



# Quick Response Grants Energy Audit Rebate 2026/27 Guidelines and Assessment Criteria

## Introduction

Wellington Shire Council is committed to achieving positive environmental outcomes through sustainable practices, which achieves value for money while minimising impact to the environment. Many of our community facilities may have an impact on our environment. By planning ahead, we can minimise our impact by adopting sustainable practices.

An energy audit can clarify your facilities' energy consumption and identify areas for potential savings. It can lead to reduced energy use, improved productivity, and opportunities to innovate.

## Overview

- The rebate of **up to \$500** is available to Wellington based community groups who engage an auditor and receive a report for their facility.
- The rebate is available to Community facilities with yearly energy bills (can include both gas and electric) over \$1000 can apply.
- The application is a pre-approval and is open until 30 March 2027 or once allocated funds are expended.
- An Energy Audit report and receipt of auditor payment must be presented by 1 June 2027.

## Finding and selecting an energy auditor

An energy audit typically costs between \$400 and \$1000 depending on the size and location of the facility. Energy audits or assessments are conducted by professionals that have industry accepted credentials. They understand how to undertake the assessment in line with Australian Standards.

Council has engaged locally based auditors to assess council managed buildings. These have included:

### **Ecodecisions**

Metung  
Graeme@ecodecisions.com.au  
03 9770 5686

### **Rhys Freeman Energy Auditing**

Gippsland  
0409 536 995  
Info@rhysfreeman.com.au

### **Baw Baw Sustainability Network**

Yarragon  
0490 485 370  
Bawbawsn@gmail.com.au

### **Guest Energy**

Bairnsdale  
Guestenergy@icloud.com  
0438 530 130



You are not required to use one of the above contractors and Sustainability Victoria has also compiled a list of consultants who have delivered audits to businesses under their energy efficiency grant programs.

[Click here for the list.](#)

### Important things to note

- What will not be funded:
  - Venues used to deliver a direct political party message.
  - School facilities
  - Venues with or designed for gaming machines, gambling and betting.
- The not-for-profit community group applying for the grant will be referred to as the 'organisation' throughout the pre-approval application.
- The applicant is the organisation, not the individual representative or person completing the application form.

### Criteria - General

After reading the rebate guidelines, please contact the **Grants Officer 1300 366 244** if you have any questions. This will ensure you are eligible to apply, and your application meets the guidelines.

1. Grants are available to not-for-profit community groups operating in the Wellington Shire.
2. Schools are not eligible to be an applicant.
3. Applicants must be incorporated bodies or have an established legal entity (ABN). If your organisation is not incorporated or does not have an ABN, you will be required to provide the details of an auspice organisation. The auspice organisation will receive the grant funding on your behalf and will ultimately be responsible for the Acquittal Report.
4. If your organisation is incorporated but does not have an ABN, a 'Statement by a Supplier – Reason for Not Quoting an ABN' form must be included with your funding agreement. This form is available from the Australian Tax Office website
5. **Applicants who have previously been successful in receiving funding MUST have completed all Acquittal Reports and complied with Council requirements prior to being considered for the Energy Audit Rebate round.**
6. Multiple applications for the same facility will not be accepted.
7. Applications must be completed in full and have sufficient evidence to make a reasonable assessment of the application. Council reserves the right to further investigate aspects of the application. Applications and Acquittal Reports must be on the correct form.
8. Where possible, the goods and services used in the funded activity (suppliers and contractors) be sourced from within the Wellington Shire.
9. A quote or evidence of the item cost must be included in application.



10. Funding must not be regarded as a recurrent commitment from Council. There is no guarantee a recurring activity will be funded in the future. Funding is limited.
11. The applicant is responsible for all ongoing maintenance and running costs of any equipment purchases resulting from a successful application.
12. Applicants will receive a Pre-approval notification and applicants will be required to present the Energy Audit report and auditors receipt to receive rebate. You may also be asked to comply with additional conditions.
13. All approved energy reports and receipt of payment must be submitted by 1 June 2027 to receive rebate.
14. You will be notified via online grant program of the outcome of your application 10 business days after the submission date. You are welcome to contact the Grants officer for further feedback. Rebate payments (report and receipt is submitted) can take 6 to 8 working weeks to arrive in your bank.
15. You are required to acknowledge Wellington Shire Council's support of your activity, where possible.
16. Wellington Shire Council is committed to upholding the Human Rights principles as outlined in the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic) and has referred to Council's Human Rights Policy to develop the WSC CAG & QRG program Guidelines and Assessment Criteria.

### **Contact**

For general grant enquiries or if you require assistance in completing the application form please contact:

Community Facilities Planning and Grants Officer

Phone: 1300 366 244

Email: [grants@wellington.vic.gov.au](mailto:grants@wellington.vic.gov.au)