

The potential for community energy and local authority collaboration

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Community Energy England

Putting People at the Heart of Energy Transformation

Vision: A thriving community energy sector integrated into and truly powering a fair, zero-carbon energy system.

Mission: To create the conditions within which community energy is able to thrive and scale.

- Support a pipeline of community energy organisations across England to grow in scale and impact
- Advocate for a policy and regulatory environment that supports the growth of community energy
- Fostering collaboration across private, public and community sectors

Representing 300+ member organisations across public, private and community sectors

Community
Energy
England



Community energy



Community

Leadership

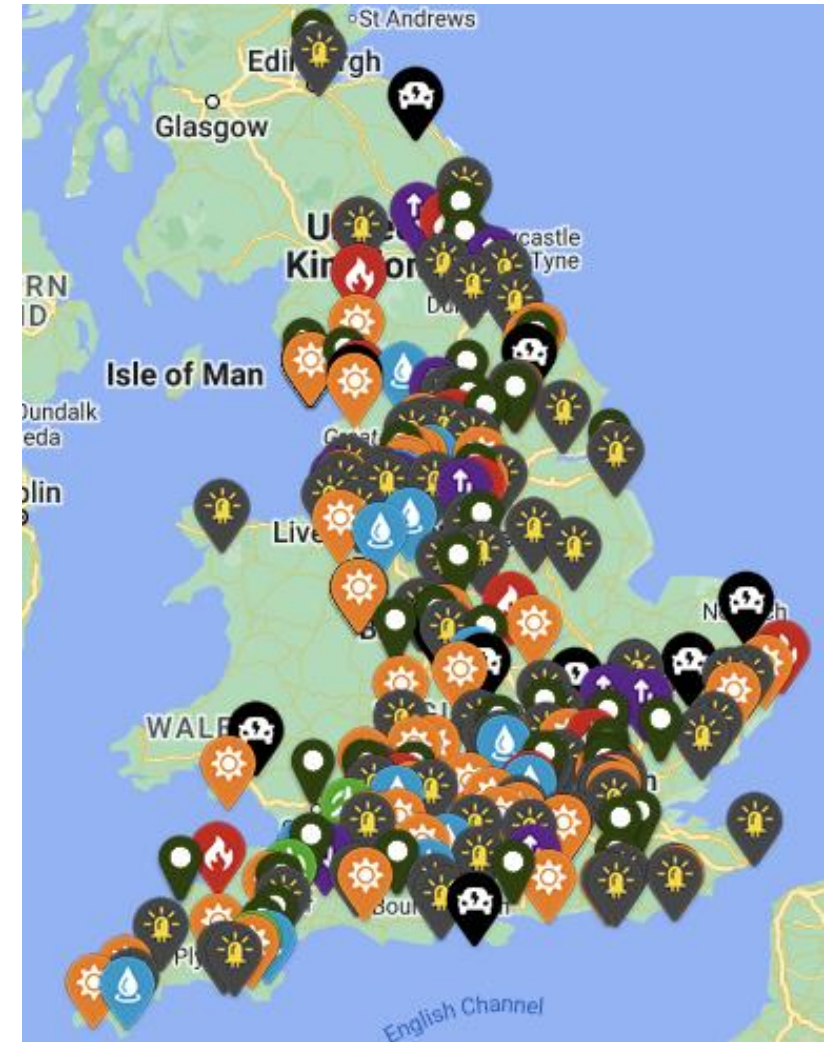
Ownership

Accountability

Benefit

The UK picture and key trends

- CE growing across the UK
 - <https://communityenergyscotland.org.uk/>
 - <http://www.communityenergywales.org.uk/>
- Mix of new projects coming through
 - Small community groups looking at individual projects to cut energy costs
 - Emerging groups wanting to take practical action on climate change
 - New CE organisations - developing project pipeline or starting to deliver projects e.g. energy champions
 - Established groups - pipeline, multiple projects and technologies
 - Advanced groups - whole place solutions



Map of CEE member projects

Why community energy is important

“It will not be possible to get close to meeting a net-zero target without engaging with people or by pursuing an approach that focuses only on supply-side changes”

The (UK) Climate Change Committee



“Community energy is a crucial part of the energy picture if the UK is to have any chance of meeting net zero and seriously addressing the climate emergency”

The value of LA and CE working together

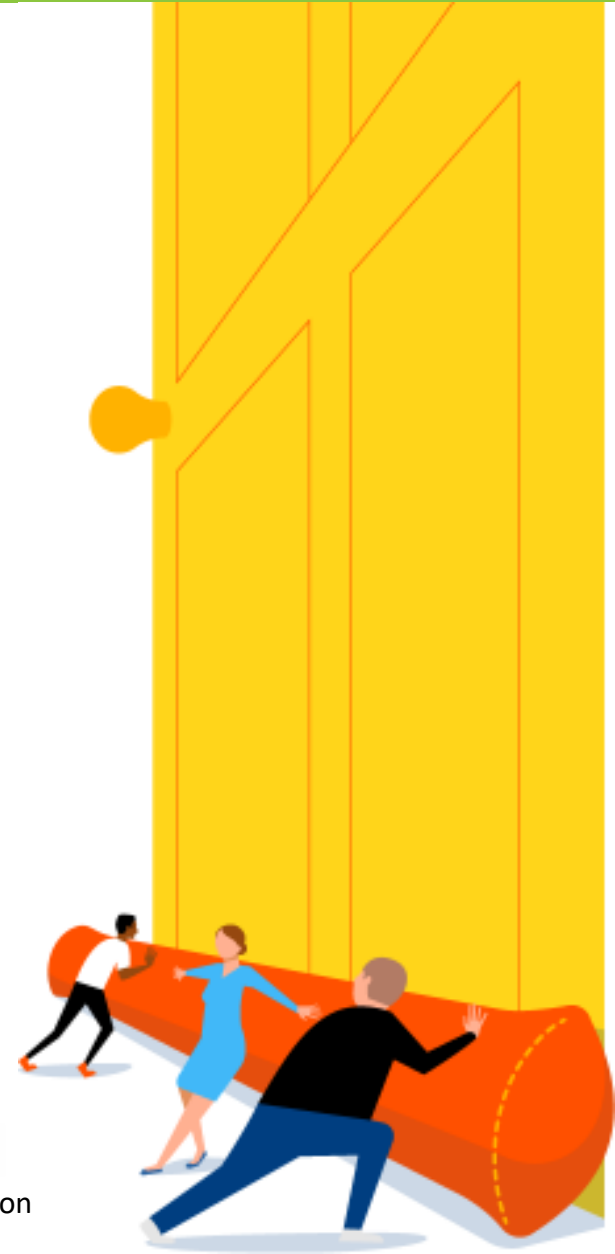
- Extending reach and sustained engagement
- Leveraging further finance and funding
- Increasing resources and assets
- Creating a more focussed and powerful mechanism for driving local energy delivery
- Balancing risk against direct local benefits
- Lasting impact
- Unlocking innovation
- Maximising community benefit and a catalyst for wider social, economic and environmental change...



Barriers and opportunities

There are barriers but the opportunities are HUGE

- Many challenges can be overcome through partnerships
 - Capacity
 - Budgets
 - Time
 - Local variances in scale, motivation, skills
- DESNZ call for evidence on the barriers to community energy
- National and regional support networks e.g. APSE, Community Energy Eng/Scot/Wales, Net Zero Hubs
- UK Energy Learning Network (more details soon)
- General Election?!



3 steps to success

1. Find what exists already (*CEE national map to be re-launched soon*)
2. Start with some easy quick-wins e.g. solar PV, Community Energy South Pathways Programme, Community Energy Fund
3. Consider support for existing groups (what do your local groups need)

Read: [Transforming Energy: The Power of Local Toolkit](#) (Bristol Energy Network)

More resources soon through the UK Energy Learning Network



Putting people at the heart of energy transformation

Find out more at:

communityenergyengland.org

 ► @Comm1NRG



 YouTube^{GB} ► bit.ly/CEE-YT

Join us: bit.ly/Join-CE

