

# Mercury Waipipi community fund application guidelines

## 1. What this Community Fund is for.

We know this is a community where people get things done. The Mercury Waipipi Community fund is here to support organisations and projects that benefit the communities around the wind farm.

Mercury will provide the Fund with \$25,000 each year for the life of the Wind Farm. This will be CPI-adjusted so it keeps up with inflation ([see how much is available this year](#)).

## 2. Who can apply?

Individuals, charitable or non-profitable organisations are eligible to apply for funds from the Mercury Waipipi Community Fund. Applications must relate to an identified individual or community need in the area surrounding the wind farm (defined as the Patea Ward of the South Taranaki District Council).

Applications will not be considered from or in respect of any of the following:

- Commercial or profit orientated organisations or individuals
- Projects with a religious or political purpose (although we welcome applications from church groups towards a social/community purpose)
- Rents, running or overhead costs
- Conference organisation
- Completed projects
- Projects and initiatives that are the sole responsibility of a Council or Government, except where entities are individually incorporated but serve as part of a broader government service (such as local volunteer fire brigade).

We want to share the Fund around, so each organisation or individual may have one successful application per year.

## 3. How we choose which projects to fund.

We know that people in the community know best where this Fund can make a real difference. The Fund is administered by a Community Fund Committee, made up of community members who have a good understanding of the communities around the wind farm, in the area covered by the Fund. We have faith in the local knowledge of the Committee to discuss and decide the allocation of the funds. All decisions of the Committee are final.

Projects and initiatives considered for funding through the Community Fund are assessed against the criteria in point 4 below, and those that best meet these will have the greatest chance of success. We might also ask for further information in considering applications or proposals.

Make sure that you fill out all fields in the application.

## 4. What kind of projects are funded?

The Community Fund Committee will consider projects that fall within one or more of Mercury communities support criteria:

### People

- to live better lives (Schools/kura, Upskilling, inclusion & diversity)
- safety and wellbeing (river safety, supporting health and mental health)

### The water, land and environment

- care for the environment
- long term inter generational thinking
- part of New Zealand's decarbonisation journey (such as supporting bikes and e-vehicles)

### Relationships

- connections between people (Clubs, events)
- respect for others in the community
- sharing our expertise and insights

## 5. How is the application made?

All applications must be submitted using the Mercury Waipipi Community Fund Form, which is available via the Waipipi wind farm webpage (<https://www.mercury.co.nz/waipipi-wind-farm-community-fund>) or directly by contacting the Committee: [WaipipiWindFarmcommunityfund@mercury.co.nz](mailto:WaipipiWindFarmcommunityfund@mercury.co.nz)

There are two rounds of funding each year:

	Round 1	Round 2
Applications open	1 October	1 March
Applications close	1 December	1 May
Decision on funding made	December	June
Successful applicants awarded	January	June

Applications will not be accepted by organisations or individuals that have previously received funding and:

- Did not deliver the project as described in the original application
- Did not supply a Report Back Form within the agreed timeframe as required
- Did not return funds to Mercury Waipipi Community Fund where the project was not implemented as agreed (this does not apply to successful applicants who return funds where the actual cost of their project fell below their proposed project costs)

## 6. Successful applicants.

Successful applicants should complete their project or allocate the funding within the timeframe specified on their application form – but sometimes things change so keep us in the loop.

We'd really like it if successful applicants to the Fund acknowledged the funding so that other groups hear about the Community Fund, and see examples of how it is used. We suggest at least one of the following means:

- Acknowledgement in annual accounts/reports
- Acknowledgement in publicity material, such as a newsletter
- If you would like to put the Mercury logo somewhere, please let us know and we will supply something suitable

Successful applicants may also be involved in promotion of the Mercury Waipipi Community Fund to the media, and in Mercury's social media and other channels. If your application is successful and you accept the grant, you agree to participate in any publicity generated by Mercury (or Mercury's marketing partners), and to the use of the applicant's name, project that the grant has been awarded for and photos of the finished product for promotional purposes.

## 7. Reporting back.

Upon completion of their project or initiative, all successful applicants must complete a Report Back form including photographs of the completed project. The Report Back form can be found on the Waipipi Wind Farm project webpage.

Please complete this form within two months of the completion date you proposed within your application.

If funding is not spent, it must be returned to the Community Fund for use by other projects.

**For more information, please email: [WaipipiWindFarmcommunityfund@mercury.co.nz](mailto:WaipipiWindFarmcommunityfund@mercury.co.nz)**