

CAN SEED FUND

The CAN Seed Fund supports residents, communities and schools to take local actions that tackle climate change and enhance nature



25th March 2024 - 28th February 2025

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.



STOCKPORT
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ambitious Stockport,
creating opportunities
for everyone

STOCKPORT
CAN
CLIMATE ACTION NOW

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 nature?
- Do you think the project will reach lots of people and inspire climate and nature 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, such as improvements to people's health or saving people money?

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



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.

EXAMPLES OF GOOD PROJECTS



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](#)

Energy Saving

A key solution to rising energy bills is to improve energy efficiency. Simple energy saving measures can help keep homes warmer for longer, at the same time as reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The items you are receiving today are made possible thanks to funding from the Stockport Climate Action Now (CAN) Fund (part of The Metropolitan Borough Council of Stockport).

If you rent your property, please ensure you have permission from your landlord for items that require fixing in place.

Radiator reflectors:
Fitted behind radiators on external walls these stick-on sheets reduce heat loss to keep heat inside the property. Remember, you only need to put reflector panels behind radiators on external walls. This could save around 3.5kg of Carbon Dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) per radiator, which could save a household up to £25 a year on energy bills.

Door & window stick on seal:
Blocking draughts helps to keep warm air inside the home. The door or window frame needs to be cleaned and then fully dried before the seal is stuck on.

A room thermometer and support to understand thermostat settings:
Paper room thermometers will help show if your room is too hot / comfortable / too cold and so help you to manage your home heating effectively. Making sure programmable heating controls are set to the most effective option for your home will help to reduce energy usage – reducing carbon and costs.

HOME MADE

Draught Excluder

Using one leg from an old pair of leggings or tights, tie one end tightly with a hair bobble, stuff the leg full of unwanted textiles (e.g. damaged clothing) and some weight (e.g. rice sealed inside a plastic bag), and then tie the end tightly with a second hair bobble.

More support and advice can be found at:
www.energysavingtrust.org.uk

ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO APPLY



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 'About the CAN Seed Fund' text on the next slide.



LOOK OUT FOR PROJECT IDEAS

Are there any issues that residents have raised with you that they could address with CAN Seed Funding?

ACCESSIBILITY

Applicants can get help in applying by contacting: stockportCANfund@stockport.gov.uk

SIGNPOST TO THE CATALYST FUND

Larger projects with budgets up to £5,000 may be suited to the CAN Catalyst Fund.



DOWNLOAD A POSTER

Please click the link below to access a poster advertising the Seed Fund that can be shared with residents.

<https://stockportcouncil.sharepoint.com/:i:/r/sites/ClimateEmergency/Shared%20Documents/D.%20Climate%20Friendly%20Borough/CAN%20Fund/Round%202%20-%202024-25/Members%20-%20CAN%20Fund%20Resources/CAN%20Seed%20Fund%20Poster.png?csf=1&web=1&e=170FZ2>



TEXT TO COPY

Please click the link below to access some text which can be copied and modified to share with residents.

<https://stockportcouncil.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/ClimateEmergency/Shared%20Documents/D.%20Climate%20Friendly%20Borough/CAN%20Fund/Round%202%20-%202024-25/Members%20-%20CAN%20Fund%20Resources/CAN%20Fund%20Text.docx?d=w5a7d2121edae461f970879e04ffab802&csf=1&web=1&e=0HINxe>