

The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

(1a) Organisation/group name:

Edinburgh & Lothians Regional Equality Council (ELREC)

(1b) Project name:

The Edinburgh Climate Festival

(2) Tell us about your organisation / group (what do you do?) (150 words maximum)

ELREC is a well-established charity, with longstanding experience in campaigning for Human Rights and equality, providing support to people of protected characteristics, and influencing relevant policies. We are a well-known hub for volunteering, offering a diverse range of roles and training. Staff and volunteers at ELREC are from very diverse cultural and language backgrounds. Alongside our current project work, we provide support and advice to BAME communities on any issue. We have an established link to mainstream service providers to access hard-to-reach people from ethnic communities and signpost them to their services. We have also active and strong links with Police Scotland, Scottish Government Equalities Unit, Edinburgh Inter Faith Association and local councillors, MSP's who strongly support the organisation and its work. ELREC ran various successful environmental projects which have given unique opportunities to strengthen our ongoing work with communities on issues of climate change, carbon emissions, and energy efficiency.

(3a) Please select the fund criteria which your project relates to (Select all that apply)

- Create opportunities for community leadership and learning on climate change
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions within communities and contribute to the net-zero target for Edinburgh
- Generate sustainable projects for the benefit of local people to build resilience or adapt to climate change within communities
- Build relationships between neighbourhoods of different socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds to work together on just, equitable and accessible climate and resilience activities contributing to the cities net zero agenda, also

Deadline for applications: 12th February 2023

The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

ensuring that activities work towards reducing or removing barriers for disabled people in the transition to net zero.

(3b) Tell us about the project you would use the money for. (500 words maximum)

[The Edinburgh Climate Festival](#) has been a community event that has been running since 2016. The purpose of the festival is not only to raise awareness of the climate crisis, but also celebrates climate action being taken to create a more just and ecologically sustainable world. Raising awareness is not enough, especially as many people are left feeling so hopeless in the face of such a global challenge that it become paralysing to climate action. It is therefore necessary to add this positive element to demonstrate that effective change is possible.

The festival is a free, full-day community event that is inclusive and family-friendly, which is themed around environmental sustainability-related topics such as active travel, energy efficiency and waste reduction. The festival will be organised in association by ELREC (to lead), Networking of Key Services (NKS) and Score Scotland. It will benefit attendees through a range of educational and entertaining activities. There will be stalls, workshops, storytelling, yoga, demos and performances that aim to empower people to develop more ecologically sustainable lifestyles, reduce their carbon emissions, and ensure that the change that is needed at all levels happen. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage in several activities, such as arts and crafts activities, quizzes, and other events that will educate them in various practical skills. These include reusing and upcycling household items and repairing bikes. Through these activities, attendees will have the chance to be entertained while being educated and empowered to live sustainably.

An inclusive event, the Climate Festival also brings together and integrate Edinburgh's diverse communities. Our staff and volunteers include people who are representative of these communities and people with disabilities, giving us first-hand experience and knowledge of additional barriers posed to these groups in the transition to Net Zero. As an equality council, ELREC is well suited to bring together these communities; our objectives centre around eliminating discrimination, reducing inequality, building positive relations between people of protected characteristics, and promoting sustainability. In doing so we promote cooperation between government and third sector organisations to increase the impact of our work. In 2014, the Communities for Conservation project was established and worked with ethnic minority communities in the Edinburgh area to reduce carbon emissions from energy, food, waste, and transport. Current projects such as Communities' Reduce, Reuse, & Recycle project continue to raise awareness among diverse communities.

Through volunteer involvement and advice on how to take local, grassroots action, this event promotes community leadership. We hope to engage over 30 volunteers who will pass on skills to their communities. The Climate Festival acts on its principles, running sustainably using renewable energy and producing zero waste, which should encourage attendees to consider how they themselves can reduce their emissions. While successful, previous reliance on volunteers created some new challenges for operation of the festival. This year's festival would use the funding to cover the expenses of the event itself and to employ staff who can better dedicate themselves to organising the event, ensuring its smooth operation.

The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

(4) Describe your project in no more than 30 words (this will be used for publicity)

The Edinburgh Climate Festival is a free, family-friendly event aimed at raising awareness of climate change and the Scotland's Net Zero Targets by mobilising diverse groups to take local community environmental action.

(5a) Who do you hope will benefit from this project?

We have designed this Festival to be wide-reaching in both the people and environments that it benefits. We hope to benefit all communities throughout Edinburgh with a strong focus on under-resourced communities who are often overlooked and suffer most from the effects of climate change. This project will also benefit Edinburgh's environment and green spaces. We hope that by providing an inspiring atmosphere that points people towards ways they can improve climate-change-related challenges in their communities, this project will also encourage people to be more respectful of Edinburgh's green spaces. Together, all of these outcomes will help Scotland achieve its Net Zero goals.

(5b) Is your group open to all?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

(5c) Will the project have a positive impact on any of the following protected characteristics?

Deadline for applications: 12th February 2023

The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

Disability

Sex

Gender
reassignment

Marriage
or civil
partnership

Age

Pregnancy
and
maternity

Sexual
orientation

Race

Religion or
belief

(6) Where will the project be delivered?

The project will take place in a public park in Edinburgh, most likely the Meadows.

(7) Project start date: As soon as the funding is granted.

Project end date: 10 July 2023

(8) How many people do you hope will benefit from your project?

We expect to reach and benefit over 5,000 people

(9) Is anyone else working with you on the project?

Yes

No

If yes, please tell us about this:

ELREC has a strong commitment to community engagement and collaboration, and we extend this to collaboration across multiple local charities and organisations in order to have the biggest impact possible. We will deliver the event in partnership with Networking of Key Services (NKS) and Score Scotland, with whom we have successfully worked with for prior Climate Festivals. The organisation of the event will start as soon as the funding is granted, the event will be delivered on Saturday 10th July 2023 from 12pm to 8pm.

The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

(10) Do you require permission from anyone or any additional insurance to carry out your project?

Yes

No

If yes, please tell us about this:

- Event Insurance – Last year £769 was spent for One Day Event Insurance Cover.

It covers public liability, employers' liability, equipment, cancellation and postponement.

- Edinburgh City Council Parks Team – Hiring the Meadows for a day.
- Food Licenses for food trucks – Edinburgh City Council Licensing team
- Market operator License - Edinburgh City Council Licensing team

Deadline for applications: 12th February 2023

The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

(11) Please outline a breakdown of the cost of delivering this project (including VAT).		(12) Do you have additional funding or income from charges which will contribute to this project? If yes, please detail below	
Goods/Equipment/Time etc	£	Source	£
Council fees insurances (Venues and licences)	3,000	Stalls hire (Donations)	1,000
Publicity	500,00		
Eco workshops	500,00		
Performances and entertainment	3,000		
PA, Stage and Marquee	3,000		
Event Coordinator 14h p/week – 6 months	4,500		
Worker 1 – 14h p/week – 5 months	2,750		
Worker 2 - 14h p/week – 5 months	2,750		
Total Expenditure	20,000	Total income	21,000

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