

# APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) GRANT

# FOR A PROJECT IN THE WOLVERCOTE NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM AREA

## **Autumn Round 2025**

- 1. Please read the "Guidance Notes for WNF CIL Funding Applications"
- The sections of this application form may be used flexibly to provide additional information where necessary. Not all sections will be relevant to all projects, and you may leave these blank.
- 3. Applications will be assessed by the WNF Steering Committee, taking account of the following criteria; applicants may wish to include supporting information regarding their project's fit to the criteria.
  - Location within or serving the WNF Community
  - The recipient operates as a recognised body with a nominated bank account
  - The project has agreement in principle from the property or asset owner
  - Value for money
  - Consideration has been given to health and safety requirements
  - Environmental sustainability
  - Innovation
- 4. If your application is successful, please
  - Confirm to the Forum receipt of funding from the City Council
  - Send us photographs of your finished project.

APPLICATION DATE	September 2025
REVISION DATE if applicable	
TITLE Short title by which the project will be known	Solar Panels for Cutteslowe Primary School
PROJECT APPLICANT(S)  Name of person (not organisation) who has initiated the project.  Do not include contact details here: see page 3.	Lee Smith
APPLICANT ORGANISATION  Name and type of organisation, if applicable, charity number.	Cutteslowe Primary School
OUTLINE PROJECT DESCRIPTION  Short description so others not associated with the project can understand its purpose and scope. Include aims & objectives, and expected beneficiaries (max 150 words)	To provide solar panels for Cutteslowe Primary School. This will allow us to reduce our carbon footprint by providing a sustainable and environmentally friendly method to meet the energy demands of the school.



We feel it is important to showcase the importance of continuing to push to reduce carbon emissions to protect the planet and to lead by example. We already have our own Eco Committee and the solar panels will be used to help teach the children about the benefits of renewal energy.

Energy bills come directly out of the individual school's budget so any money saved by producing our own energy will be used directly to further our children's learning. This will also protect us from future increases in energy costs.

Cutteslowe Primary School will be taking children from the Oxford North Development in addition to already having many from within the boundary of the Wolvercote Neighbourhood area.

### **MAIN TASKS**

A list of the main tasks and if appropriate an initial project plan with timescales.

Two companies have been consulted already for advice and quotations. We are also awaiting the advice and quotation from a third company.

Discussions with River Learning Trust to ensure compliance and support with installations have been initiated and they are supportive.

This essentially completes the feasibility study phase and funding is required in place to progress further.

Successful contractor to liaise with OCC for relevant permits. Advised that the roof appears suitable to support the panels but a structural survey is advised (this will be funded separately by us).

Installation of solar panels and connection to the grid to allow any excess energy to be sold.



## STAKEHOLDERS & DETAILS OF CONSULTATION

(e.g. Council, Highways, site owners or asset holders, community organisations, businesses, neighbours)

The Operations and Estates team at River Learning Trust have been consulted and they will provide logistical support and consents.

## RELEVANCE TO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

How does the project enhance or develop our neighbourhood?

Many of the children who live within the Wolvercote Neighbourhood Plan boundary area attend Cutteslowe school. The solar panels will provide a sustainable, green solution to the energy demands of the school over the next 20+ years, reducing the carbon footprint of North Oxford. Many of the children from the Oxford North housing developments will attend the school so this is an opportunity to use funds to directly support the infrastructure of the local community thus mitigating the impact of the development.

## **CONSENTS REQUIRED**

Are any legal consents required before the project can go ahead (e.g. from a Council department such as Highways, Planning, Building Control, or other statutory organisation)?

Planning not required.

Open Space permit to be investigated as clarification required.

Agreement for installation would be provided by River Learning Trust who have agreed in principle.

### **FINANCE**

How much will this project cost in total? What proportion is being sought from CIL funding? What other sources of finance are being pursued? Are you seeking matched funding? What will the CIL grant be spent on?

Quotations attached.

- A1 Contracting Ltd
- LumosPVPower
- Chiltern Solar (awaiting)

Preferred quotation is A1 Contracting Ltd (£40,676) – this includes a battery to store excess energy to maximise the benefit

PLEASE INCLUDE COPIES OF FIRM QUOTATIONS

## **MAINTENANCE**

How will the outputs of the project be maintained and by whom? Please note that CIL grants cannot be used to cover ongoing costs.

Solar panels will be maintained by the school and will be serviced annually. The school will pay for ongoing repair and maintenance through its Schools Condition Allocation funding, for which this qualifies under the strict qualification rules the DfE applies to the funding.



### RISK ASSESSMENT

Are there any financial or other risks to the completion of this project?

Are there any safety issues associated with the project?

Risk assessments will be completed by the winning contractor. All the contractors selected for quotation have experience of fitting solar panels to community buildings including schools. Expected installation 3-5 days.

### MONITORING AND REPORTING

How will the success of the project be monitored? Over what timescale?

There will be an opportunity to have a visual display in the school foyer which shows the school and its visitors the amount of green energy our school is producing. Energy bills would be made available upon request to show the costs savings that the school is making in order to invest for the children's and community experience.

## OTHER COMMENTS OR INFORMATION

Please list anything else of relevance you wish the Committee to be aware of.

The Eco Committee in the school is made up of representatives from each class and they look for ways to improve the environment and promote a green approach to their peers across the school – they have written the attached letter asking for your support. Additionally the school has achieved its Green Flag status for the last three years, based upon the work that the Eco Committee completes.

Information about the solar panels can be integrated into many lessons including science, maths, geography, sustainability and citizenship.

Cutteslowe school has a large area of accessible flat roof so is particularly well suited to solar panels.

Completed applications, WITH COPIES OF FIRM QUOTATIONS WHERE APPLICABLE should be sent with a covering email to <a href="workerbox">wolvercotenf@gmail.com</a>





