

# **Stockport CAN Seed Fund**

## **Guidance for Members – Plain Text Version**

The Climate Action Now (CAN) Seed Fund supports residents, communities and schools to take local actions that tackle climate change and enhance nature.

### **KEY INFORMATION**

- Open for applications from 25 March 2024 to the 28 February 2025.
- Community groups, not-for-profit organisations and schools can apply.
- Projects need to be focused on local climate and nature action.
- Each ward in Stockport has a total of £1,500 to award to local projects.
- Eligible projects will be submitted to Area Committees for decisions.
- The CAN team will process applications.

### **ASSESSING APPLICATIONS**

#### **1. Only eligible applications will be submitted to Area Committee**

If an application is eligible, it will be submitted to Area Committee for a decision from the relevant ward Members. All applications that come to Area Committee will have shown that

1. they are from an eligible group, 2. the project is focused on climate and nature action and
3. where applicable, that land use permission is already in place.

#### **2. What should I consider when assessing applications?**

As an Elected Member, you will know what projects are the best fit for your ward. The decision about an application must be made jointly with other Members in your ward.

When assessing applications, you can consider:

- Has the applicant shown understanding of how their project impacts climate change and/or biodiversity?
- Do you think the project will reach lots of people and inspire climate action?
- Will the project help people change their behaviour in high-impact ways?
- Are there any co-benefits to the project that will benefit the community?

When making a decision about an application, it's worth considering:

- How much is left in your ward's CAN Seed Fund budget

- Whether you want to award a different amount than the applicant is asking for
- Whether you would like to use funding from the Ward Flexibility Fund to match-fund the project (whether in part or in full)

## **EXAMPLES OF GOOD PROJECTS**

The following projects were funded during the first iteration of the CAN Fund which ran from 2021 to 2022.

### **Pop-up energy saving store**

Starting Point applied for £771.50 from the CAN fund and used their links with the community via youth activities, digital classes and their community coffee shop to offer 31 households energy saving items and advice.

Low-income families and elderly people living alone made up most households who received items from their 'Fully Funded Energy Saving Store', with packs containing radiator reflector foils, door and window draught excluders, paper room thermometers and advice on how to save money on energy bills and keep warm.

For each household, the potential financial saving was up to £175 per year. This is a potential £5,425 saving across all 31 households. This is a potential carbon saving of 309 kg per household which is 9.5 tonnes of carbon saved by this project within one year.

A case study for this project can be accessed [here](#).

### **Intergenerational food growing and gardening**

A community group in Lancashire Hill got CAN funding to set up an allotment, aiming to help educate about healthy diets and carbon footprints whilst also reducing social isolation.

They applied for £500 to purchase seeds, fruit trees, compost, gardening tools, pots and pans and store cupboard ingredients for healthy eating sessions.

### **Pop-up 'repair cafe' that save community members money**

A church in High Lane got CAN funding to host an Eco Awareness Day. As well as stalls and refreshments, a repair cafe helped people to fix much-loved clothing; saving people money as well as avoiding waste.

They applied for £500 to put on the events, pay for a repair specialist, buy materials and promote the event.

### **An 'active travel' challenge run by a sports centre youth group**

A group in Marple got CAN funding to develop, design, promote and deliver an active travel challenge that aimed to help reduce the number of cars arriving at the sports centre.

They applied for £500 to purchase bike stands, bike locks, high vis jackets, storage lockers and to create the challenge branding and signage.

## **ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO APPLY**

Members are key to promoting the CAN Seed Fund to residents.

- Speak with local groups – encourage local groups and schools to develop an idea for the CAN Seed Fund that would benefit your ward
- Add to newsletters – use the poster and example text [here](#)
- Look out for project ideas – are there any issues that residents have raised that you could address with funding from the CAN Seed Fund?
- Accessibility – applicants can get help in applying by contacting [stockportCANfund@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:stockportCANfund@stockport.gov.uk)
- Signpost to the CAN Catalyst Fund – larger projects with budgets of up to £5,000 may be suited to the CAN Catalyst Fund

**Contact:** [stockportCANfund@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:stockportCANfund@stockport.gov.uk)

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