration is that all projects should be linked to the Local Development Strategy. This outlines the needs, objectives and some potential actions under each of the five themes. You can download this document at: www.valeofusk.org

Are you looking for funding to support a community renewable energy or energy efficiency project in Monmouthshire or Newport? If so, we'd love to hear from you.

Please let us know by using the contact form at www.valeofusk.org

One of our officers will contact you to advise further. Alternatively ring Mark Lloyd, Rural Programmes Co-ordinator on 01633 644865.

For more information on the community renewable energy and other themes under Leader please visit our website:

www.valeofusk.org



COMMUNITY RENEWABLE ENERGY + ENERGY EFFICIENCY



Funding opportunities in The Vale of Usk



What types of projects can be funded?

The funding is called 'Leader' and is based on five main themes. 'Community led renewable energy' covers a broad area and we can consider any ideas that focus on reducing carbon footprint, energy conservation, renewable energy, sustainable transport, fuel poverty, community growing or composting.

Leader is revenue money so is unable to fund large items of capital expenditure such as buildings, equipment, land etc. Here are some examples:

- Raising awareness of renewable energy initiatives, e.g. visits to find out more about energy technologies.
- Feasibility studies, e.g. for a community micro hydro scheme.

- Energy audits, e.g. on community halls to identify current energy use and ways this can be reduced.
- Ideas around community or sustainable transport.
- Ideas around promoting a low energy approach to visitors such as incentives to use more sustainable forms of transport, provision of electric vehicle charging points at attractions.
- Projects that support the reduction of fuel poverty within the Vale of Usk.
- Projects that use community benefits from renewable energy to reduce poverty.
- Projects that support businesses to become more energy efficient.
- Projects that use natural resources to deliver local solutions.
- Engagement activities to provide renewable energy information to land owners and rural businesses.
- Fuel sourcing from community woodlands, setting up of community composting centres, fuel or food buying cooperatives.

Who can apply?

Applications can come from community groups, social enterprises or businesses. Ideas are also welcome from individuals.

Area covered

Projects located in the 'Vale of Usk' covering Monmouthshire and the rural parts of Newport.

Funding amount

There is no set minimum or maximum amount although as a guide we're looking at projects averaging around £10K - £15K.

Leader can fund up to 80% of total project costs with a minimum 20% match funding which can be cash, equipment or provided in-kind through volunteer time.



Hydro scheme at Osbaston, Monmouth