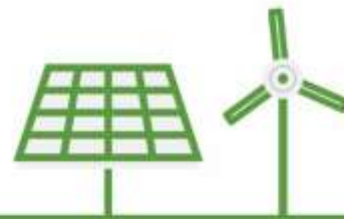


# GREBE

Generating Renewable Energy  
Business Enterprise



## Business Supports Catalogue for Renewable Energy Enterprises in Scotland November 2017



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## The GREBE Project

### What is GREBE?

GREBE (Generating Renewable Energy Business Enterprise) is a €1.77m, 3-year (2015-2018) transnational project to support the renewable energy sector. It is co-funded by the EU's Northern Periphery & Arctic (NPA) Programme. It focuses on the challenges of peripheral and arctic regions as places for doing business, and helps develop renewable energy business opportunities in areas with extreme conditions.

The project partnership includes the eight partners from six countries, Western Development Commission (Ireland), Action Renewables (Northern Ireland), Fermanagh & Omagh District Council (Northern Ireland), Environmental Research Institute (Scotland), LUKE (Finland), Karelia University of Applied Sciences (Finland), Narvik Science Park (Norway) and Innovation Iceland (Iceland).

### Why is GREBE happening?

Renewable Energy entrepreneurs working in the NPA area face challenges including a lack of critical mass, dispersed settlements, poor accessibility, vulnerability to climate change effects and limited networking opportunities.

GREBE will equip SMEs and start-ups with the skills and confidence to overcome these challenges and use place based natural assets for RE to best sustainable effect. The renewable energy sector contributes to sustainable regional and rural development and has potential for growth.

### What does GREBE do?

GREBE supports renewable energy start-ups and SMEs:

- To grow their business, to provide local jobs, and meet energy demands of local communities.
- By supporting diversification of the technological capacity of SMEs and start-ups so that they can exploit the natural conditions of their locations.
- By providing RE tailored expert guidance and mentoring to give SMEs and start-ups the knowledge and expertise to grow and expand their businesses.
- By providing a platform for transnational sharing of knowledge to demonstrate the full potential of the RE sector by showcasing innovations on RE technology and strengthening accessibility to expertise and business support available locally and in other NPA regions.
- To connect with other renewable energy businesses to develop new opportunities locally, regionally and transnationally through the Virtual Energy Ideas Hub.
- By conducting research on the processes operating in the sector to improve understanding of the sector's needs and make the case for public policy to support the sector.

For more information, visit our website:

<http://grebeproject.eu/>

Follow our Blog:

<https://greberenewableenergyblog.wordpress.com/>

Like us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/GREBEProject/>

Follow us on Twitter:

[https://twitter.com/GREBE\\_NPA](https://twitter.com/GREBE_NPA)

## The GREBE Business Supports Catalogue

This GREBE Business Supports Catalogue has been developed following a review of Renewable Energy business support funding mechanisms and funding options available to support the development of renewable businesses in the NPA region.

It provides information on the funding mechanisms currently available in the partner regions (Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Norway and Scotland). The information will be useful to both funding agencies (e.g. business support agencies and municipalities) and to SMEs giving details of funding options available in their regions.

The main focus is on public body support for renewable businesses but both private sector and social investment options have been included where appropriate. The supports included are for SMEs and Micro businesses but also include options for those SMEs expected to grow rapidly (e.g. High Potential Start Ups).

The business support funding mechanisms considered vary from standard 'hard' business support options (e.g. loans and venture capital) to softer supports (e.g. innovation schemes, business partner search supports etc.)

The catalogue is organised by GREBE partner region in the following order:

- Finland
- Iceland
- Ireland
- Northern Ireland
- Norway
- Scotland

A short introduction on the methods and types of supports in each partner region is provided. Information for each partner region is then organised under the following categories:

- Financial Support (grants, loans, equity investment)
- Taxation or welfare supports or concessions for businesses
- Soft supports e.g. mentoring, training, specialist advice, networks
- Research and Development Supports
- Social and Community supports (focused on not for profit)
- Other- e.g. Incubation space or office space etc.

Within each of these categories there is considerable variation in the ways different funding options are implemented and these differences will impact on the success of schemes. We hope that by using this catalogue those who seeking funding and support for renewable businesses will have a clear portfolio of options which are available to them.

In the future the information in this catalogue will be used to create a web based tool allowing users to search for available funding options and to consider different types of funding available in each region. This will be available at the GREBE project website <http://grebeproject.eu/> in August 2016. This catalogue is one of the deliverables of the GREBE Project.

### **Deliverable: 3.2.1**

A PDF catalogue of funding options available to renewable businesses in partner regions (this will be made available on the GREBE website)

# GREBE

Generating Renewable Energy  
Business Enterprise

[www.grebeproject.eu](http://www.grebeproject.eu)



## Scotland



Northern Periphery and  
Arctic Programme  
2014-2020



## Scotland

### **What kind of agencies offer support to SMEs?**

Support predominantly comes from central Government, particularly in regard to financial subsidy. This is disseminated at a variety of levels from a UK wide scale to regional agencies, such as Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

QUANGOs and NGOs also provide support to SMEs, the Energy Saving Trust being one of the key agencies in this field.

Membership organisations, such as the Orkney Renewable Energy Forum (OREF), seek to bring individuals and small business together to help achieve certain aims. For example, OREF aims to address strategic issues affecting Orkney's renewables sector through collaboration with members, the local community, key stakeholders, and academics and researchers.

Smaller charities, such as Community Energy Scotland, also aim to provide advice and assistance to SMEs in this sector.

### **Is it clear to the SME where they should go for support?**

There is a Government website (<https://www.mygov.scot/funding-opportunities/>) which lists various funding opportunities; however, this does not necessarily contain all possible funding sources.

If there is a community element to the project Local Energy Scotland clearly lays out how they can get support (<http://www.localenergyscotland.org/>).

### **Is there one agency which is the first place for businesses to go?**

This depends on the type of venture:

- If it is a community based business then Local Energy Scotland is the first calling point.
- If it is innovation or research based Scottish Enterprise, or its subsidiaries, is usually the most relevant place.
- For direct subsidy for electricity generated through the feed-in tariff scheme the Energy Saving Trust is the first point of contact.

### **Are business supports restricted to certain types of business, or enhanced for certain types of SMEs (e.g. only available for manufacturing or for exporters)?**

In Scotland there is a strong focus on community renewable energy projects. These have additional funds available to them through the Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES). Through collaboration with communities this fund can be accessed by others.

The variety of business supports means some SMEs may not necessarily be eligible to all supports. For example many supports are either exclusively for R&D or specifically state such projects are not eligible.

### **Are there special supports for RE businesses?**

Yes, probably the most important of these is the subsidy system for electricity generated by renewable sources through the feed-in tariff for small scale projects (under 5 MW) and ROC (now CfD mechanism) (for larger projects). However, feedback from industry shows that the reduced support of government is having a very negative impact. One of our respondents to another element of GREBE termed these changes as a Government "shutdown of renewables", so although there are specific supports in place the strength of these is becoming questionable.

Business supports available in Scotland are described in more detail in the coming pages under the following themes:

- Financial Support (grants, loans, equity investment)
- Taxation or welfare supports or concessions for businesses
- Soft supports e.g. mentoring, training, specialist advice, networks
- Research and Development supports
- Social and Community supports (focused on not for profit)
- Other- e.g. Incubation space or office space

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## Financial Supports

### UK Green Investment Bank plc (GIB)

#### Link to support information on website

<http://www.greeninvestmentbank.com/>

#### Type of Finance Support

Both fund and direct investment.

#### Description of the support

This funding institution was created by the UK Government to attract private sector investment in areas relating to environmental preservation and improvement – of which renewable energy are a major element. Financing can be for a wide variety of projects including the deployment of new technologies, community scale projects as well as larger renewable energy developments such as large offshore wind farms.

#### Agency Responsible for Support

UK Green Investment Bank plc

<http://www.greeninvestmentbank.com/>

#### Maximum and minimum funding available

Backs small project of £2m to large projects of £1bn.

#### Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?

Both renewables and energy efficiency.

#### Is this a local, regional or national support?

National

#### Other useful/relevant information

So far Scotland has seen very little benefit from this scheme.

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### Scottish Innovative Foundation Technologies fund

#### Link to support information on website

<http://www.scottish-enterprise.com/services/develop-new-products-and-services/sift/overview>

## Type of Finance Support

Grant

### Description of the support

The aim of the fund is to help drive down the cost of energy and develop the offshore wind sector in Scotland through innovation in deep-water offshore wind foundation design and installation. Although the funding is open to larger organisations it is also available for SMEs.

### Agency Responsible for Support

Scottish Enterprise

<http://www.scottish-enterprise.com/services/develop-new-products-and-services/sift/whats-involved>

### Maximum and minimum funding available

Up to £15 million available, rates of support vary depending on project

### Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?

Yes – offshore renewables

### Is this a local, regional or national support?

Regional (Scotland only)

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## InnovFin Energy Demo Projects

### Link to support information on website

<http://www.eib.org/products/blending/innovfin/products/energy-demo-projects.htm>

### Type of Finance Support

Provides loans or loan guarantees

### Description of the support

InnovFin Energy Demo Projects provides loans or loan guarantees between €7.5 million and €75 million to first-of-a-kind commercial-scale demonstration projects in the fields of renewable energy and hydrogen and fuel cells, helping to bridge the gap from demonstration to commercialisation.

### Agency Responsible for Support

European Investment Bank

<http://www.eib.org/index.htm>

### Maximum and minimum funding available

Loans and guarantees from €7.5 million to €75 million. The total project costs must be a minimum of €15 million.

### Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?

Yes

### Is this a local, regional or national support?

European wide

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## Barclays Renewable Energy Fund

### Link to support information on website

<https://www.mygov.scot/barclays-renewable-energy-fund/>

### Type of Finance Support

Provides loans

### Description of the support

The £100 million fund for loans is designed to help farmers in the UK meet the costs of renewable energy initiatives like wind farms, solar panels, organic waste power and hydro plants.

### Agency Responsible for Support

Barclays bank

<https://www.barclayscorporate.com/>

### Maximum and minimum funding available

A term loan of £25,000 and above is available.

### Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?

Yes

### Is this a local, regional or national support?

National

### Other useful/relevant information

With the changes to the feed-in tariff the effectiveness of this scheme is likely to be reduced.

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## EIB - European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)

### Link to support information on website

<http://www.eif.org/index.htm>

### Type of Finance Support

Both debt and equity products

### Description of the support

EFSI is an EU initiative which aims to help overcome the investment gap in the EU by mobilising private financing for strategic investments.

### Agency Responsible for Support

SMEs interested in EFSI transactions financed via the EIF (European Investment Fund) should refer to information on EIF financial intermediaries:

[http://www.eif.org/what\\_we\\_do/where/gb/index.htm](http://www.eif.org/what_we_do/where/gb/index.htm)

### Maximum and minimum funding available

No specific maximum or minimum requirements in place.

### Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?

No

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

National

**Other useful/relevant information**

After the UK exit from Europe the status of this fund in Scotland is uncertain

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**District Heating Loan Fund****Link to support information on website**

<https://www.mygov.scot/district-heating-loan-fund/>

**Type of Finance Support**

Provides loans

**Description of the support**

Loans offered on a commercial basis for both renewable and low carbon, low emission technologies in Scotland, for heating distributed through a network of pipes to provide space and water heating in homes or offices.

Loans of up to £500,000 per project are available over a 10 or 15 year period.

**Technical support is also available through the programme.**

The interest rate on loans is set at 3.5%

**Agency Responsible for Support**

Energy Saving Trust Scotland

<http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/scotland>

**Maximum and minimum funding available**

£500,000 which may be repaid over either a 10 or 15 year period. Loan terms for larger projects that exceed £500,000 may be considered on a case by case basis.

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

Although it is designed to promote renewable energy any business may apply.

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

Regional (Scotland)

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**Resource Efficient Scotland SME loans****Link to support information on website**

<http://www.resourceefficientscotland.com/content/loans-small-medium-businesses>

**Type of Finance Support**

Loans

**Description of the support**

SME loans of £1,000 to £100,000 are available to help businesses to reduce their carbon emissions, save money and increase their competitiveness. Funded by the Scottish Government, the scheme aims to support businesses that are looking to reduce costs through improved energy, material resource and water efficiency.

### Agency Responsible for Support

Resource Efficient Scotland provides advice and support to prospective applicants. The Energy Saving Trust administers the scheme and is responsible for the assessment and processing of applications.

<http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/scotland>

### Maximum and minimum funding available

£1,000 to £100,000

### Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?

A comprehensive list of eligible measures qualify for the loan, including; renewable technologies, a range of commercial and industrial energy efficiency measures, building fabric improvements, waste reduction and water saving equipment.

### Is this a local, regional or national support?

Regional (Scotland)

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## Scottish Investment Bank

### Link to support information on website

<https://www.scottish-enterprise.com/about-us/what-we-do/investment/sib>

### Type of Finance Support

Venture or Loans Fund

### Description of the support

#### The Scottish Venture Fund

The Scottish Venture Fund invests in companies from start-ups, early-stage to expanding businesses seeking funding to develop products and/or markets.

This fund can invest alongside private sector investors on equal terms, up to a maximum of 50% of the total funding package on a commercial basis. Match funding will be provided in the range from £10,000 up to £2 million, as part of a total deal size ranging from £20,000 to £10 million.

<https://www.scottish-enterprise.com/services/attract-investment/scottish-venture-fund/svf-overview>

#### Scottish Loan Fund

The Scottish Loan Fund provides loans ranging from £250,000 to £5 million to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). It is designed for businesses that are looking for capital to help drive their expansion plans. It provides mezzanine finance, a product that sits between debt and equity and is used to fund companies with positive cash flow and significant growth ambitions.

<https://www.scottish-enterprise.com/services/attract-investment/scottish-loan-fund/overview>

### Agency Responsible for Support

Scottish Enterprise

**Maximum and minimum funding available**

50% of the total funding package from £20,000 to £10 million for the Venture Fund.

Loans ranging from £250,000 to £5 million to SMEs for the Loan Fund.

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

Not specific to Renewable Energy, but to SME's in general.

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

Regional (Scotland)

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**Highland Venture Capital****Link to support information on website**

<http://www.hie.co.uk/business-support/funding/highland-venture-capital/default.html>

**Type of Finance Support**

Equity Finance

**Description of the support**

Highland Venture Capital was formed in 2006 with the aim of providing a source of equity finance for growing or new-start businesses.

Our investment criteria are:-

- Companies requiring £75k or greater
- A preference for companies operating in the Highlands
- A preference for companies wanting to supply their goods and services beyond the Highlands

**Agency Responsible for Support**

Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE)

**Maximum and minimum funding available**

Minimum £75,000

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

No.

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

Regional (Scotland) but targeted at local companies (Highlands & Islands)

**Other useful / relevant information**

A preference for companies wanting to supply their goods and services beyond the Highlands.

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**Taxation or welfare supports or concessions for businesses****Enterprise Investment Scheme****Link to support information on website**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-enterprise-investment-scheme-introduction>

## Type of Taxation or Welfare Support (be specific)

Tax and income gains relief

### Description of the support

The purpose of the support is to encourage investment to companies not listed on the stock exchange and often have a high level of associated. The headline benefits are:

- 30% upfront Income tax relief up to maximum investment of £1 million, which can be carried back to the previous tax year
- 100% Inheritance Tax relief (provided the investments have been held for at least 2 years at time of death)
- Capital gains tax deferral for the life of the investment
- Tax-free growth
- Tax relief from investment losses

### Agency Responsible for Support

HM Revenue and Customs and administered through their Small Company Enterprise Centre office.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-revenue-customs>

### Maximum and minimum funding available

The maximum tax relief is £300,000

### Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?

No

### Is this a local, regional or national support?

National

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## Seed Enterprise Investment Scheme

### Link to support information on website

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/seed-enterprise-investment-scheme-background>

## Type of Taxation or Welfare Support (be specific)

Tax and income gains relief

### Description of the support

The scheme aims to encourage investment in start-ups which are otherwise deemed too risky. The headline benefits are:

- Investors get 50% income tax relief on the cost of shares, for a maximum annual investment of £100,000.
- No Capital Gains Tax is paid on profits earned on shares held for more than three years. Capital gains which are realised before three years has expired, but which are reinvested into qualifying SEIS shares, are also exempt from Capital gains tax (again £100,000 limit).
- If the company goes bankrupt, investors may claim loss relief on their investment which is equal to half of their total investment multiplied by their tax rate.
- 100% Inheritance Tax relief.

**Agency Responsible for Support**

HM Revenue and Customs and administered through their Small Company Enterprise Centre office.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-revenue-customs>

**Maximum and minimum funding available**

Cannot raise more than £150,000 through the scheme

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

No

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

National

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**Low carbon heat expert support – Scottish Enterprise****Link to support information on website**

<https://www.scottish-enterprise.com/services/develop-new-products-and-services/low-carbon-heat-support/overview>

**Type of Taxation or Welfare Support (be specific)**

Support through workshops

**Description of the support**

Low Carbon Heat Expert Support programme offers Scottish-based companies access to free support through a series of workshops and up to two days one-to-one technical market support offering advice and guidance on how to make the most of the opportunities in low carbon heat.

This advice could focus on:

- Market entry requirements
- Your company's current capabilities (e.g. skills, processes) and its potential in relation to current low carbon heat opportunities
- Suitability of a specific product to the sector
- Market/supply chain positioning and contacts

**Agency Responsible for Support**

Scottish Enterprise

**Maximum and minimum funding available**

Not applicable

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

No

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

Regional (Scotland)

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## High Growth Start Up

### Link to support information on website

<https://www.scottish-enterprise.com/services/support-for-entrepreneurs/high-growth-support/whats-involved>

### Type of Taxation or Welfare Support (be specific)

Welfare support service

### Description of the support

High Growth Start Up service can offer intensive support to:

- Develop your business plan
- Seek funders, investors, loans and grants
- Build your management and non-executive teams
- Protect your intellectual assets

### Agency Responsible for Support

Scottish Enterprise

### Maximum and minimum funding available

Not applicable

### Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?

No – it is open to any business which wants to scale up

### Is this a local, regional or national support?

Regional (Scotland)

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Soft supports e.g. mentoring, training, specialist advice, networks

## Low Carbon Skills Fund

### Link to support information on website

<https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/what-we-do/our-products/low-carbon-skills-fund/>

### Type of Support

#### Fund for training

### Description of the support

The LCSF enables small businesses from any sector to access training in low carbon methods. Up to £5,000 is available. We refund up to 50% of employee training costs, up to a maximum of £1,000 per employee. Training might include:

- Energy efficiency measures
- Waste management and re-use
- Energy assessors or advisers
- Sustainable resource management
- Installing microgeneration products such as biomass boilers, ground source heat pumps, or solar panels.

**Agency Responsible for Support**

Skills Development Scotland

<https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/>

**Maximum and minimum funding available**

£5,000

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

It relates to renewables but non-renewable businesses can apply

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

Regional (Scotland only)

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**2015 – 2018 Business Plan****Link to support information on website**

<http://www.scottish-enterprise.com/about-us/what-we-do/business-plan>

<https://www.scottish-enterprise.com/services>

**Type of Support**

Development strategy

**Description of the support**

Scottish Enterprise is a sponsored (but non-departmental) Scottish Government body. The 2015 – 2018 Business plan sets out their approach to delivering economic growth for Scotland. Whilst not exclusively aimed at renewable energy it is relevant to many schemes. Particularly pertinent is the aim to encourage innovation in SMEs.

**Agency Responsible for Support**

Scottish Enterprise

[www.scottish-enterprise.com](http://www.scottish-enterprise.com)

**Maximum and minimum funding available**

N/A

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

No

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

Regional (Scotland only)

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**Marine Energy Parks****Link to support information on website**

<http://www.hi-energy.org.uk/hi-marine-energy-park.htm>



### **Type of Support**

Brings stakeholders together and creates a supportive business environment.

### **Description of the support**

Marine Energy Parks (MEPs) are a UK government initiative that brings together local and national government, Local Enterprise Partnerships, technology developers, academia and industry for the development of the marine energy sector, with the aim of creating a supportive business environment for accelerating the commercialisation of wave and tidal technology. MEPs should help provide an arena where SMEs can provide their services to this growing sector.

### **Agency Responsible for Support**

HI Energy

<http://www.hi-energy.org.uk>

### **Maximum and minimum funding available**

N/A

### **Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

It can benefit others but primarily yes

### **Is this a local, regional or national support?**

National but region/local marine energy parks

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## **Scotland's International Technology and Renewable Energy Zone (ITREZ)**

### **Link to support information on website**

<http://www.scottish-enterprise.com/services/develop-new-products-and-services/itrez/overview>

### **Type of Support**

Provides SMEs with the opportunity to have a base closer to large industry and build partnerships

### **Description of the support**

The project aim is to bring business and academia together by stimulating co-location, innovation, and investment in Scotland's offshore renewable energy sector. Centred in Glasgow, ITREZ has two purpose built buildings: 'inovo', and the Technology and Innovation Centre, acting as a hub for around 450 renewables engineers and project managers, and 850 energy academics and researchers. For SMEs the project allows them to be located closer to large industry within ITREZ.

### **Agency Responsible for Support**

Scottish Enterprise

### **Maximum and minimum funding available**

N/A

### **Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

Yes - offshore

### **Is this a local, regional or national support?**

Regional (Scotland only)

## Research and Development supports

### European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC)

#### Link to support information on website

<http://www.emec.org.uk/>

#### Type of R&D Support

Provides test facilities for wave and tidal devices.

#### Description of the support

EMEC is an accredited test and research centre for wave and tidal stream devices based in Orkney, off the north coast of mainland Scotland. It provides developers with the opportunity to test full-scale prototype devices in high energy wave and tidal environments. In addition to full scale test sites there are also nursery sites for testing of small scale prototypes.

#### Agency Responsible for Support

EMEC

<http://www.emec.org.uk/>

#### Maximum and minimum funding available

Rather than providing funding this is testing enabler scheme.

#### Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?

Yes

#### Is this a local, regional or national support?

Although the test centre is based in Orkney it has been used by many developers (including international).

#### Other useful/relevant information

As a result of EMEC there has been substantial growth in Orkney based around or stemming from the marine energy industry (including enterprises set up for servicing devices).

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### SMART: Scotland

#### Link to support information on website

<http://www.scottish-enterprise.com/services/develop-new-products-and-services/smart-scotland/overview>

#### Type of R&D Support

Provides grants to SMEs to help undertake technical feasibility studies and research and development (R&D) projects that have a commercial endpoint.

#### Description of the support

Feasibility studies

Supports up to 70% of the eligible costs for a small SME and up to 60% of the eligible costs for a medium SME:

- A Small SME has less than 50 employees and a turnover of less than €10m
- A Medium SME has 50-250 employees and a turnover of less than €50m

Studies must last between 6 and 18 months, and the maximum grant is £100,000. One third of the grant is paid upfront when the project starts. The remainder is paid quarterly in arrears against claims submitted.

#### R&D Projects

This covers projects that aim to develop a pre-production prototype of a new product or process. Support is available at up to 35 per cent of the eligible project costs. Projects must last between 6 and 36 months, and the maximum grant is £600,000. The grant is paid quarterly in arrears and minimum total project cost is £75,000.

#### Agency Responsible for Support

Scottish Enterprise

<http://www.scottish-enterprise.com/services/develop-new-products-and-services/smart-scotland/overview>

#### Maximum and minimum funding available

For feasibility maximum £100k, for R&D £600k

#### Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?

No

#### Is this a local, regional or national support?

Regional (Scotland only)

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### Research & Development (R&D) Grant

#### Link to support information on website

<https://www.scottish-enterprise.com/services/develop-new-products-and-services/rd-grant/overview>

#### Type of R&D Support

Grant

#### Description of the support

Projects typically last 6 to 36 months and the grant can cover up to 50% of the project costs. The project must represent a significant innovation for the company concerned and significant risks should be associated with the challenge of developing a new product, process or service. It's got to be new, they don't support projects where the work has already started or commercial contracts are in place.

Grants are available at:

- For ALL SMEs applying for a grant in excess of £100k, SE is providing an intervention rate of 35% up to 50%.
- Grants above £100,000 must demonstrate a positive impact on R&D jobs in Scotland.

#### Agency Responsible for Support

Scottish Enterprise

#### Maximum and minimum funding available

No limit

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

No, it is open to new research and development

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

Regional (Scotland)

**Other useful / relevant information?**

An understanding is required to why the support is needed and consequences if support isn't available.

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**Scottish Energy Laboratory****Link to support information on website**

<https://www.scottish-enterprise.com/services/develop-new-products-and-services/scottish-energy-laboratory/overview>

**Type of R&D Support**

Energy testing and demonstrating capabilities

**Description of the support**

The Scottish Energy Laboratory (SEL) gives national and international companies access to Scotland's key. Through the SEL identify test facilities and services such as:

- Wind tunnels and wave tanks
- High voltage network connection
- Mechanical testing of large components
- Performance testing of energy conversion and storage technologies
- Electrical testing of motors, generators and power electronics

**Agency Responsible for Support**

Scottish Enterprise

**Maximum and minimum funding available**

Not applicable

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

No, it is specific to the entire energy sector

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

National and international

**Other useful / relevant information?**

It includes capabilities like the European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC) in Orkney, International Technology & Renewable Energy Zone (ITREZ) in Glasgow, the Energy Technology Centre in East Kilbride, the Hydrogen Office at Energy Park Fife and the Energy Technology Partnership across 12 Scottish Universities.

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## High-Growth Spinout Programme

### Link to support information on website

<https://www.scottish-enterprise.com/services/support-for-entrepreneurs/high-growth-spinout-programme/overview>

### Type of R&D Support

Funding and support

### Description of the support

The High-Growth Spinout Programme helps researchers to take their ideas and inventions from the lab to the global marketplace by awarding funding and support.

High-Growth Spinout Programme awards cover 100% of direct project costs prior to company formation. The programme does not pay overhead costs. Support is divided into three phases, with progress from one phase to the next being dependent on rigorous assessment. Payments are made quarterly, subject to satisfactory progress being made on the project.

### Agency Responsible for Support

Scottish Enterprise

### Maximum and minimum funding available

No limit set

### Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?

No

### Is this a local, regional or national support?

Regional (Scotland)

### Other useful / relevant information?

The next call for applications is 17<sup>th</sup> May 2017

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## Social and Community supports

### Community And Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES)

#### Link to support information on website

<http://www.localenergyscotland.org/funding-resources/funding/applying-to-cares/>

#### Type of Social Enterprise/Community Enterprise Support (be specific)

For the development of locally-owned renewable energy projects which provide wider community benefits.

**Description of the support**

The scheme is aimed at renewable projects that offer significant community engagement and benefit, providing loans towards the high risk, pre-planning consent stages of renewable energy projects. The Scottish Government's Community Energy Policy Statement and Good Practice for community benefit and shared ownership means all CARES applications require a degree of community ownership.

**Agency Responsible for Support**

Local energy Scotland <http://localenergyscotland.org/>

**Maximum and minimum funding available**

Up to £150,000

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

Yes but only locally-owned ones

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

Regional (Scotland only)

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**Community Energy Scotland****Link to support information on website**

<http://www.communityenergyscotland.org.uk/index.asp>

Type of Social Enterprise/Community Enterprise Support

Facilitates knowledge transfer and can also provide consultancy

**Description of the support**

CES is a Scottish registered charity that provides support throughout the process of community renewable energy developments. The charity is member based and facilitates knowledge transfer through partners.

**Agency Responsible for Support**

Community Energy Scotland

**Maximum and minimum funding available**

N/A

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

Yes

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

Regional (Scotland only)

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**Local Energy Scotland****Link to support information on website**

<http://www.localenergyscotland.org>

**Type of Social Enterprise/Community Enterprise Support (be specific)**

Advice

**Description of the support**

Offers a range of support for community and social enterprises who want to develop renewables. This includes information on renewable technologies and information on how to apply for funding.

**Agency Responsible for Support**

Local Energy Scotland

**Maximum and minimum funding available**

N/A

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

Yes

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

Regional (Scotland only)

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**Highlands and Islands Shared Ownership Support****Link to support information on website**

<http://www.hie.co.uk/community-support/community-energy/shared-ownership-of-renewables.html>

**Type of Social Enterprise/Community Enterprise Support (be specific)**

Shared Ownership Programme

**Description of the support**

Highlands and Islands Enterprise are supporting a Shared Ownership Programme to accelerate Shared Ownership projects. The programme will undertake the following activities.

- Community based workshops and training
- Webinars
- One to one support
- Provision of specialist technical, financial and legal support
- Resources and guidance tools to accelerate decision making

**Agency Responsible for Support**

Highlands & Islands Enterprises (HIE)

**Maximum and minimum funding available**

Not applicable

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

Yes

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

Local (Highlands & Islands)

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## Low Carbon Infrastructure Transition Programme (LCITP)

### Link to support information on website

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Business-Industry/Energy/Action/lowcarbon/LCITP>

### Type of Social Enterprise/Community Enterprise Support (be specific)

Development support, expert advice and funding

### Description of the support

Launched in early 2015, the Low Carbon Infrastructure Transition Programme LCITP is a new working partnership between the Scottish Government, Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE), Scottish Enterprise, Scottish Futures Trust and sector specialists.

It is aligned to the Scottish Government's commitment to the transition to the low carbon economy, and offers a range of support mechanisms. The Programme aims to support the development of substantive private, public and community low-carbon projects across Scotland through the provision of development support, expert advice and funding. It is designed to ensure that investment results in defined impacts for communities.

### Agency Responsible for Support

Highlands & Islands Enterprises (HIE)

### Maximum and minimum funding available

Not applicable

### Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?

No

### Is this a local, regional or national support?

Local (Highlands & Islands)

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## CARES plus

### Link to support information on website

<http://www.hie.co.uk/community-support/community-energy/cares-plus.html>

### Type of Social Enterprise/Community Enterprise Support (be specific)

Shared Ownership Programme

### Description of the support

It's a pilot 'Fast-Track' programme of support for selected community energy projects in the Highlands and Islands. It will work intensively with a limited number of advanced community energy projects to help them achieve key milestones towards financial close and installation. HIE have commissioned Community Energy Scotland (CES) to deliver this programme, which is provided at no cost to eligible organisations

### Agency Responsible for Support

Community Energy Scotland (CES)

### Maximum and minimum funding available

Not applicable



**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

Yes

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

Local (Highlands & Islands)

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**Scottish Communities Development Centre (SCDC) Community Support****Link to support information on website**

<http://www.scdc.org.uk/what/supporting-communities/>

<http://www.hie.co.uk/community-support/community-support/default.html>

**Type of Social Enterprise/Community Enterprise Support (be specific)**

Dependent on the needs of the community

**Description of the support**

The nature of this support will vary depending on the particular needs or circumstances of the participating groups, but may include:

- advice, guidance and signposting
- access to tools and resources
- training delivery
- mentoring / practical support
- connecting and networking.

**Agency Responsible for Support**

Highlands & Islands Enterprises (HIE)

**Maximum and minimum funding available**

Not applicable

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

No

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

Local (Highlands & Islands)

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**Other Types of Support****Contracts for Difference****Link to support information on website**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/electricity-market-reform-contracts-for-difference>

**Type of Support**

Payment for generating renewable electricity

### Description of the support

A Contract for Difference (CFD) is a private law contract between a low carbon electricity generator and the Low Carbon Contracts Company (LCCC), a government-owned company. A generator party to a CFD is paid the difference between the 'strike price' – a price for electricity reflecting the cost of investing in a particular low carbon technology – and the 'reference price' – a measure of the average market price for electricity in the GB market.

To win a contract for difference renewable schemes have to bid against each other.

Contracts for Difference are the main source of subsidy for renewable projects greater than 5 MW

### Agency Responsible for Support

Department of Energy and Climate Change through the Low Carbon Contracts Company  
<https://lowcarboncontracts.uk/>

### Maximum and minimum funding available or maximum value of funding if in kind (or alternative measure)

Depends on several factors including renewable type and the contract decided. Less mature renewables are paid more. The payments are given per MWh of electricity generated. Project under 5 MW go through the feed-in tariff approach instead. There is no maximum project size.

### Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?

No, all low carbon forms of generation are eligible

### Is this a local, regional or national support?

National

### Other useful/relevant information

This scheme is the replacement of the UK Government's old Renewable Obligation Certificate support scheme for large renewable projects.

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## Feed-in tariff

### Link to support information on website

<https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/environmental-programmes/fit>

### Type of Support

Payment for electricity above the market price.

### Description of the support

If an application is successful a set amount for each unit (kWh) of electricity generated is paid. The rates vary depending on:

- the size of system
- technology type
- when the system was installed
- for household projects how energy efficient the house is

The feed-in tariff is the main support mechanism for renewable projects under 5 MW in size.

**Agency Responsible for Support**

Department of Energy and Climate Change <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-energy-climate-change>

**Maximum and minimum funding available or maximum value of funding if in kind (or alternative measure)**

No minimum project size, maximum of 5 MW. Tariff depends on type of renewable, for example currently Micro CHP receives the highest FiT tariff.

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

Yes

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

National

**Other useful/relevant information**

The feed-in tariff system has seen dramatic changes (i.e. massive cuts), as a result the ability of many schemes to be profitable is now dramatically reduced and many companies particularly in the solar sector have gone out of business.

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**Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI)****Link to support information on website**

For non-domestic users <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/environmental-programmes/non-domestic-rhi>

**Type of Support**

Payments based on the amount of renewable heat generated

**Description of the support**

The RHI is a government environmental programme that provides financial incentives to increase the uptake of renewable heat by businesses, the public sector and non-profit organisations.

Eligible installations receive quarterly payments over 20 years based on the amount of heat generated. It is the major support mechanism in place for renewable heat, being the equivalent of what the feed-in tariff is for electricity.

Businesses, public sector and non-profit organisations can apply if equipment was installed in England, Scotland or Wales on or after 15 July 2009 (or later in some cases). Installations must meet certain requirements.

**Agency Responsible for Support**

OFGEM

<https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/>

**Maximum and minimum funding available or maximum value of funding if in kind (or alternative measure)**

Provides additional income for 20 years, this income depends on the amount of heat generated

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

Available to any business which uses heating

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

National

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**Circular Economy Investment Fund****Link to support information on website**

<http://www.zerowastescotland.org.uk/circular-economy/investment-fund>

**Type of Support**

Grant Funding

**Description of the support**

The Circular Economy Investment Fund is a funding opportunity for businesses and organisations in Scotland working in all business and social economy sectors. £18 million as grant funding to small and medium sized enterprises who are helping to create a more circular economy.

Funding support can be provided for eligible operating and/or capital costs of the project, dependent upon which funding mechanism you select. Funding will only be provided in full where the costs (capital and operating) are utilised 100% for the purpose of the project.

**Agency Responsible for Support**

Zero Waste Scotland

**Maximum and minimum funding available or maximum value of funding if in kind (or alternative measure)**

Non applicable

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

No

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

Regional (Scotland)

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**Innovate Your Business Support by HIE****Link to support information on website**

<http://www.hie.co.uk/business-support/innovation-r-d/iyb.htm>

**Type of Support**

Funding

**Description of the support**

Funding of up to £15,000 could be offered to SMEs through our Small Innovation Grant Schemes. This is made available throughout the year to applicants working in the Highlands and Islands, and available to businesses with no more than 250 employees.

**Agency Responsible for Support**

Highlands & Islands Enterprises (HIE)

**Maximum and minimum funding available or maximum value of funding if in kind (or alternative measure)**

Maximum £15,000

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

No – all SMEs

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

Local (Highlands and Islands)

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**Start Global Programme****Link to support information on website**

<https://www.scottish-enterprise.com/knowledge-hub/articles/insight/how-to-start-global>

**Type of Support**

Soft – workshops, training etc.

**Description of the support**

The Start Global Programme is for new or early stage innovation driven companies with ambitions to go global. It's an intensive 4 month programme, designed to challenge and help validate the business idea. The programme includes:

- Workshops
- Entrepreneurial training
- One-to-one support
- A market visit to explore global opportunities

**Agency Responsible for Support**

Scottish Enterprise Programme

**Maximum and minimum funding available or maximum value of funding if in kind (or alternative measure)**

Not applicable

**Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?**

No

**Is this a local, regional or national support?**

Regional (Scotland)

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## Scotedge

### Link to support information on website

<https://scottishedge.com/>

### Type of Support

Entrepreneurial

### Description of the support

Scottish EDGE is a competition aimed at identifying and supporting Scotland's up-and-coming, innovative, high-growth potential entrepreneurial talent.

Winners of the Scottish EDGE will benefit from: Funding of up to £100,000, taking the form of a 50% grant, 50% loan Mentoring and support from a mature entrepreneur Enrolment into the EDGE Alumni programme Package of Support from leading business organisations.

### Agency Responsible for Support

Highlands & Islands Enterprises (HIE)

### Maximum and minimum funding available or maximum value of funding if in kind (or alternative measure)

Maximum £100,000

### Is this Specific to Renewable Energy businesses?

No

### Is this a local, regional or national support?

Regional (Scotland)



# GREBE

Generating Renewable Energy Business Enterprise

 @ GREBE\_NPA

 GREBEProject

Visit  
[www.grebeproject.eu](http://www.grebeproject.eu)

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## Project Partners

GREBE will be operated by eight partner organisations across six regions:



## About GREBE

GREBE is a €1.77m, 3-year (2015-2018) transnational project to support the renewable energy sector. It is co-funded by the EU's Northern Periphery & Arctic (NPA) Programme. It will focus on the challenges of peripheral and arctic regions as places for doing business, and help develop renewable energy business opportunities provided by extreme conditions.

