

Open Innovation Call 3 : Social Innovation and Energy Collaboration



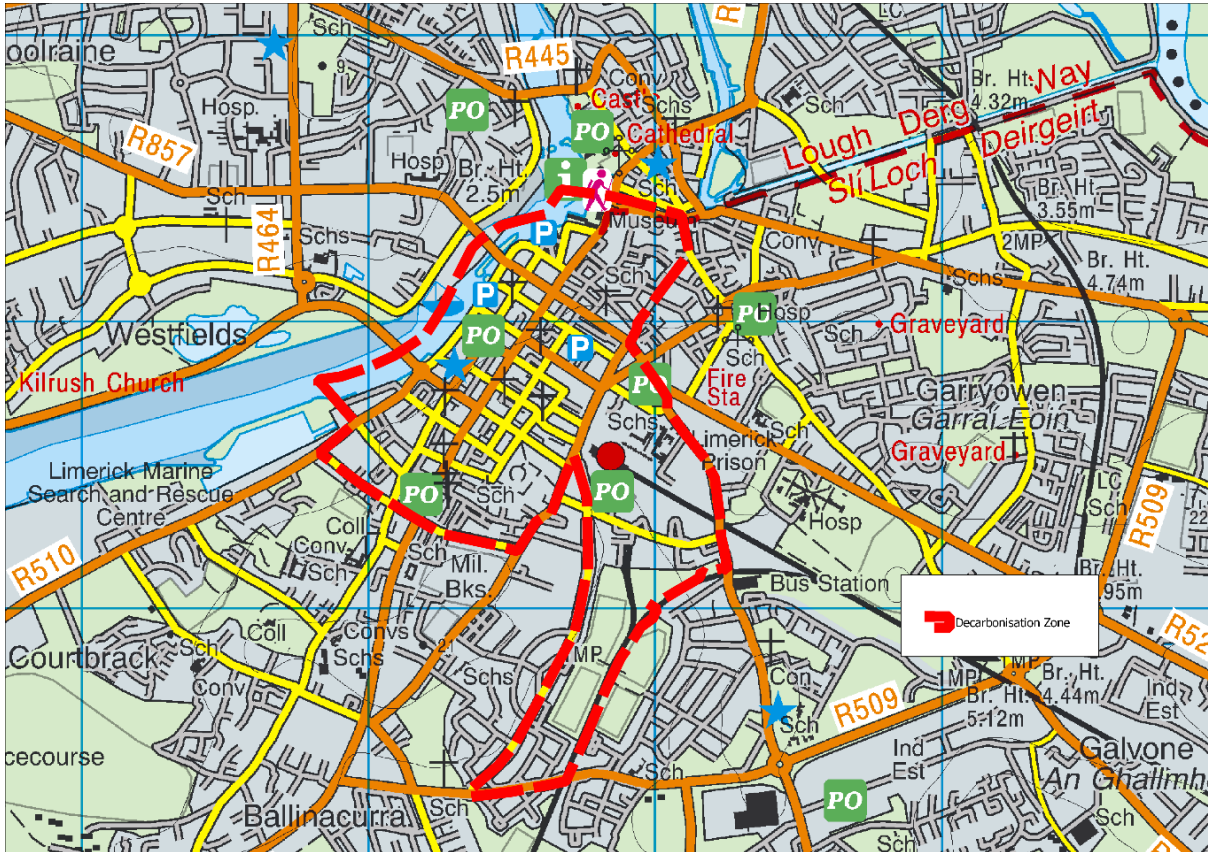
Do you have an idea that could help transform the way Limerick uses energy?

Limerick City and County Council, as part of [+CityxChange](#), are offering up to €5000 for your energy-related project

+CityxChange Open Innovation Calls are an invitation to the public to participate in the work of the [+CityxChange](#) project in Limerick. We're working to develop a Positive Energy District in the city - an area that over the course of a year generates more energy from local renewable sources than it consumes. The project is supported by the EU Horizon 2020 programme, and the project team includes Limerick City & County Council, University of Limerick, Smart MPower, GKinetic, and ESB Networks among others.

Open Innovation Calls are an opportunity to test out new ideas, prototypes, and services, with support from +CityxChange partners. Ideas are tested in real life settings for a set period of time and we welcome interest from citizens, makers, creatives, startups, businesses, non-governmental organisations (NGO's) and other stakeholders.

A series of Open Innovation Calls since 2019 have supported eleven projects addressing the themes "Re-imagining Limerick's Laneways", "Take control of Your Energy" and "Social Innovation and Energy Collaboration". We are now re-opening the "Social Innovation and Energy Collaboration" Open Innovation Call.



This Open Innovation Call will support projects that explore social innovation¹ and other innovations to enable energy collaboration. We're looking for ideas that can help us work together to reduce the amount of energy used, e.g. by promoting collaborative approaches to energy retrofits or grant schemes; and increase the renewable energy generated by residents, businesses, and others in the city, e.g. through working together on the development of local renewable energy projects. We are particularly interested in projects that explore how to reduce fossil fuel dependency, or reduce energy consumption in the context of the current energy crisis and growing energy poverty. Projects are to be demonstrated and visible in the city, and we are particularly interested to support innovative approaches in the city centre. The theme includes:

- encouraging the development of Sustainable Energy Communities and energy cooperatives (what could encourage people to work together to use less energy or to generate more renewable energy?)
- using sensors and data to support the formation of neighbourhood collaborations around energy (how might we measure different kinds of energy use/production in the city?)

¹ Social innovation refers to the design and implementation of new solutions that imply conceptual, process, product, or organisational change, which ultimately aim to improve the welfare and wellbeing of individuals and communities. Many initiatives undertaken by the social economy and by the civil society have proven to be innovative in dealing with socio-economic and environmental problems, while contributing to economic development. <https://www.oecd.org/regional/leed/social-innovation.htm>

- enabling decision-making on energy usage by individuals and communities that supports energy collaboration (how do we help people to take control of their energy use for energy conservation, retrofitting and generation of their own energy)
- encouraging more energy users to become Active Consumers/Prosumers (how can more people become consumers and producers of local renewable energy?)
- supporting energy saving activities including recycling, waste management improvements, and smarter production methods
- other innovations that support collaborations to accelerate progress towards a clean energy future

Successful participants will be required to document their project process, which will appear as a Story on the Citizen Innovation Lab website <https://citizeninnovationlab.ie/stories/>.

Background

Limerick is one of two EU ‘lighthouse’ cities that have been selected for a major climate-change pilot programme that will give a lead to the rest of Europe on how to dramatically reduce the carbon footprint of urban areas.

The EU [+CityxChange](#) Programme (Positive City Exchange) sees Limerick, along with Trondheim in Norway, chosen to roll out a project that has the potential to revolutionise how we produce and use energy in European cities and towns.

For more information: <https://www.limerick.ie/cityxchange/about>

An Open Innovation Call Information Session will be held on January 17th in the Citizen Innovation Lab. See the timeline below for more details.

Timeline

Application live on MyPoint	Tues, Jan 17th 2022 @ 7pm
Deadline for queries	Mon, Jan 30th 2023
Response to queries (online FAQs published)	Mon, Jan 30th 2023
Deadline for submissions	Mon, Jan 30th at 5pm
Successful proposals announced	Mon, Feb 6th 2023
Milestone update meeting	Tues, 23rd May 2023
Monitoring and evaluation of solutions	July to September, 2023

How to make an application and who can apply.

Applications are open to everyone: community groups, makers, businesses, start-ups, researchers and designers. Projects must be demonstrated in Limerick’s “Innovation Playground,” a designated space for innovation in the city. Applicants who take part in this Open Innovation Call retain their intellectual property over the ideas submitted. If you think your project may need permissions or insurances, please contact us before making your application.

Applications must be made on Limerick City and County Council’s public consultation and collaboration platform [MyPoint](#)

The deadline for submissions is **Monday, January 30th 2023, at 5:00pm**

If you have any queries re the application process, please email cityxchange@limerick.ie

Assessment criteria:

Cost (Total: 25%)

- How does the proposal financially relate? Is the overall budget realistic and justified in terms of the aims and methods proposed? Does the proposed budget represent satisfactory value for money? **(Section 4, Questions A and B..... 25 %)**

Quality (75%) of which:

1. Quality of Proposal (Total: 40%)

- How well does the proposal address the challenges identified? Is the solution strongly user-focused, easy to understand, achievable, secure and cost effective **(Section 2, Question 2, 3 and 4..... 20 %)**
- How significant is the renewable energy solution proposed related to the themes of the +CityxChange project **(Section 2, Question 3 and 4..... 20 %)**

2. Quality of Team (Total: 15%)

- To what extent does the team appear to have the right skills and experience to deliver the intended benefits? **(Section 3, Question 3..... 10 %)**
- What are the risks (technical, financial and environmental) to project success? How effectively will these be managed? **(Section 2, Question 6..... 5 %)**

3. Execution & Planning (Total: 20%)

- How significant is the overall impact of the Energy Related Innovation and the structure of planning schedule to be executed **(Section 2..... 20 %)**

Application Form Questions

Section 1 : Applicant Details

QUESTION	
1a. Full Name (main applicant) *	
1b. Company / Organisation Name (if relevant)	
1c. E-mail address (main applicant) *	
1d. Contact Number (main applicant) *	
1e. Address (main applicant) *	

Section 2 : Project Proposal

QUESTION	
2a. Project Title (Please give your idea a name) *	
2b. Short description of your proposal (What do you want to do? Why?) [50 words] *	
2c. Details of your proposal (Please describe your proposal in more detail (Max. 500 words). Please consider: What will your project try to achieve? How will it work? Who is it for?) *	
2d. How does your project address the challenges set by the Open Innovation Call? *	
2e How will your project address the Social Innovation theme (see the Briefing Document).	
2f. Timeline / Milestone Dates for your project (How long will your project take to plan? When will it be ready to implement? Please give an indicative timetable for your project) *	
Please look closely at the project timeline described above, and describe how your milestones correspond to the dates stated.	
2g Do you foresee any particular challenges with your project? (Are there aspects of your project you might need help with – technical, legal, or otherwise?) *	
2h. What are the ways in which this proposal could be monitored? What indicators can be used to measure the impact or feasibility of this project? *	

Section 3 : Describe your Team

QUESTION	
3a. Please describe your team. Please let us know how many will work on the project, the skills and roles each team member will play. *	
3b. Has your group any previous experience running projects like the one you're proposing? Please tell us about it if so. *	

Section 4 : Budget

We need to know what kind of funding your project requires. The Open Innovation Call can fund projects up to. Please give us as much detail as possible.

QUESTION	
4a. Total Requested *	
<i>Maximum award €5,000 Minimum award €500.</i>	
4b. Please list your expenses, and give as much detail as possible. Include materials, equipment expenses and other costs, where you will source them, and costs involved. *	
<i>Please note personal expenses or time cannot be claimed.</i>	
4c. If your total expenses are more than €5000, please give details and explain how you will make up the difference. *	

Section 5 : Communications

5a. How will your project interact with the wider public in Limerick? Does it have an intended audience? How will you communicate with the public about your project? *	
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Section 6 : Declaration

I have read the Briefing Document, and understand the application requirements including the requirement to document the project process.*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I consent to my personal data being processed as set out in the Data Protection Privacy Statement for Open Call 3. * <i>If you do not consent, you will not be able to complete the application form. You may withdraw your consent at any time by contacting cityxchange@limerick.ie</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I have read the MyPoint Site Privacy Policy *	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I confirm that the details provided in this application are accurate and true, and should the application be eligible for funding, will produce the project as outlined in the submission above. *	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>