

## What can be funded?

The fund will support projects that:

- Protect the welfare of vulnerable community members during a significant power outage or emergency weather event
- Enhance community facilities and services that may be used or instigated in the event of a significant power outage or emergency weather event
- Improve communication during an emergency situation, to keep communities informed or aid contact between local groups and response services

## What cannot be funded?

- Projects that do not benefit people living in the Southern Electric Power Distribution area
- Activities that are the responsibility of the statutory authorities
- Retrospective funding (ie paying for costs incurred before a decision on an application for support from the fund has been made)
- The fund will not provide grants directly to individuals



## How do I apply?

Application forms and guidelines can be downloaded from our website:  
[www.ssep.co.uk/resiliencefund](http://www.ssep.co.uk/resiliencefund)

### Application deadline

17 April 2015  
25 September 2015  
April 2016  
September 2016

### Decision made

21 May 2015  
October 2015  
May 2016  
October 2016

## Further information

To discuss a potential application, or for more general information and advice, please contact:

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# RESILIENT COMMUNITIES FUND

Grants of up to £20,000 to support community resilience in central southern England



## SEPD Resilient Communities Fund

Following the storms of December 2013 which caused severe disruption across the UK network, Southern Electric Power Distribution (SEPD) has established this fund to support communities in the affected areas to improve local resilience for future emergency weather events.

The fund is in addition to £1 million that SEPD donated to four national charities, Red Cross, Age UK, MacMillan Cancer Support and National Energy Action.



## Why is community resilience important?

Local emergency responders need to prioritise those in greatest need during an extreme weather emergency and therefore cannot respond to everyone immediately. This means that in certain situations communities may need to rely on their own resources to cope with an incident until they can be reached by professionals.

Communities that spend time planning and preparing for emergencies handle the consequences better and recover more quickly.

Through building on existing relationships and networks, and applying local knowledge, communities can act in a way that complements the responses of the emergency services and creates a stronger, coordinated framework from which to effectively deal with severe weather situations at local level.

## Who can apply for a grant?

The fund is open to constituted community groups, not-for-profit organisations and registered charities working in the Southern Electric Power Distribution area in central southern England. If you are unsure who your distribution network operator is, please visit:

[www.ssepd.co.uk/whosmynetworkoperator](http://www.ssepd.co.uk/whosmynetworkoperator)



## How much funding is available?

£1 million will be distributed over two years from March 2015. Grants between £500 and £20,000 are available.



## How is the fund managed?

The fund operates as a competitive grant-making scheme. The SEPD Resilient Communities Fund Panel reviews applications and determines which projects should receive funding. The panel comprises representatives with expertise in community resilience planning alongside members of the SEPD management team.

Funding rounds will open twice a year and priority will be given to groups in the areas severely affected by previous storms.

