



Coire Glas

Community Fund

Document Classification | **Public** - 08/05/24



Contents

CONTENTS	1
COIRE GLAS	2
COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUNDS.....	2
THE COIRE GLAS COMMUNITY FUND	2
COMMUNITY FUND DEVELOPMENT	3
<u>APPENDIX 1 - COIRE GLAS PROGRAMME</u>	<u>4</u>

Coire Glas

Coire Glas is the first large scale pumped storage project to be developed in the UK for more than 40 years.

Coire Glas is a hydro pumped storage scheme with a potential capacity of up to 1500MW. Coire Glas is an excellent pumped storage site with a large lower reservoir (Loch Lochy) and a significant elevation of more than 500m between the lower and the new upper reservoir site over a relatively short distance.



Community Benefit Funds

SSE Renewables has an established and principal-based approach to community fund management.

The Coire Glas Community Fund

- The structure and objectives of the **Community Benefit Fund** will be designed in collaboration with the local communities.
- SSER will engage constructively with community members, stakeholders, and organisations to understand **local needs** and **priorities** and will tailor a Fund accordingly.
- The most common models for fund management are directly by SSE with **Community Advisory Panels**, or via a **Third-Party agreement** where a local organisation takes on the management of the funds on behalf of the community.
- Funding decisions will be community-led, within the context of Fund **objectives**.
- The **Coire Glas** Community Fund will be a multi-Million pound fund available during **construction phase** of the project. Not all the funds need to be spent during that timescale.
- We will be able to begin more detail discussions with communities on the structure and design of the Local Community Benefit Fund after **financial investment decision**.
- The value and duration of the fund will be expected to be announced later in **2024**.
- The community fund would be expected to be established at the start of **main construction**.
- A number of factors will impact the potential areas of benefit for the Coire Glas Fund, including transport routes. These are yet to be fully known and will not be determined, until **full design** has been established. Glengarry is likely to be the most affected community.
- The opportunity to drawdown on **advance payments** on the Fund for Strategic Projects

Community Fund Development

Next steps – To establish how will the fund be managed?

There are several models for fund distribution, the most common include:

- **A local Third-Party Partner** - Which manages the funds on behalf of the community, normally an established Development Trust or Community Charity. They report annually to SSE and have review meetings with the Community Fund Manager at agreed intervals.
- **A Community Panel** - Panels are supported by SSE to make decisions on what should be funded in local areas. Panels are made up of local community members, meeting between 2 – 4 times a year to assess grants and review the fund priorities.

Who decides how the funds will be managed?

In discussion with SSER Community Fund Manager the Community Council will consultation with the key community groups to start to determine how the Coire Glas Community Fund will be managed on behalf of the community. To clarify if an existing organisation/s have the capacity and skills to manage all or a portion of the funds or if a Community Panel or combination of Third Party and a Panel might be an option.

Confirm what the key priorities are for the funds?

The recent Glengarry Community Engagement Results and Insights 2024 report identify priorities and needs for Glengarry. These priorities will help to inform the strategic projects and specific areas that the Funds could support to ensure the greatest impact and benefit to the community.

The highest ranking Themes/Priorities in the report

Resident Stakeholder Group	Non-Resident Stakeholder Group
Access to Services	Recreational/Social
Infrastructure	Infrastructure
Housing	Housing
Recreational/Social	Environmental
Environmental	Access to Services
Heritage	Heritage
Employment / Business Opportunities	Attracting and Retaining Staff

When will the funds be made available?

The funds will be made available after financial Investment decision on Coire Glas and when a management model for the funds has been determined (please refer to the Coire Glas Programme in the Appendices for indicative timescales).

A formal agreement between SSER and the relevant organisation/s (acting on behalf of the community) will be issued which reflect the agreed objectives and priorities. This discussion will

then inform an agreement around the funding, including the start date, duration and fund value, use of funds, as well as the management and reporting on fund spend. This will also include a review of policy and governance of any Third Parties in receipt of or manage the funds on behalf of the community.

Community Investment Team Contact

Carol Masheter - Community Fund Manager

07721 443044

carol.masheter@sse.com

Appendix 1

Corie Glas Programme

