

Powering Up North

Changing our communities' energy future

Date

26th February
10.00 to 16.00 (registration from 9.30)

Location

Friends' Meeting House, Mount Street,
Manchester, M2 5NS

Overview

A community energy conference for the public sector and communities; exploring how we can encourage and capitalise on the fast paced growth of the community energy sector throughout the UK, to harness and expand this growth in the North.

Objectives

As part of the event we will be looking to explore:

- ✓ **Opportunity** – exploring the potential for community energy in the North. Highlighting the multiple benefits this can bring, not just lowering carbon, but bringing social change and leveraging investment into renewable energy infrastructure.
- ✓ **Challenges** – examining the issues and challenges, are they different from the South, if so, how and why?
- ✓ **Co-operation and networks** – the keys to success in community energy are partnerships, collaboration and co-operation.
- ✓ **Support** – working together to make it happen, delivering the full potential of community energy together.

There will be plenty of opportunities for discussion and networking including facilitated workshop sessions.

Who should attend?

Please note that this event is free to attend and is aimed at representatives from community energy groups, local authorities, the third sector, central government and other public bodies.

Further information

For full information visit: <http://claspinfo.org/powering-up>

An invitation with further information is attached and you can book places at:
<https://powering-up-north.eventbrite.co.uk>

Agenda

09.30 Registration, tea and coffee available

10.00 Plenary – Supporting growth in community energy

Introduction by the Chair:

Ed Gillespie - Futerra

Why now for community energy?:

Anna Watson - Friends of the Earth

Amy Cameron - 10:10

The importance and opportunity of community energy:

1. **Levering investment** – Pure Leapfrog - Adam Marvel – Scaling up, the opportunities for Local Authorities and Registered Providers
2. **Social investment** – Pier 11 C.I.C - James Hallsworth - What does this mean for community energy?
3. **Social impact** – ResPublica – Caroline Julian – How Community Energy creates social and economic opportunities
4. **Carbon impact** – Carbon Co-op - Jonathan Atkinson - Communities controlling demand reduction and the smart cities agenda
5. **Investing in renewables** – Charity Bank – Simon Thorington
6. **Non-traditional business models** – OFGEM – Dr Jeff Hardy

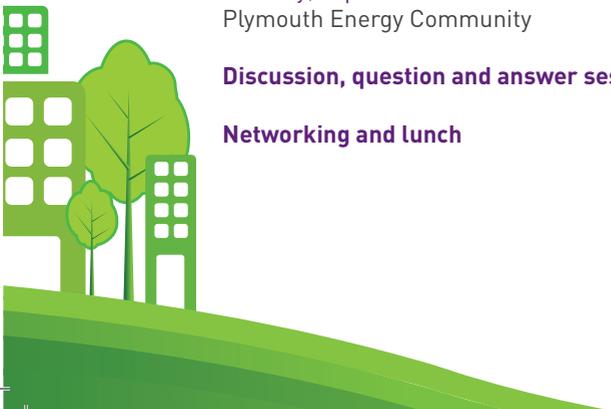
11.25 Refreshment break

11.45 Reviewing the challenges, support and success around the UK

1. **Challenges faced** - Becky Willis - Independent researcher
2. **Overcoming Challenges** Richard Collins - Sheffield Renewables
3. **CEE's manifesto** - Emma Bridge- what we need from policy makers
4. **Growing a Community Energy Network** – Ollie Pendered – Communities Matter
5. **The importance of peer and support networks**– Gill Fenna - MORE Renewables
6. **Community energy and social housing, the example of Chase Community Solar** – Mike Kinghan - Chase Solar
7. **Examining the broader benefits of a successful project** - Kevin Frea - Halton Lune Hydro
8. **YIMBY to Wind - When communities say yes to wind** - Rachel Lee - HoTTWind@Longley Community
9. **Journey, aspirations and vision** - Alistair Macpherson - Plymouth Energy Community

Discussion, question and answer session

Networking and lunch



13.45 Realising Transition Pathways Consortium:

Research Launch - Distributing Power, a transition to a civic energy future
Beth Robertson and Victoria Johnson

14.05 Keynote speech:

Alan Simpson: Community energy – Is the North ready for our energy future?

Breakout sessions

The afternoon sessions will be arranged in 2 time slots, with delegates attending the session most appropriate to their needs. Please sign up to the workshops you would like to attend on the sheets in the foyer.

10 sessions will follow on from the morning's presentation topics. There are also 2 'open' session topics where delegates may suggest their own topics for discussion.

The key to these sessions is to share ideas and capture the extensive knowledge from people involved in this sector and to work towards finding solutions to barriers. These sessions will be recorded and written up in a report.

Workshops – time slot 1

1) Community energy and new, localised energy systems

Chairs: Jonathan Atkinson – Carbon Co-op
Dr Mary Gillie – Energy Local
Caroline Julian – ResPublica

2) Social Investment and Social impact – what does this mean for community energy?

Chairs: James Hallsworth – Pier 11 CIC
Nick Matthews – Social Finance

3) Levering investment – Scaling up community energy

Chairs: Adam Marvel – Pure Leapfrog
Lisa Ashford - Ethex

4) The big behavior change: we did it with recycling, now it's energy conservation

Chairs: Andy Deacon – Global Action Plan
Mike Birkin – Bristol Energy Champions / Friends of the Earth

5) Setting up and supporting networks

Chairs: Ollie Pendred – Community Energy South
Gill Fenna – MORE renewables

6) Open Session –

Please think of a topic that you would like to discuss



Workshops – time slot 2

- 7) **Community Energy – Understand and assessing the broader impacts**
Chairs: Amy Cameron – 10:10
Chris Church – Low Carbon Community Network
- 8) **How communities can work with local authorities and registered providers.**
Chair: Alistair Machperson – Plymouth Energy Community
Mike Kinghan – Chase Community Solar
- 9) **Transition to a civic energy future**
Chairs: Beth Robertson – University of Strathclyde
Victoria Johnson – University of Manchester
- 10) **From the big 6 to 60,000, how can we make it happen?**
Chairs: Reg Platt – Ovo
Dr Jeff Hardy – OFGEM
- 11) **Policy drivers to make it happen – What support do we need to make community energy central to delivering a low carbon economy?** Chairs: Afsheen Rashid – DECC
Emma Bridge – Community Energy England
Paul Monaghan – Co-operative energy
- 12) **Open session – Please think of a topic you would like to discuss**
- 16.00 **Closing plenary**
- 16.15 **Close**
- 17.00 **Fuelling Manchester** - Community energy drinks social

