Introduction

The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) is Ireland’s national energy authority with a mission to play a leading role in the transformation of Ireland to a society based on sustainable energy structures, technologies and practices, and a vision of making Ireland a recognised global leader in sustainable energy. This encompasses environmentally and economically sustainable production, supply and use of energy, in support of Government policy, across all sectors of the economy. Its remit relates mainly to improving energy efficiency, advancing the development and competitive deployment of renewable sources of energy and combined heat and power, and reducing the environmental impact of energy production and use, particularly in respect of greenhouse gas emissions. SEAI is partly financed by Ireland’s EU Structural Funds Programme co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Union.

The Better Energy Programme is the National upgrade programme to retrofit Ireland’s building stock and facilities to high standards of energy efficiency, thereby reducing fossil fuel use, running costs and greenhouse gas emissions.

FutureFit’s focus is to test new and innovative approaches to achieving high quality and efficient delivery of improvements in energy efficiency for sport in Ireland to include sports clubs and facilities.

What type of project is eligible?

The call is open to projects in the community spanning multiple sectors. FutureFit is focusing on energy efficiency in sport, buildings, facilities and clubs but not restricted to that. The call will allow for a mix of technologies and a blend of domestic and non-domestic elements.

Energy efficiency retrofits should be prioritised and the project can include elements of renewable energy where appropriate.

What level of support is available?

Funding will be allocated based on an assessment of each individual project application, considered against the evaluation criteria outlined and taking account of other sources of funding leveraged. A maximum of 35% funding can be provided for Private sector projects, with up to 50% funding available for Public sector applications and not-for-profit organisations such as sports clubs. In exceptional circumstances a number of Public sector organisations may be allocated in excess of 50% funding.

Note: A maximum of 35% of overall project costs can be provided by state funding for Private Sector projects.
Potential projects for 2014

There is a five stage process for developing projects and preparing for Energy Efficiency funding.

Five Stage Project management Process

Stage One – Get Commitment

This stage involves a straightforward preliminary questionnaire detailing the scope and concept that might lead to energy efficiency funding. It documents overall energy use and cost for the facility and identifies order of magnitude figures for savings and implementation costs. It also documents organisational readiness and a signed commitment from both the senior accounting official and a senior manager in that organisation to proceed to the next step.

to receive a copy of the questionnaire please contact Paul – see details below.

Stage Two – Get Organised

This stage involves identifying the human resources required to develop the project. It includes preparing a programme, developing a register of opportunities, identifying and putting in place the energy metering required for gathering baseline data. FutureFit provide workshops and training that will assist through this stage of the process.

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