



Bristol Energy Network

Directors Report 2022

This report is a summary of the network's activities over the period of its financial year July 2021-June 2022 and includes some activity up to the AGM in November 2022.



**Our vision is a city where clean, green,
affordable energy is delivered to the
community by the community.**



Summary

The past year has been a busy one for Bristol Energy Network and its members as in-person engagement work restarted with the peak of the pandemic passing, and the current energy and cost of living crisis has been affecting many of our Bristol communities. Responding to the crisis, BEN has been working over the course of this year to develop the 'Energy Help Desk' project, to create community draught-proofing workshops, and to resurrect and restructure our Emergency Winter Fuel Fund from its original purpose of supporting those financially disadvantaged by lockdown, to preparing for this winter of extremely high energy bills.

Other projects have seen us partner with Bristol City Council on 'Warm Up Skill Up', the University of Bristol with the 'Energy Wallet', and Bristol Green Capital Partnership and Eastside Community Trust on their 'Community Climate Action' project.

Bristol Energy Network hosted open meetings in February, September and November and our national 'Energy Transitions' conference in June with Community Energy England. BEN also held special

'Community Anchor Organisation' meetings in January, May and August and attended community fairs and markets, school and community coffee mornings, cost of living events, panels, webinars, and conferences, aiming to bring information to communities, but also to listen to our members and communities to discover what their energy needs are.

In all the activity and projects we undertake, we aim to represent our members and co-produce work that responds to the needs of the community. Our open meetings are a place for discussion and collaboration and at our Community Anchor meetings we aim to create opportunities for organisations to understand their community's energy needs and how we might be able to help them.

At our core, we are a network and we can make greater steps to a fairer, cleaner, affordable energy system for all if we work together and utilise each other's expertise. We will continue to create space for our members to collaborate and for BEN to support the work members are doing and imagining.

Externally funded partnership projects

Warm Homes Advice and Money (WHAM) - May 2019 - August 2022

BEN has been continuing to work with CSE and other partners on the WHAM (Warmer Homes, Advice and Money) project in an engagement role to bring more communities into energy awareness and help address fuel poverty and associated financial issues in Bristol.

WHAM is a very successful project and due to the challenges for people over the past few years it is in high demand. BEN's role has been to deliver the 'Energy Help Desk' (see below) information and trainings to help those in the community reduce their bills and increase their energy knowledge in an attempt to reduce the need to refer to WHAM.

The partnership funding for WHAM has come to an end but CSE are continuing to fund the service through other means and will continue to seek funding for the partnership.

BEN's own projects and collaborations

BCC Partnership

Following a successful trial period at the end of 2020, BEN and BCC have agreed a partnership model in order to help BEN develop new initiatives, support the delivery of the BEN business plan and the Bristol Community Strategy for Energy, and support the council's work on the achievement of the [One City Climate Strategy](#). The agreement between Bristol Energy Network and Bristol City Council's innovation team includes the mutual ambitions of improving energy efficiency, championing local renewables and community energy assets, strengthening communities, and fighting fuel poverty. The agreement provides funding for one day per week of BEN staff time over 3 years from March 2021.

This funding has allowed BEN staff to develop new energy projects and apply for funding. This has supported our networking activities and funding applications. An early success was the development of BEN's support for the Bright Green Homes initiative which further develops the WUSU model for low income retrofit. This further informs retrofit projects, with retrofit support services to CSE's Energy Re-dress Project and Bristol City Council's Heat Pump Ready project. More recently this funding has enabled BEN to successfully apply to the Green Recovery Fund and be awarded £1.5M to develop new onshore wind projects in suitable locations where communities are supportive.

Bristol Emergency Winter Fuel Fund

The Bristol Emergency Winter Fuel Fund is a reworking of the Bristol Emergency Covid Fund. The community raised £20,000 for Bristolians in need during the coronavirus pandemic after our community anchor organisations had raised the issue of people struggling to pay their fuel bills. After our community meeting in May a collective decision was taken to create a new, similar fund this year, called the Bristol Emergency Winter Fuel Fund, to help people struggling to pay their fuel bills this winter. We are hoping to raise £100,000 this time to distribute through trusted community partners. Ambition Lawrence Weston, Eastside Community Trust, Lockleaze Neighbourhood Trust, Re:work and Heart of BS13 are the five community anchor organisations that will distribute the funds. BEN has been helping with meeting organisation and marketing. Out of Hand and Clear Channel are offering us free posters and digital marketing space to promote the crowdfund.

Energy Help Desks

Building on our work with the WHAM project, we received funding from the Quartet foundation to develop and expand our 'Energy Help Desk' project. This is a project that delivers information to communities in or at risk of fuel poverty on how to reduce their energy bills. It covers what support is available, how to communicate with your energy company, and how to reduce energy use at home through behavioural and practical energy saving tips. As well as delivering this information through face to face events, BEN offers training sessions for those who work/volunteer in communities so that they can learn how to support the people they work with around the issues of energy.

The 'Energy Help Desk' events and training have been in demand since the onset of the energy crisis with almost **100 staff members undertaking the training** and over **600 direct contacts with the public**.

Community partners who have taken part in training:

South Bristol Children's Centre	Heart of BS13
Brighter Places	North Bristol Children's centre
Elim Housing (Young Parents)	Hartcliffe & Withywood community partnership
North Bristol Advice Centre	Bristol Disability Equality Forum
Bedminster Children's Centre	Eastside Community Trust
Wellspring, St Luke's Church	Barton Hill Settlement
Felix Road Adventure Playground	Malcolm X Centre
Chinese Community Wellbeing Society	Air Balloon Primary school
Talo Community group	BS3 Community
WBCA and Uni of 3rd Age	Southmead Development Trust

Somali Women's Kitchen	Bristol City Council
Greater Fishponds Energy Group	Caring Bristol
North Bristol Trust	Inns Court children's Centre

The project has allowed us to strengthen our relationships with our trusted community partners and reach other members of the community who would not normally engage with energy issues.



Photo: BEN running an 'Energy Help Desk' at the Black&Green Ambassador's event at the Kumba centre. Feb 2022

Keeping Warm This Winter with Re:Work

The 'Keeping Warm This Winter' project will be delivering draught proofing workshops (with materials provided) in 6 community centres across Bristol this winter. It will fund community staff to participate in the workshops and in 'Energy Help Desk' training in order to retain energy efficiency knowledge within the community. The project originated as a response to one of BEN's Anchor Organisation meetings which focussed on the rising costs of living. Our partners Re:Work were keen to deliver practical help to their community and others wanted to see it in their areas too. We worked with Re:Work and secured funding to undertake this project across the city, focussed on wards at risk of fuel poverty.

Warm Up Skill Up

Community Led Retrofit Warm Up Skill Up Enabling whole house Retrofit.

Bristol Energy Network are pioneering a response to this national issue by proposing the Energy-Pledge-to-Action programme alongside the Energy Wallet and Warm Up Skill Up project (WUSU) to enable energy retrofits for communities throughout Bristol. There is an opportunity with the

Pledges to explore options for creating a platform to track pledges and inspire local action throughout communities with use of this platform which will be explored in this plan. These projects, whilst separate in their conception, are interconnected with one another so as to provide support to Bristol homes and help to integrate efficient retrofit measures to reduce energy waste and subsequently help Bristol in becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

Bristol Energy Network (BEN) has been working closely with Bristol City Council (BCC) to develop the Warm Up Skill Up pilot project providing a fully-funded service: providing energy-saving measures, such as insulation, double glazing and much more to homes in Bristol. Eligible households earning <£30,000 a year can receive up to £10,000 of fully-funded energy-saving measures designed and delivered by Bristol City Council to the new PAS2035 standard. The project has been working with households who have incomes of less than £30,000 per year with low energy efficiency ratings. Using the thermal imaging assessment “Energy Trace” undertaken to inform the retrofit plan for each household following the works an “Energy Trace” will be undertaken to validate the effectiveness of the retrofit measure installed.

The Warm Up Skill Up project partners Energy Tracers C.I.C supported by BEN have also delivered training and support sessions to improve DIY skills and enable better shallow retrofit savings to local homes. This pilot project has been funded since March 2021 - March 2023. This pilot provided much useful learning and to be successful in supporting household in their retrofit journey. Phase 2 pilot is to develop the project further with Eastside Community Trust as part Climate Action projects start early 2023. The project has also provided much more informed BEIS funded Heat Pump Ready Project and CSE Energy Redress Project.

Energy Wallet

Led by Bristol Energy Network, this project will utilise community embedded neighbourhood development and energy groups in fostering adoption of network friendly behaviours by domestic customers. For this a novel flexible partnership business model will be codesigned collaboratively by citizens and key city stakeholders including Bristol Energy Network, Bristol City Council, Bristol Credit Union and the University of Bristol. Essentially, a dedicated “energy wallet” bank account (both for individuals and community groups) will be created which will enable aggregation of various finance streams for low income and vulnerable households (e.g. ECO funding, Green Homes Grant, low-cost finance schemes). The project is aligned with initiatives that target low income and vulnerable households which will enable participation of new customers in providing flexibility services at scale and hence produce a tangible impact on the network.

The project has been developed as a concept and is now seeking innovation funding to implement the project & complement existing Warm Up Skill Up project.

Currently the project is being supported by Bristol University who have dedicated 3 PhD students & 3 undergraduate students to undertake research as to how the “Energy Wallet” might be deployed in the future.

Retrofit Support Services with Centre for Sustainable Energy

Working with Centre Sustainable Energy’s (CSE) Energy Redress project BEN has been participating in a partnership project sharing peer learning between Plymouth Community Energy, and CSE our retrofit experiences in deployment of energy efficiency measures in accordance with PAS2035. Training community energy members including Re:Work staff as Retrofit Assessors, and Robert Smart BEN director as a Retrofit Coordinator. The project will conclude in April 2023 whereby additional training will

be provided to the local supply chain of builders in understanding thermal imaging.

Heat Pump Ready with Centre for Sustainable Energy, Bristol City Council and Buro Happold

Sharing our learning from the Warm Up Skill Up project BEN has supported the development of a community led approach to installation of Heat Pumps in the city. Bristol University supported by BEN worked with Sustainable Westbury on Trym (SusWot) who shared their experiences and expectations of retrofit to install heat pumps in the future. A pilot project phase 2 has been applied for, undertaking a installation of heat pumps in the city which if successful will begin in spring 2023.

Community Climate Action Plans

After supporting some of the [Community Climate Action groups](#) in developing their plans last year, we will be working in partnership with Bristol Green Capital Partnership, who lead the Lottery funded project, look at areas of the action plans where energy is integral.

We will be mentoring Bristol Disability Equality Forum's new Energy Champion and we will be working directly with Eastside Community Trust on the implementation of their Demonstrator project - 'People Power'.

The 'People Power' project will work with a group of Community Buildings in Easton and Lawrence Hill to assess their energy needs and plan energy efficiency improvements. BEN, with partner Energy Tracers CIC, will also be delivering a community-led retrofit programme with ECT to help residents with the skills and knowledge required to make energy efficiency improvements to their own homes. This will all be underpinned by ECT's work building a strong, diverse network of local climate champions to advocate for a fair energy transition for the community.



Photo: Eastside Community Trust and Bristol Energy Network running informational kiosk about Community Climate Action Project at 2021 Great Big Green Week

City Leap

[Bristol City Leap](#) is the City Council's initiative to bring in new investment to meet the 2030 net-zero carbon target. A joint venture is being formed between BCC and an external technology partner to

provide services to the Council and substantial investment in delivery of low-carbon infrastructure in the City.

BEN has been meeting with the consortium of other community-facing city partners (BGCP, CSE, BEC, Low Carbon Gordano, Triodos Bank, Zero West) who came together to make sure that community energy had a voice in the City Leap process. The consortium has put forward a proposal to the preferred bidders for how communities can engage in and benefit from the transition to Net Zero by 2030. A framework proposal has been designed to give any community in Bristol and the surrounding region the technical and financial support it needs to deliver its own renewable energy generation or carbon reduction projects.

One of the bidders requested a more in-depth report on the landscape and potential for community energy in Bristol. BEN undertook this report on behalf of the consortium and submitted the report in July 2021.

BEN is now working closely with the consortium to develop a community fund with the chosen City Leap Partner Ameresco Limited, with Vattenfall Heat UK Limited as an Essential Sub-Contractor.

Policy

BEN has been actively involved in responding to consultations and policy over the past few years with David Tudgey, our Project Development Manager & former board member Rebecca Windemere coordinating responses to various community energy related local, & national policies with members.

As a result of this hard work David & Emilia Melville were invited to represent Bristol Energy Network and Community Energy at COP26 November 2021 where they engaged with international stakeholders & MPs. A blog of their experiences can be found [here](#).

David Tudgey wrote to Kwasi Kwatang after an exchange discussing the government's [Energy White Paper](#) (In December 2020, BEN were involved with the Bristol Advisory Committee on Climate Change (BACCC)'s rapid assessment of the policy. Detailed response [here](#)). This led into a piece of work that BEN developed in the lead-up to the local City and WECA Mayoral elections. BEN's '[10 Asks](#)', which was informed by the response to the Energy White paper and the government's '10 point plan' calls for a Smart, Local and Democratic Energy system to take us to net zero. The full document can be [read](#) here and the responses from candidates from the election period can be found [here](#). BEN sees it as its responsibility to hold those now elected officials to their word.

This exchange led to an invitation to meet with Greg Hands MP where David Tudgey campaigned for a new round of funding for a community energy fund especially to support project development, such as onshore wind, which requires development funding. Whilst he was supportive of onshore wind, he considered funding be sought locally from communities via regional authorities such as the West of England Combined Authority instead of directly from the Government. This was disappointing news but did spur Bristol Energy Network onto apply for funding via Green Recovery Fund* where we have been successful in being awarded £1.5M to develop new onshore wind projects.

BEN has also recently engaged Darren Jones MP & Community Energy England in successfully campaigning to ensure community energy was not included in recent announcements for a windfall tax on renewable energy.

BEN continues to engage in energy policy for the city as a representative panel member on the Bristol Advisory Committee on Climate Change. As a representative member of the committee, BEN also supports the One City Homes and Communities Board Climate Change working group.

*West of England Combined Authority meeting on Tuesday 21st September 2021 :Principles for a

refreshed climate emergency ambition and Green Recovery Fund plans:

David Tudgey gave a statement prior to the West of England Combined Authority meeting on Tuesday 21st September 2021 on agreeing the principles to their Climate Emergency Plan & Green Recovery Plans. He was there to raise his voice for community energy and community enterprise to ensure West of England Combined Authority -

- Recognise Community Energy/Enterprise Role in the Pathway towards NetZero for Just Transition in updating the West of England Climate Emergency Plan.*
- Recognise & resource community enterprise using community energy as blueprint for other sectors, food, transport, waste – in co production & ownership models with communities.
- Resources for Community Intermediaries to provide market infrastructure organisations such as Bristol Energy Network, anchor organisation & enable:

1. Market participation with development grants for Community Enterprise

2. Long-term supportive policy (e.g., priority access to local land & buildings– identifying suitable sites for renewable energy, community led housing e.g. for every development over 10 units % of serviced plots provided for community led self builders

3. Dedicated support for skills needs – creation of energy learning zones within communities such as Ambition Lawrence Weston's aspirations to deliver locally rooted skills academy

4. Wide-scale information campaign on why and how to engage on Climate Crisis and local effects of how we together can combat the crisis without economically crippling poorer communities

In the meeting, Cllrs referenced the statements made by David Tudgey and Cllr Fodor, and demanded that a larger budget be set than 20 million proposed and to triple this. The Green Recovery Fund will now be reviewed to identify additional funding and discussed at the next West of England Combined Authority meeting. David Tudgey will be representing community energy further in a meeting with Mayor Dan Norris in October to seek assurances that funding is made available for communities to participate in the Pathway towards NetZero & Climate Emergency Action Plan.

*As a cosigning organisation of the Friends of the Earth South West Open letter, "A Declaration on Young People, Climate and Jobs" - meeting Dan Norris & our 10 Asks for a Smart Local Energy System. David met with Dan Norris on 9th August along with Friends of the Earth & other environmental NGO's from the West of England to discuss the WECA Climate Emergency Action Plan. Building, Retrofit, transport decarbonisation, and nature restoration were all on the agenda.

Strategy & Infrastructure Support from Quartet Foundation

Bristol Energy Network has been recognised as an important infrastructure organisation for the city. As such, the Quartet Foundation is supporting BEN through the Recovery Strategy Programme. This funding supports the cost of community development and network coordination roles, Project Development Officer staff time, meeting costs for various activities and events, staff training costs and a contribution toward overheads, including: running quarterly open meetings, hosting an 'Energy Transition' conference, the delivery of training and peer learning/support sessions for the 'Energy Help Desk', and delivering training sessions for more community Energy Champions.

This funding is supporting BEN to scale its activities across the city and region, which we shall be developing further with input from specialists and members of the network. We shall be sharing the outputs of the work in the new year once the business plan has been completed.

Patagonia

Bristol Energy Network has also received support from Patagonia Bristol, who have provided funding to support the “Energy Pledge” Giki Zero pilot project, allowing us to explore how we may use the platform in the future to support community engagement around carbon emissions pledges. Patagonia has also provided support in covering the travel costs to Glasgow during the COP26 event and also provided an online platform for BEN with Patagonia’s European Community Energy Campaign, which featured David Tudgey discussing case studies from Bristol describing community energy projects (more information [here](#)).

Media:

BEN are regularly asked to come on **BBC Radio Bristol** to comment on energy issues and give advice around energy efficiency. It is a helpful platform to get important information out to people such as the recent Energy Bill Support Scheme issues for those on key/card prepayment meters.

BEN has also appeared on **BCfM** and **Ujima Radio** shows for in-depth interviews on energy themes.

BEN has authored or been interviewed for the following articles:

Bristol Post:

<https://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/energy-bills-going-up-april-6486088>

<https://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/energy-bills-could-double-cost-6486880>

<https://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/cost-of-living/energy-price-cap-ending-april-7712598>

Bristol Cable:

<https://thebristolcable.org/2022/08/bristol-energy-network-why-community-action-is-needed-energy-crisis/>

The Big Issue:

<https://www.bigissue.com/life/money/energy-bills-diy-tips-to-keep-home-warm-winter/>

As well as providing energy information and support for local publications such as:

- Up Our Street (Easton)
- Vocalise (St Paul’s)
- The Mead (Southmead)

Meetings:

26th January 2022 - Bristol Energy Network - Community Anchor Organisations meeting

1st February 2022 - Open Meeting: ‘The Year of Action’

11th May 2022 - Bristol Energy Network - Community Anchor Organisations meeting

18th June 2022 - BEN & Community Energy England ‘EnergyTransitions’ Conference & Open Meeting

17th Aug 2022 - Bristol Energy Network - Community Anchor Organisations meeting

13th Sept 2022 - Open Meeting with Greater Fishponds Energy Group

29th Nov 2022 - Open Meeting and AGM

Events:

2022 events that BEN has attended/ delivered:

Event delivered by BEN / part of delivery	Location	Event attended by BEN
Blue Monday	The Galleries, Broadmead	The Role of Buildings in Sustainable Development
Super Supper Club	Pickle Factory, Easton	Launch of Bristol's first Community Climate Action Plans
Save Money, Save the Planet'	Kuumba Centre	Western Power Distribution Net Zero Communities Forum
Super Supper Club	Pickle Factory, Easton	CEE Spring series panel
HWCP Energy Help Desk	Hartcliffe & Withywood partnership community room	Regen Onshore Wind webinar
Partnerology event	The Galleries, Broadmead	Mayor's community meeting
Altered Festival' @ Keep Art It	The Galleries, Broadmead	Friends of the Earth, Groundswell event
UoB student demos	The Galleries, Broadmead	Surviving Winter Advice Providers Forum
Super Supper Club	Pickle Factory, Easton	Party in the Ponds - Fishponds
Bannerman Road Academy coffee morning	Bannerman Rd, Easton	Action Network 'Cost of Living' event
BEN and CEE Energy Transitions Conference	Engineer's House, Bristol	ECT CCAP launch dinner
Southmead Development Trust - Energy Help Desk	Gloucester Rd Medical centre	Darren Jones 'Charge the Earth' summit
HWCP Cost of Living day	Symes Building, Hartcliffe	Knowle West Fest
Energy Wallet Workshop - BEN&UoB	Ambition Lawrence Weston	Bristol Energy Coop Mingle
Southmead Development Trust - Energy Help Desk	Shirehampton Methodist Church	Celebrating Age Festival
Energy Wallet research workshop (with UoB)	Docklands Community Centre	Barton Hill Settlement cost of living day
Green Skills Workshop on Community Energy	Easton Community Centre	Greenway centre market
West Bristol Climate Action Retrofit Webinar	Online	
Heat Pumps in Westbury on Trym? Workshop	Coombe Dingle sports centre	
Launch of Eastside Community Trust People Power Project	Easton Community Centre	
Darren Jones 'Charge the Earth' summit	Greenway centre	
Energy Help Desk parent coffee morning	Bannerman Rd, Easton	
Energy Coffee Morning	Easton Community Centre	

Energy Help Desk drop in	Inns court Children's centre, Knowle West	
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Behind the Scenes:

Co-ordination and communication

Unfortunately, Emilia Melville left BEN in December 2021 to pursue her own exciting projects, having made an incredible contribution to the valuable work of BEN. However, we were delighted to promote Rachel Moffat into the Coordinator role in January, where she has seamlessly continued hosting meetings for Community Anchor organisations and Neighbourhood Energy Groups alongside all our open meetings. Rachel has also led on the Energy Help Desks project, training almost 100 people in key locations around the city and giving advice to hundreds of people in those communities. We are so proud that Rachel has been rightly recognised for this inspiring work and is a Finalist in the Community Energy England Awards for Community Energy Champion (Individual).

We are also thrilled to have recruited Aaron James into the role of Support Officer in June. Aaron has a background in journalism and after having spent 7 years as a radio newsreader and producer, he decided to move closer to policy as a Political Group Assistant in South Gloucestershire Council. Aaron has retained this role and has been supporting BEN part-time in financial administration, communications, and leading on some specific projects.

With Rachel's support, and now Aaron's, we have continued to send out regular e-newsletters and organise open network meetings. There has also been lots of other communications through the website, Facebook page, Twitter, and Instagram, which all have growing numbers of followers and engagement. Through the project work, we have made use of local print newspapers to communicate about both projects and the activity of the network, successfully widening our audience and reach.

We have continued the work to improve our website for users and are now working with two volunteers who will be providing dedicated support on this.

Interns and Volunteers:

We are very grateful for the dedicated, amazing support from our volunteers throughout the year, including BEN members & directors. We have also had the support from intern Mohamed Seedahmed, a Mechanical Engineer from Bristol University via the Green Skills Programme who is currently working with us on the Eastside Community Trust Project and other energy efficiency projects until December 2022 as part of his internship placement.

BEN staff 2020-2021:

- Project development: David Tudgey (0.5 FTE)
- Coordinator (until December 2021): Emilia Melville (0.2 FTE)
- Coordinator (from January 2022): Rachel Moffat (0.6 FTE)
- Support Officer (until January 2022): Rachel Moffat (0.6 FTE)
- Support Officer (from June 2022): Aaron James (0.4 FTE)

Governance

The BEN Board of Directors meets monthly to provide strategic direction to the Network and discuss

progress with projects and new initiatives. Between these formal meetings, individual directors provide management support to the paid employees of the Network. Each project is overseen by one of the Directors who support BEN staff and work with partners to ensure effective delivery.

The Board and BEN staff have been continuing to ensure that current community efforts are recognised and built on for the benefit of the whole city – ensuring representation at relevant meetings and events including City Leap and the One City Plan.

BEN Board of Directors 2021-2022:

The network's board is currently comprised of 9 directors:

Aisha Stewart

Faustina Atipoka

Kirsty Hammond

Laura Penny

Mark Leach

Paul Chandler

Paul Phare

Robert Smart

Ruzanna Chitchyan

Finances and funding

A detailed financial breakdown has been shared with members and is provided in the accompanying financial report for FY 21/22.

BEN Office and storage

BEN's office space is still located at the Emmaus Bristol building on Upper York Street, but continues to seek new locations for us to grow and hold meetings. Babassa, Vocalise, and Interculture are all still sharing the space and we are enjoying learning about their work and interactions throughout Bristol.

We have retained our registered and postal address at **Future Leap, 1-3 Gloucester Rd, Bishopston, Bristol BS7 8AA.**

On the storage front, we have our event and engagement supplies into a rented garage in Filwood – these include gazebo, bike generator, mobile future home etc – these are all available for members to borrow.

Future plans

BEN will continue to work with community at the heart of its projects and partnerships as a just approach to addressing the climate crisis. We look forward to supporting communities making their own community energy projects so they can enjoy the local benefits of what community energy has to offer.

We will be making sure that community energy and communities themselves will be part of the City Leap

process and we will be looking out for any other projects, funding streams and partnerships that will benefit the people of Bristol and our planet.

In 2023 our Coordinator Rachel will be reaching out to all of our group members to connect and explore how we can support each other. BEN are keen to identify member priorities and support the development of projects and/or include members in current projects that address those needs. We want to make sure that connections, knowledge and skills are shared across our network by developing our current mechanisms and increasing capacity to support our members.

Our Values:

1. **For everyone** – actively working to create an energy movement that reflects the diversity of Bristol communities and ensuring everyone has a chance to play a part in designing and carrying out the work;
2. **Open and honest** – being accountable to those affected by our work by giving them the opportunity to be involved and openly sharing information about our activities;
3. **Community-led** – communities, rather than private interests, lead the work and benefit from it;
4. **Sharing and supporting** – working together, sharing learning and supporting each other to achieve shared goals.

Appendix 1 - Current member organisations (alphabetical, as of November 2022)

1625 Independent People
African Voices Forum
Ambition Lawrence Weston
Bedminster Energy Group
Boundless Futures
Bristol Energy Cooperative
Bristol Friends of the Earth
Bristol Green Doors
Bristol Multi-Faith Forum
Buzz Lockleaze
Centre for Sustainable Energy
CHEESE Project
Chinese Community Wellbeing Society

Demand Energy Equality
East Bristol Foodbank
Easton Community Children's Centre (ECCC)
Eastside Community Trust
Full Circle/ Docklands
Greater Fishponds Energy Group
Groundwork South
Hartcliffe & Withywood Community Partnership (HWCP)
Heart of BS13
Keep Art It
Keynsham Community Energy
Lockleaze Neighbourhood Trust (LNT)
Low Carbon Gordano
MakeYourHomeEco
North Bristol Advice Centre
re:work ltd
Residents Against Dirty Energy (RADE)
Sea Mills and Coombe Dingle Climate Action Group
Southmead Development Trust
Share Bristol CIC (Library of Things)
Sustainable Thornbury
Talking Money
Totterdown Energy Group
UJIMA
West Bristol Climate Action
Zero Carbon Compton (part of Compton Dando Community Association)
Zero West