



# Net zero carbon start-up grant – eligibility guidance

The funding is available across Wales for voluntary organisations who are incorporated. Unincorporated organisations can apply but will need to become incorporated before any funds are released.

In order to be eligible, you must:

- Be an incorporated body based in and operating for the benefit of people in Wales
- Have governing documents containing suitable asset lock and dividend distribution control
- Have the ability to demonstrate suitable oversight and independence from a qualified and quorate Board with a minimum of three directors or trustees
- Have appropriate minimum policy standards or accreditations in place (eg safeguarding)
- Have one of the following legal forms:
  - Company limited by guarantee
  - Community Interest Company (limited by shares or by guarantee)
  - Community benefit society or similar cooperative structure
  - Charitable incorporated organisation
  - Company limited by shares where it is a subsidiary of another eligible legal form

- Have a sound business plan but as yet unproven revenue streams. For example:
  - **Pre-start/no trading to date** - you have not yet started selling goods or services
  - **Some 'test' sales activity** - you have tested the goods or services you intend to offer with paying customers in order to gain feedback and develop your understanding of the market (this could be within a limited cohort of customers, a limited geographical area etc)
  - **Some low-level sales** - you are actively selling your goods or services to the market but at a limited level

## **ASSESSMENT**

Assessment will be made against the following criteria:

### **Governance**

- Eligible legal structure (see above)
- Independence of decision-making including minimum of three directors
- People – access to skills and experience to make the business a success

### **Business plan**

- Evidence of growth ambition
- Clear and credible business proposal
- Evidence of need for further work to prove concept/demand

### **Social impact**

- What will success look like?
- Commitment to measuring and achieving both social and environmental impact

### **Outcome of the funding**

- Clarity over how it will be spent
- What will be achieved as a result of the spend?

- Is other funding needed to 'launch' and is it secured?

A second stage will see the final selection ensuring that the cohort will be suitably representative in terms of geography, diversity and sector as well as offering opportunities for carbon emission reduction.

## **ADDITIONAL SUPPORT OR FUNDING**

- You may choose to access additional business support through existing schemes such as [Social Business Wales](#) or supplement finances from other sources.
- There is no specific match funding requirement or restrictions on using the support as match funding with other funders (subject to other funders' guidelines). This funding is via Welsh Government so is from a public source.

## **REGISTER ON MAP**

In order to submit a request for funding, you will need to register with WCVA's [Multipurpose Application Portal](#) (MAP). If you have previously registered with MAP, you can log in by entering your username and password on the home screen.

Organisations can register by visiting the website [map.wcva.cymru](http://map.wcva.cymru).

## **CONTACT US**

The Net zero carbon start-up grant is funded by Welsh Government and managed by the [Social Investment Cymru](#) team at WCVA. If you have any questions please email [sic@wcva.cymru](mailto:sic@wcva.cymru).