About the Energy Saving Trust

• Energy Saving Trust is an independent body, established by UK government in 1992 to help householders.

• Today we work to address energy demand, and mitigate climate change in homes, communities and transport.

• We work with all the UK national administrations – UK/England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland – and on many cross-Europe projects and international programmes.

• Delivering the main support programmes for community energy in Scotland and Wales, and some support in England.
Community and local energy support programmes delivered by Energy Saving Trust

Local Energy Scotland/ Community & Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES) – EST is the lead partner in Local Energy Scotland which provides advice and manages the CARES scheme which provides funding. The programme supports communities, businesses and other organisations in all aspects of local, renewable energy.

Energy Saving Trust works with the Carbon Trust to deliver the Welsh Government Energy Service. The Welsh Government Energy Service helps realise Wales’ decarbonisation ambitions and support the public sector and community energy sector in Wales. The service provides technical, financial and other specialist support.
Community and local energy support programmes delivered by Energy Saving Trust

There is some funding, and the Regional Energy Hubs provide advice on community/local energy in England. The Ofgem supplier Redress programme, delivered by EST, supports principally community scale projects delivered by charities in energy and is supporting some novel community energy projects.

Energy Saving Trust works on community energy through the EnR network of national energy agencies. We developed the EU Heroes project: a European partnership tackling barriers to the development of community owned solar PV projects.
Definitions: community energy and local energy

The Local Energy Scotland programme supports:

*Shared ownership*
Where a community group invests in a commercially owned renewable energy project

*Community or Local ownership*
Where the installation is owned by a local voluntary group, public body or business (where that business’s main focus is NOT renewable energy developments)

*Community benefits*
Commercial renewable developers should offer meaningful community benefits. In Scotland we work with communities to help them negotiate community benefits deals.

*Community-led Local Energy Plans*
Developed by local residents, businesses and community organisations in collaboration with other stakeholders such as the local authority, DNO, local generators. A local Energy Plan supports and enables the local community to look at its existing and future energy needs across transport, heat and power in a specified local area.
1GW of community and locally owned energy by 2020

Scotland has a target of 1GW of community and local energy by 2020 - after we surpassed our previous target of 500MW five years early! Follow our progress below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Locally Owned Projects</th>
<th>Community Owned Projects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>617.06 MW</td>
<td>79.65 MW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 696.71 MW
# Installed capacity in Scotland by operating company

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership category</th>
<th>Operational capacity (MW)</th>
<th>% of operational capacity</th>
<th>% increase in capacity compared to 2017</th>
<th>Number of operational installations</th>
<th>% of operational installations</th>
<th>% increase in installations compared to 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farms and estates</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing association</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>9,710</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local authority</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>6,940</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Business</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other public sector and charity</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>697</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>6%</strong></td>
<td><strong>18,830</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>10%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Operational capacity rounded to nearest MW and number of installations rounded to nearest 10, which could mean the totals or proportions do not add.
Technologies installed by ownership type

Figure 5. Operational capacity as of June 2018 showing technology by ownership category
Installed Community Energy in England and Wales, 2018

- **Electricity Generation**: 7.9 MW
  - Capacity Installed

- **Heat Generation**: 144 kW
  - Capacity Installed

- **Energy Storage Projects**: 33

- **Communities involved in Low Carbon Transport Projects**: 29

- **Communities delivering Energy Efficiency projects**: 92

Source: *Community Energy State of the Sector 2019, Community Energy England*
Benefits of community and local energy approaches

• Additional capacity, additional investment by bringing in local actors
• Community education/ enthusiasm/ involvement for renewable energy and addressing climate change
• Democratisation of energy supply
• Manages grid constraints by maximising local consumption
• Generating local jobs and growth
• Reducing energy bills for local people and businesses
• Developing and piloting new technologies.
Developing community and local energy in the post FiTs world

• Integrated approaches – system led approaches are essential and much more focus on system level planning is emerging
  • But loss of FiTs still a big blow
  • Community energy is becoming more complex as projects only start to stack up with greater onsite usage.
  • Decarbonisation of heat remains a significant challenge in the UK and more work is required to identify how communities can play a greater role in local low carbon heat supply
“The reduced feed-in tariffs make the financial attractions marginal. Without a stronger financial case it will prove difficult to obtain commitment.”

“There appears to be a revival in the sector as groups innovate solutions to post subsidy generation, grid innovation, aggregation and demand management are starting to be taken up by some groups.”

“The removal of the FIT is forcing community energy groups to think differently about their role and diversify their services and look beyond generation projects.”

“There is no long-term vision for the energy transition in the UK, despite consensus in other countries. This is shocking given the evidence on climate breakdown.”