

Current Funding Opportunities

Updated 1st November 2009

Note: this list is not exhaustive

1. Low Carbon Buildings Programme (LCBP)

The Government funded Low Carbon Buildings Programme is in two Phases; LCBP-1 is for Householders and LCBP-2 is for Schools, Churches, community and other not-for-profit organisations. The Programme is UK-wide.

The Programme has been extended with an additional £45million announced in Budget 2009.

Phase 1 provides grants of up to £2,500 for householder installations (managed by the Energy Savings Trust)

Phase 2 provides grants of up to 50% for microgeneration technologies to public sector and non-profit sector organisations, including housing associations to a maximum of £200,000 (managed by BRE)

The funding can be used for the supply and installation of any combination of the following microgeneration technologies:

- Solar thermal hot water
- Heat pumps
- Automated wood pellet stoves
- Wood fuelled boiler systems
- Micro hydro turbines
- Solar photovoltaic's
- Wind turbines

Applications for funding are now being accepted until the end of March 2010 for electrical and heat microgeneration and until March 2011 for thermal energy

For more details call the LCBP2 helpline on 08704 23 23 13 or visit the website:
www.lowcarbonbuildings.org.uk

2. Technology Strategy Board: User centred design for energy efficiency in buildings

The Technology Strategy Board (TSB) is calling for participants for a five-day 'sandpit' to explore the challenge of reducing the demand for energy in non-domestic buildings. The TSB have allocated £2m to fund projects that arise from the sandpit.

Potential applicants need to register and sign into the TSB website www.technologyprogramme.org.uk to download the application form and guidance documents. The deadline for applications is noon on 17 December 2009. If you have any queries, contact the TSB competition helpline on 01355 272155.

3. Energy-efficient Buildings: new European funding for retrofitting

The European Commission, together with E2B Associations (an international non-for-profit industrial association) has launched a new Public-Private Partnership, **Energy-efficient Buildings**, for the construction sector to contribute towards a more green and sustainable economy.

The first research projects are expected to start in the spring of 2010. The deadline for submitting projects was 3rd November 2009.

In order to secure the liaison between E2BA and Member States, seven National Liaison Points (NLPs) have been established. If you wish to submit a project or know more about the E2B initiative, we recommend you contact Ms Marta Fernandez (ARUP) (marta.fernandez@arup.com) who is the UK contact.

Further information

E2B Association www.e2b-ei.eu

Visit the CORDIS website

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7DetailsCallPage&call_id=290 to download the work programme, the call for proposals and other relevant documents needed for the preparation of projects proposals (external website)

Some project ideas have been presented in order to facilitate the partner search - download a **presentation** http://ec.europa.eu/research/industrial_technologies/pdf/brokerage/br-energy-efficient-buildings-brokerage-presentations-13072009.pdf

and **Project Fiches** http://ec.europa.eu/research/industrial_technologies/pdf/brokerage/br-eeb-project-ideas-total.pdf

4. CERT Funding

What is CERT?

The Carbon Emissions Reduction Target (CERT) - came into force on the 1 April 2008 and will run until 2011. The programme sets an obligation on energy suppliers, with 50,000 or more domestic customers to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, by promoting energy efficiency and micro renewables to domestic energy users.

The Government has set a CERT target of 154 million tonnes (lifetime) of CO₂ – this target is divided between the obligated suppliers according to the number of domestic customers they supply electricity and gas to. The Government estimates the new obligation will stimulate around £2.8 billion investment by energy suppliers in carbon reduction measures.

In September 2008 the Government announced plans to legislate to require energy companies and generators to provide an additional £910 million towards the National Home Energy Saving Programme – it is expected that £560 million of this additional funding will be added to the existing CERT scheme – this equates to a 20% increase in the CERT target placed on obligated suppliers.

CERT replaces the old Energy Efficiency Commitment 2005-2008 (EEC2) programme which ended 31 March 2008 – The CERT target is equivalent to double the old EEC2 target.

CERT is a carbon dioxide target rather than an energy target – this allows for suppliers to promote a wider range of initiatives.

What Measures Can CERT Fund?

Under CERT, measures can be provided to any domestic household in Great Britain that is heated by gas, electricity, coal, oil or LPG. Eligible measures include:

- Wall cavity and loft insulation
- Lighting
- Heating (excluding standard boiler replacements)
- Appliances
- Innovative measures including micro-generation, biomass community heating etc

Ofgem have found that the majority of carbon reduction savings under the CERT scheme, since it began in April, have come from insulation and lighting measures. Heating schemes account for a very small proportion of the savings achieved so far.

Who can CERT funding help?

Energy suppliers have a Priority Group obligation to meet under CERT – this equates to 40% of the individual suppliers overall contribution. The Priority Group includes those aged 70 and over and low income households (those in receipt of relevant benefits / tax credits)

Suppliers have some flexibility on how they reach their 40% Priority Group obligation and overall target. For example, they can direct activity at those in the priority group most likely to be in hard to treat homes – by promoting ground source heat pumps and solid wall insulation they can achieve up to 5% of their overall CERT obligation via this route and receive an uplift on the savings made.

Innovative Projects

Under CERT innovative actions can count towards 6% of the suppliers' obligation or 8% were at least 2% micro-generation is delivered. Innovative actions include:

Those which aim to transform the market: those items not already covered by the programme with an aim of getting these approaches mainstreamed - an uplift of 50 per cent additional energy savings is available to obligated suppliers on market transformation actions which include micro-generation

Demonstration projects: a proportion of suppliers' obligation can be met through carrying out demonstration projects, to trial new types of measures or to assess customer reactions to information or measures

How can housing associations access CERT funds?

CERT obligated suppliers can work with Social Housing Providers to deliver energy efficiency measures to households within the social housing sector. For the purpose of CERT the term "social housing providers (SHP)" refers to borough councils, city councils, housing associations and registered social landlords.

Read the National Housing Federation's **Get Grant Funding** leaflet

www.housing.org.uk/Uploads/File/our%20views/Environment/NHF%20GET%20GRANT%20FUNDING.pdf about CERT funding for housing associations

The obligated suppliers provide the funding for the installation or distribution of measures. Obligated suppliers are not limited to offering measures to their own consumers - they can partner with other organisations for the distribution of measures or to encourage the uptake of measures. Ofgem must approve schemes where a CERT obligated supplier partners with a SHP.

To obtain funds under CERT housing providers should contact an obligated supplier. At present these are:

- British Gas
- EDF Energy
- Npower
- Powergen
- Scottish and Southern Energy
- Scottish Power

5. Community Energy Saving Programme (CESP)

Background

On 11 September 2008 the Prime Minister announced the launch of the £1bn Home Energy Saving Programme aimed at helping families to permanently cut their energy bills. A key part of the announcement was the creation of a new £350m Community Energy Saving Programme (CESP) aimed at helping households in areas of low income.

CESP targets households across Great Britain, in given geographical areas, to improve energy efficiency standards, and permanently reduce fuel bills. There are 4,500 areas eligible for CESP. CESP is funded by a new obligation on energy suppliers and, for the first time, an obligation on electricity generators. A list of eligible areas is contained in the Communities: areas of low income document.

CESP promotes a "whole house" approach i.e. a package of energy efficiency measures best suited to the individual property. The programme is delivered through the development of community-based partnerships between Local Authorities (LAs), community groups and energy companies, via a house-by-house, street-by-street approach. This partnership working allows CESP to be implemented in a way that is best suited to individual areas and coordinated with other local and national initiatives. Around 100 schemes are expected, benefiting around 90,000 homes and saving nearly 2.9m tonnes of CO2 emissions. CESP is expected to deliver annual average fuel bill savings for those households involved of up to £300.

A public consultation exercise on CESP ran for 3 months to 8 May 2009. A total of 183 responses were received which were broadly very positive. More detailed information on the consultation and CESP in general can be found on the consultation on Community Energy Saving Programme (CESP) web page.

Recent developments

CESP commenced on 1 September 2009. The first 10 CESP areas were announced by British Gas on 21 October 2009. They intend to work in the following local authority areas: Birmingham, Walsall, Dundee, Glasgow, Preston, Knowsley in Merseyside, Swansea, Blacon in Cheshire, and the London Boroughs of Haringey and Southwark.

For further information contact: steve.ives@decc.gsi.gov.uk

6. BRE Funding

BRE, as a partner of the Big Lottery Fund, is running the Community Sustainable Energy Programme (CSEP).

This is an open grants programme that will provide £8 million to community-based organisations for the installation of micro-generation technologies, such as solar panels or wind turbines and energy efficiency measures including loft and cavity wall insulation.

It will also provide £1 million for project development grants that will help community organisations establish if a micro-generation and energy efficiency installation will work for them.

It aims to achieve the following outcomes:

- Reduction in CO2 emissions
- Increased community awareness of climate change and how changes to our behaviour can reduce it
- Increased skills base of local trades (for example, local builders and building-service subcontractors working on renewable energy projects for the first time)
- Reduction in energy bills
- Reduction in reliance on imported energy and increased independence from commercial energy suppliers
- Stronger partnerships within local communities with lasting social benefits
- Growth of local enterprise in new technologies

Not-for-profit housing associations are encouraged to apply. Capital grants will be awarded on a competitive basis at quarterly Selection Panel meetings. Project Development grants will be awarded on a first-come first-served basis until all funds are spent.

This programme has a rolling programme of funding rounds, with each round lasting approximately three months. The deadlines for each funding round are as follows:

Funding round	Application deadline	Selection panel meeting
5	Friday 1 May 2009	10 June 2009
6	Friday 7 August 2009	16 September 2009
7	Friday 30 October 2009	9 December 2009
8	Friday 29 January 2010	w/c 1 March 2010
9	Friday 7 May 2010	w/c 7 June 2010
10	Friday 30 July 2010	w/c 6 September 2010
11	Friday 29 October 2010	w/c 29 November 2010

More information is available at the Community Sustainable Energy Programme website www.communitysustainable.org.uk

7. Defra Greener Living Fund

Defra has launched a new £6m fund to promote 'greener living'.

The fund is available to support projects influencing 'pro-environmental behaviours in the wider population', with the main delivery phase running between April 2009 and March 2011.

We have been advised that housing associations (or groups) operating nationally may be eligible to apply for funding, however only a 'small number' of national delivery partners will be selected. Successful applicants will need to demonstrate that they have the ability and reach to influence behavioural change at a grass roots level.

More information about the fund and how to apply is available at www.greenerlivingfund.org.uk/

UPDATE 23 Feb 2009

The National Energy Foundation <http://www.nef.org.uk/> are looking for housing associations interested in taking part in their *Old Home Superhome* project, which aims to open up at least 20 eco-renovated homes for public viewing.

These open houses will be used to educate, inspire and call to action members of the public and other interested parties to replicate the methods undertaken. Only renovations that have achieved a minimum 60 percent energy reduction will be used.

Any housing associations interested in this project should contact **Gabby Mallett**, (gabby.mallett@nef.org.uk) Head of Communities at the National Energy Foundation for more information.

8. Technology Strategy Board

The government funded Technology Strategy Board (TSB) has released details of two forthcoming competitions for funding.

Design for Future Climate

This competition is planned to design buildings for comfort, quality of life and low environmental impact, meeting current targets and also addressing the UK Climate Impacts Programme best predictions of climate in 2050.

The Technology Strategy Board is set to invest £5 million in the competition, and they will be holding a workshop on 13 October 2009 at their Innovate09 event. Further information is available on the **Technology Strategy Board** website <http://www.innovateuk.org/ourstrategy/innovationplatforms/lowimpactbuilding/lowimpactbuildingcompetitions.ashx>

Demonstrator Monitoring

This competition will enable companies constructing 'demonstrator' buildings, both domestic and non domestic, to apply for funding to monitor building performance, enabling comparison with predicted performance. The Technology Strategy Board is set to invest £10 million in the competition, and is working with the zero carbon hub to develop a standard evaluation protocol to provide key performance information. Developers will receive grant funding in exchange for agreeing to monitor against the protocol and to share anonymised data.

9. Salix Finance

Salix is an independent, publicly funded company set up to accelerate public sector investment in energy efficiency technologies through invest to save schemes.

Salix has public funding from the Carbon Trust (www.carbontrust.co.uk) and is working across the public sector with Local Authorities, NHS Foundation Trusts, Higher and Further Education Institutions and Central Government.

They can enable Public Sector bodies to **improve energy efficiency, attain targets, reduce energy bills and raise green credentials**. We do this by using long term, ring fenced, interest free conditional grants to make carbon saving projects happen in the public sector.

Their focus is on supporting basic projects. In general all projects pay for themselves within 50% of their useful life so real energy bill savings are seen in the organisation

Loans: Latest News

The Government, in partnership with Salix Finance and the Carbon Trust will provide £51.5 million in interest free funding to help public sector organisations take advantage of energy efficiency technology.

The loans scheme has now had 2 calls for applications which have both been highly successful with in excess of 500 projects being accepted for funding.

The next call is now open and has a closing date of 31st December 2009. You do not need to wait until the closing date to submit your application as it will be processed within 2 weeks of receipt of all the necessary documentation. This means that the sooner you send in an application meeting the agreed criteria, the sooner you will have a confirmed loan.

Loans will be available for around 80 different energy efficiency technologies, including building insulation, boiler and lighting upgrades and IT energy efficiency improvements.

Projects must deliver energy efficiency benefits and comply with the following criteria:

- Maximum 5 year payback period.
- £100/tCO₂ lifetime basis.
- Payback of projects implemented must be shorter than the expected life of the building or the technology must be transferable.
- If the expected lifetime of the building is shorter than the expected lifetime of the technology, then the compliancy calculation will be based on the shorter of the two.
- Projects must be seen as being additional and not mandatory.

Domestic, residential and transport projects are not covered by this scheme.

Local Authorities: Latest News

Salix is looking to receive applications from LAs wishing to join the programme and for potential applicants to complete and register. The next closing date for applications is 1st December, 2009.

The Schools Energy Efficiency Improvement Programme can help you fund energy efficiency improvements with an interest-free loan that you can repay from the savings you make.

NHS TRUSTS:

Salix confirm that after a successful pilot they have now moved our NHS Trust Pilot to a full programme. The scheme is now open to all NHS trusts following a policy directive issued by Department of Health.

Salix is looking to receive expressions of interest from NHS Trusts wishing to join the programme and for potential applicants to complete and register.

For further information please email info@salixfinance.co.uk or call their offices on 020 3043 8800.

Central Government: Latest News

Salix Energy Efficiency Funding Scheme

Budget 2009 announced additional financial assistance for the public sector to invest in energy saving projects. Salix has been chosen to manage this programme in England. £51.5m will be available to fund energy saving projects across the public sector estate.

The final closing date for the scheme will be 31 December 2009, however they would advise any potential applicants to submit their application as soon as is possible to gain greater benefit from the potential energy savings.

The programme was launched on Wednesday 10 June 2009 by the Minister for Energy and Climate Change Joan Ruddock MP, who stated that: "Following the announcement of our ambitious carbon budgets, all public sector organisations should lead by example by pioneering ways to reduce carbon emissions. I hope that every school, hospital and fire station will look into projects they can undertake, and use this funding opportunity."

The Government, in partnership with Salix Finance and the Carbon Trust will provide £51.5 million in interest free funding to help public sector organisations take advantage of energy efficiency technology.

Note: this information sheet has been assembled from NHA, DECC, Salix and other sources, it may contain errors and exceptions