Community And Renewable Energy Scheme

Community Renewables, Kincraig Community Hall
12th December 2012

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Community Energy Scotland – About Us

• Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee with voluntary board

• Membership based

• Provide practical help for communities on green energy development.
Community Energy Scotland

We help communities across Scotland to own and operate renewable energy installations.

We believe communities can become stronger, more self reliant and resilient by generating their own energy and using it efficiently.

We provide training, finance and practical help.

We are a voice for communities who want to act now for a more secure and sustainable energy future.
What has been achieved?

• Support and advice to over **900 groups**

• Over **600 projects** completed or underway

• **898,000MWh** produced annually

• **385,000 tonnes** of CO2 saved annually

• Many more projects in the pipeline
What is the goal?

- Scottish Government target is **500MW** community and locally-owned renewables by 2020

- Approx 10MW currently operational, 28MW with planning consent

- Current pipeline projects 184MW

- *If* Government support continues, level could reach **656MW**
What Community Energy Scotland Does - Support

- Community Renewable Energy Toolkit
- Training Modules & Events
- Interactive Coaching Sessions
- Profile Raising: Govt, Media & Developers
- Policy Influence
- Facilitates Networking
What Community Energy Scotland Does – Funding and Contracts

• CARES Loans – Scottish Govt.

• BIG Lottery GCA

• Urban Renewable Energy Fund

• Rural Ayrshire Renewable Energy Fund
Community And Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES)

- Range of different strands to help projects at different stages
- Some strands are purely for community projects
- Pre-development can be used by commercial local energy projects
CARES Start Up Grant

- Funding to help your community group get started on the road to renewables

- Costs may include: start up costs, early feasibility, learning journeys

- Maximum application per group of £10K
CARES  Pre Planning Loan Fund

- Communities and Rural Businesses are eligible

- Main focus of funds is to reduce barriers / risk

- Community Energy Scotland is responsible for delivering these Scottish Government funds.

- The loans will be provided for the Scottish Government by the Energy Saving Trust
... CARES  Pre Planning continued

- The maximum loan is £150k per applicant, for up to 95% of costs
- The interest rate is 10%p.a.
- Rural Business projects will require to agree a defined community benefit payment with a local community organisation - £10,000 /megawatt of installed capacity
- Write off facility
... CARES Pre Planning Continued

• Credit Check

• Loans are to be drawn down during the current financial year and the financial year 2013/14 – last date for drawdown 20 March 2014

• These loans are repayable at financial close – when the capital stage of the project is financed
Other CARES strands:

- **Post Planning Loan** – Communities Only

- **Infrastructure and Innovation Fund** – Communities Only

- **Scottish Government Register of Community Benefits from Renewables**
What’s the first step?

Contact you local development officer

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Thanks for listening