

From: Saunders, Mark - Oxfordshire County Council **On Behalf Of** Climate.Action
Sent: 12 May 2026 18:30
Subject: Annual community payments from renewable energy – help shape Oxfordshire’s new policy

Hello,

Oxfordshire's communities can benefit from the renewable energy projects currently progressing through the planning system. We are writing to invite your Parish Council to take part in a public consultation on a new policy that could put long-term, locally controlled funding directly into your community's hands. The draft Interim Policy for Community Benefit Contributions and Community Shared Ownership is now open for public consultation on Let's Talk Oxfordshire.

👉 Respond here: [Let's Talk Oxfordshire – CBC/CSO Consultation](#)

WHAT THIS COULD MEAN FOR YOUR PARISH

- For host communities of renewable energy projects, annual payments to your community, index-linked from the developer to a local fund for the full operational life of the project, potentially 20 to 40 years.
- For renewable energy projects under 10 MW, 100% of the community benefit contribution stays in the local fund. It comes directly to communities like yours.
- Decisions on how to spend the Local Fund will be made by you, guided by a Community Action Plan developed with and for your community.
- The pipeline is already here. There are over 25 projects in the Oxfordshire planning system and this pipeline could generate contracts for over £20 million in community benefit contributions by 2030. This policy ensures your community gets its fair share.

AN IMPORTANT POINT ON PLANNING

This policy does not determine whether renewable energy projects get built – that is entirely a matter for the planning system. What this policy does is ensure that if a project is approved, your community is treated fairly and consistently. We cannot control what comes forward – but we can make sure Oxfordshire communities get the best out of it.

HOW TO TAKE PART

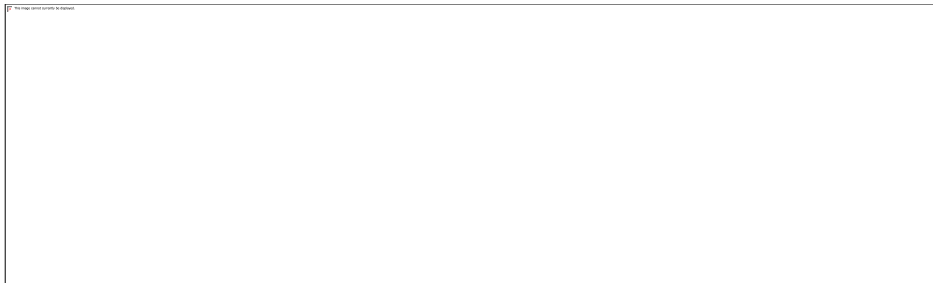
We encourage your Parsh Council to submit a formal response to the consultation, and we invite individual councillors to respond in their own right too. The consultation closes Monday 15th June 2026. For queries, please contact climate.action@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Regards

Mark Saunders

Energy Systems and Investment Manager, Oxfordshire County Council

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