

Energy, Clean Transport and Sustainability Project Funding for businesses and community groups

Islington Council

Energising Small Business

Offering **grants of up to £1,500** for works that will improve the energy efficiency of your organisation or eliminate its carbon emissions, such as installing new LED lighting or replacing gas boilers with electric alternatives. Now, extended to **also offer up to £5,000 for the replacement of a gas boiler with a heat pump.**

Free business eco audits

A **free audit** to any organisation whose premises are located in Islington and which has fewer than 50 staff and a turnover of less than £10 million. The audit will look at your heating and cooling systems, energy and water usage, waste, transport, supply chains and any other operational activities that have an environmental impact. Following a visit to your site, you will receive a report with recommendations on possible improvements and signposting you to assistance and funding

Community Energy Fund

The fund aims to support community led, innovative energy projects that benefit Islington residents (particularly residents struggling with fuel poverty) and reduce carbon emissions in the borough.

There are two tiers of funding available:

TIER 1: Grant applications less than £30,000

TIER 2: Grant applications over £30,000. Requires Board approval

The next Round of funding to be announced in Summer 2022

Greater London Authority

[London Community Energy Fund](#)

The London Community Energy Fund is part of the Mayor's Energy for Londoners programme and provides support to get community energy projects up and running and delivered.

Applications for the fourth round of the London Community Energy fund are now open. The aim of this round is to get community energy projects up and running and deployed faster to reboot the economy and benefit hard-hit communities. So in addition to supporting project development work the fund will, for the first time, provide capital grants.

Applications are now closed. The next round of funding to be announced in the coming months.

[Better Futures](#)

Better Futures, a GLA led, fully funded growth support for London start-ups and small businesses developing sustainable products, low-carbon and clean technology, is continuing remotely and without disruption.

They are working with partners to give over 150 small businesses the boost they need to be successful in London, and create a hub for low-carbon and circular industries in our city. They assess new companies for the programme every 6 weeks. Depending on the volume of companies in the pipeline at any given time, those accepted on the programme would look to begin support within 3-6 months from acceptance

[The Mayor of London's Energy Efficiency Fund \(MEEF\)](#)

This is a £500m investment fund established by the GLA with funding from the European Commission, which will help achieve London's ambition of being a zero carbon city by 2050.

MEEF seeks to address market failures in London's low carbon sector by providing flexible and competitive finance to enable, accelerate or enhance viable low carbon projects across London.

MEEF can invest in projects in the following sectors -

A minimum of 70% of investments must be to the public sector:

Local Authorities, Education (Higher Education & Further Education), Registered Providers, Health, Not for Profits

Up to 30% of investments can be in the private sector:

MEEF can fund up to 100% of the capital cost of a £1m+ project but could also part fund large scale regeneration projects which will have low carbon credentials including:

Energy Efficiency, Decentralised Energy, Small Scale Renewables, Energy Storage, Regeneration Projects, Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

[The London SME Fund](#)

The SME Fund is a £28 million venture capital fund for SMEs and provides equity finance for early stage London-based businesses that can generate significant levels of economic growth.

Government Funding Schemes

[Boiler Upgrade Scheme](#)

The government is providing grants to encourage property owners to install low carbon heating systems such as heat pumps, through the Boiler Upgrade Scheme (BUS). These grants can help property owners overcome the upfront cost of low carbon heating technologies.

The scheme is open to domestic and small non-domestic properties in England and Wales. It runs from 2022 to 2025. You can apply for:

- £5,000 off the cost and installation of an air source heat pump
- £5,000 off the cost and installation of a biomass boiler
- £6,000 off the cost and installation of a ground source heat pump

[Low-emission vehicles eligible for a plug-in grant](#)

You can get a discount on the price of brand new low-emission vehicles through a grant the government gives to vehicle dealerships and manufacturers.

You do not need to do anything if you want to buy one of the eligible vehicles (see list) - the dealer will include the value of the grant in the vehicle's price.

The maximum grant available for cars is currently £1,500.

1000 grants between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023

WRAP Resource Action Fund - Currently closed

The Resource Action Fund is an £18million fund, provided by Defra to support resource efficiency projects, with the goal of diverting, reducing, and better managing, waste. Info [here](#)

Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund

The Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund is part of government's Industrial Strategy, the long-term plan to raise productivity and earning power in the UK.

The fund is a core pillar in the government's commitment to increase funding in research and development by £4.7 billion over 4 years to strengthen UK science and business.

Smart Sustainable Plastic Packaging

Aims to establish the UK as a leading innovator in smart and sustainable plastic packaging for consumer products, delivering cleaner growth across the supply chain, with a dramatic reduction in plastic waste entering the environment by 2025.

Transport & Logistical Efficiencies (TALE) funding

TALE is open to SMEs with a logistics function including freight transport, manufacturing and distribution and any company moving goods from A to B.

To find out more visit: <https://www.tale.org.uk/>

For community groups

Energy Redress Scheme

Energy Saving Trust has been appointed by Ofgem to distribute payments from companies who may have breached Ofgem rules. Registered Charities, Community Interest Companies, Co-operative Societies and Community Benefit Societies can apply for funds to deliver energy related projects that meet the scheme priorities and benefit people in UK.

- The core priority aims to help people who are most at risk from cold homes and high energy bills
- Up to 15% of Energy Redress funds can support the development of innovative products and services related to energy that have a realistic prospect of delivering benefits to existing and/or future energy consumers and that help to reduce the environmental impact of energy use
- Up to 15% of Energy Redress funds can also be used to support energy-related activities aimed at reducing carbon dioxide emissions from energy use. These projects must focus on energy generation, distribution or energy use

Application details [here](#)

NLWA Waste Prevention Community Fund - Currently closed

NLWA has established a Waste Prevention Community Fund to provide community based (non-profit making) organisations with access to funding in order to develop new approaches to tackling waste prevention, and also to extend the reach and impact of waste prevention activity in north London.

With up to 100% funding of the project cost, support can be provided for projects up to £15,000 tackling a waste prevention problem. Projects which focus on one or more of the following – electrical repair and reuse, prevention of food waste, furniture and textile reuse, and the reduction of single use plastics – are particularly encouraged.

Grow back Greener Fund - Currently closed

These support a wide range of activities to help make London greener, fairer, healthier and more resilient. These activities should take place in and enhance publicly accessible spaces including parks, community gardens, housing estates, streets, waterways and nature reserves. They should mainly be focused on making physical improvements to the space.

The Tree Council

Grants for tree and hedges planting

With 2021-2022 planting season coming to an end, only the Orchards for Schools programme is available for applications.

Our other grants will re-open for applications later on in the year.

Zero Emissions Network Grants

Current options:

Free cargo bike trial

The ZEN can offer free one-week free cargo bike trials for residents and businesses, to give you an idea of whether this would be compatible with your daily routine. Email zen@hackney.gov.uk

If you want to buy a cargo bike for your business, you may be eligible for a grant of up to £2,000 through our Sustainable Travel Grants Scheme. ZEN members also benefit from a 5% discount on new cargo bike purchases from their Zencard partners.

E-bike Switch

Riders can apply for a £200 grant to help purchase or lease an e-bike from a provider of their choice or;

- Hire an e-bike from ETT Industries for £100 for the first four weeks, (saving £200), through the ZEN network. There is also a £250 deposit to pay when renting a bike.

- Buy a Gazelle Vento for £1899 and receive £200 cashback from Velorution and £200 cashback from Zero Emissions Network. Spread the payment with 6 months or 12 months personal finance, interest free with £150 deposit, subject to credit status. This includes lights rack and Bosch mid-mounted motor with Purion side display and a 300 watt battery.
- Buy, or lease the "Urban Delivery Model 1" e-bike from only £15 per week with extra long range 930Wh battery and receive £100 cash back from Urban eBikes + 2 free services + £200 cash back from ZEN. Leasing options available from 12 months to 36 months. The Urban delivery model 1 is specifically designed for heavy duty use and comes with lights, rack, suspension and disc brakes all included.
- Get 5% off any e-bike and a free lock from VOLT

Delivery riders and small businesses currently using mopeds can apply for the £200 subsidy.

More information [here](#)

Eco-vehicle trials & offers

ZEN also have a range of trials and offers on e-vans, cars and scooters, info [here](#)

Cycle hire discounts

Businesses and residents in Hackney, Islington and Tower Hamlets can now apply for 50% off Santander Cycle Hire memberships. Annual membership is usually £90, with this offer bringing the cost down to £45. The scheme is great for short trips, especially for those who do not own a bike. All users get unlimited bike access for 12 months, with the first 30 minutes of each journey free. To find out more and apply for your promotional code, please email zen@hackney.gov.uk

Dr Bike

You can book a free Dr Bike session for you and your colleagues or neighbours.

A mechanic will come to your workplace or street to conduct checks and repair minor faults, to ensure your bike is safe and road worthy. The mechanic will also be able to advise if any major maintenance work is required.

Each bike takes 10-15 minutes to check and a minimum of 5 bikes is needed to book a Dr Bike. A safe and secure area is needed for our mechanic to work in, a courtyard or bike storage space is perfect. Book [here](#)

Funding & Green Finance Bodies

[CO2Sence](#)

Make investments in low carbon and renewable projects in the UK.

Cooperative and Community Financing

Provide competitive loans to the cooperative and social enterprise sector (e.g. community owned shops, pubs, facilities, housing coops, etc).

Charity Bank

Lend to charities, social enterprises, etc, where the loan is being used for social purposes.

Power to Change

Supports and funds community businesses in the UK.

Triodos Bank

They finance organisations supporting positive social, environmental or cultural change.

Ethex

Helps people make investments that fund ethical projects and organisations.

Abundance Investments

Helps people make investments that fund ethical projects and organisations.

Salix Finance

Salix Finance Ltd. provides interest-free Government funding to the public sector to improve energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions and lower energy bills.

Green Finance Institute

They support the greening of the financial system through close collaboration with financial regulators, policymakers, trade bodies, think tanks, foundations and multilateral organisations to shape the global green finance agenda - developing a range of initiatives to help fund the energy efficient retrofitting of buildings, and the decarbonisation of road transport.