

BEN open meeting 4 October 2017

Small group notes (from flipcharts)

1. Community resilience

What does it mean? Energy from own resources – policy input

Intelligent policy support is essential to ensuring flow of resources, and must include capacity for monitoring of compliance. Whilst policy is already in place in most plans, delivery in finished development and checks on implementation are often sketchy.

Buildings: energy efficiency

- Ownership
- Rental

Recognise that while the practicalities of energy efficiency measures are pretty much the same for all buildings, differences between tenure and ownership need different, and focussed, delivery mechanisms/ legal structure to ensure equality of access to efficiency benefits.

Dialogue - the unengaged and disengaged

- CSE, BEN etc

Community capacity building - essential to reach/ upskill less able groups and individuals. Excellent third sector and voluntary agency experience in Bristol - opportunity to extend skills/ experience further afield/ teach statutory agencies?

Policy - implementation

Cancellation of explicit national support for domestic (new build) efficiency standards encourages continued low effort culture. Retrofitting homes hindered by limited funding/ awareness in statutory agencies

Potential

Despite the above negatives... there are opportunities, via tech improvements/ market parity/ burgeoning community knowledge/ experience/ confidence in energy resilience.

- Solar parity – roofs
- District heating
- Good standards of new build
- City energy company
- Where is retrofit?
- Local employments?
- Draught-proofing?

2. Energy understanding

Attitudes about SMART meters

- Awareness raising/ education – to staff/ professionals as well as public

Using energy consultation as a platform to raise literacy/ awareness

Policy

- Cap on variable tariff
- Cap on PP

Exercise

- Who are audience – students, wealthy, low incomes?

Policy

- Incentivising variable tariffs
- Energy companies having to provide variable tariffs or social responsibility

Recycling/ reuse

Super easy bills

Transport

Insulating

Travel

Food

CHEESE Project

Communications campaign – radio etc

3. Low carbon technology

Energy efficiency

New build – minimum standards and enforcement

Smart meters and smart appliances

Electric vehicle charging – community needs

Local generation

Storage

Microgrids

Planning permission – linked to renewables, elec charging (community vehicle resources and mobile storage), smart

Raising awareness with all communities

Allowable solutions

- Local investment/ ownership
- Renewable energy used for charging points shared with neighbouring properties

Storage of energy – local and microgrids

Existing housing... community approaches to improving efficiency

- Rental – cap energy inefficiency

Shifting (times of and needs for) travel

4. Renewables

Aiming for 100% renewable energy

Subsidy-free generation – solar PV and offshore wind new too

Integrated generation and supply (including storage)

Allowing sale of domestic electric at competitive prices and facilitated by Bristol Energy as licensed supplier

Local plan: include multiple allocated spaces for renewable generation

Roll-over good policies from core strategy (eg Merton Rule)

Smart energy

Storage

EV charging and access points – PV car ports for EV parking

- Co-locate generation and storage

5. Local economy

Supporting community groups develop their own projects

New enterprise grants that facilitate community projects and CICs to be part of larger governance model that support and encourage innovation from communities

Facilitation that gives communities a voice & control on how identified community needs can be supported by co-designed projects

Comprehensive representation

Facilitation to access enterprise grants through network/or cooperative to enable small SME community projects to develop and scale up

Creating Community Led Energy Tariffs

Encourage energy companies to develop and Co-design with BEN members and community organisations to ensure that voices who are affected by fuel poverty are heard and taken seriously

All new development that includes renewable energy or energy efficiency should demonstrate how they include local people in their developments

Training opportunities:

- Energy Internship
- Apprenticeship
- Local Education - work with <https://www.bristollearningcity.com/>
- Local training
- Merton rule for those that do not offer training or local work-force whereby they pay into a scheme that does

Assets owned by the community

Must include assets in co-design being transferred to the local community

Or merton rule community fund

Community must benefit

Micro Grids Heat Networks

Development of new housing and new infrastructure

New developments to include heat networks or passive haus standards

Where heat networks are built a local community energy model is adopted

Bigger development need to that offer assets & membership to the residents

Model solar roof tops

Increase pressure for developer for homes to look at district heating for residents

Buy a home local community ownership model

Trust that owns the land that co-designs the homes with low impact building materials

Allocation from micro-grids like Easton Energy Group Smart Heating/Smart Grids and end of terrace examples

New development

Energy internship

- Apprenticeship
- Local education
- Local training

Energy learning zone

Co-design of community assets

New enterprise across funds

- Smart grants

Virtual projects

Equity assets

Council

Strong community

Co-op

Start small

Facilitation can be council or other organisation, eg community co-op or BEN

- Governance model that is inclusive
- Community voice and control

- Comprehensive representation

New low carbon enterprise

- Facilitated co-op or BEN support to enable small SME community projects to develop especially new development
- Self build/ new build
- Bigger development – need to facilitate and work with community organisations with models that offer asset and membership to the local residents

Model housing in energy - solar roofs

Rework

Increase pressure for develop for multiple homes, looking at district heating for residents

Buy a home, have a local community ownership model

Trust that can own land that co-design low impact housing

Allocation for min ground like Easton Project. Smart microgrid

End of terrace heat grid