

These projects, which would not have taken place without the support of CARES, have directly enabled us to grow our business to nine full time employees and are assisting in getting the wood fuel industry off the ground in Scotland.

Installer

A snapshot of typical projects

Here's a flavour of some of the great community projects we've been able to help in the year.

Udny community turbine.

Erection of the UK's first mainland wholly community owned turbine started in earnest in March with the first sods of earth dug with the assistance of the kids from the local primary schools (see right). The gang of 5 local volunteers who drove this project forward involved the school kids at every step of the way to the extent that P1s were able to make design decisions to ensure their own wind turbine models moved how they wanted them to. A great example of community involvement at all levels.



Kirkcudbright swimming pool biomass boiler



Kirkcudbright swimming pool is almost entirely funded by the community, it has its own charity shop and holds various fundraising events throughout the year. Only a year after contacting CES in March 2010, Kirkcudbright Pool staff proudly present a 100kW biomass boiler able to run on either wood chips or pellets. The boiler is designed to meet 85% of the pool's heating requirements, with gas boilers providing the remaining 15%. "We are all very proud of our new green credentials and are looking forward to saving some money into the bargain." said pool manager Colin Wyper, left.

Camphill Blair Drummond, ground source heat pump

Camphill Blair Drummond (CBD) community owned company provides high quality care for some of the most vulnerable young adults in Scotland and offers a range of specialist workshops for adults with learning disabilities. Their new joinery workshop helps residents care for the grounds at CBD. They can gain important knowledge, develop real skills and build confidence in the process. CBD asked CES for help to develop renewable means to heat their workshop. They now have a ground source heat pump which keeps their costs to a minimum and contributes towards their aims of being environmentally sensitive. The group and supporters were invited to a reception in Downing Street to mark their achievements and we're delighted that Jamie Adam our development officer supporting this project has been invited too.

CES Summary Financial Statement

	2011	2010
Total spent on Charitable activities	£8,804,764	£8,883,863
Of which grants and financial assistance to community groups	£7,680,528	£7,807,072
Advice service and running costs	£1,124,236	£1,076,791
Fixed assets	£41,553	£59,350
Unrestricted reserves	£195,493	£166,550
Average No employees	28	26
Investments (CEST Ltd)	£100	£100

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December

LEADER funding approved for a new CES grant programme focused on Rural Ayrshire. Not many projects there so far - communities need some extra help to engage and benefit from renewable.

Attend small roundtable event in Whitehall with Chris Huhne and Gregory Barker - good opportunity to brief them on key community energy issues and capabilities. Clearly, they are considering how to promote greater community engagement in and benefit from large commercial schemes.

January

Awarded Big Lottery Fund Investing in Communities contract! Great news, reflecting a lot of hard work by the team.

February

Finalise and publish 'Investing in Community Benefit' Report. With help from The Scottish Government, this report presents case studies of the lessons learned by communities who have secured funds to invest in their communities. Great to work with Giles Ruck of Scottish Community Foundation in managing this work, which was undertaken by the Development Trust Association Scotland's trading arm.

Robertson Trust approval for donation towards the running costs of our new urban community renewable programme. This is great news as it will allow us to implement a bespoke programme of support for 'harder to reach' urban communities.

March

Looks like we're heading for a total of almost 300 community groups assisted under CARES this year with over £6.5M going directly to community groups for renewable energy project development. A busy year and a big impact.

Nicholas Gubbins, CEO

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

Community Energy Scotland Annual Review 2010/2011

Chair's Introduction

The community energy movement in Scotland took a big step forward this year. It was an extraordinarily busy year for all in CES with the some very significant 'highs' - and a few lows. I am very pleased to report that CES has developed and strengthened its role as the lead organisation supporting the community energy sector.

Without a doubt, the successful delivery of a £6.7m Scottish Government community energy grant programme (the Community and Renewable Energy Scheme) has enabled many communities across Scotland to benefit from renewable energy. On the other hand, the approach taken by DECC and OFGEM to the implementation of the Feed In Tariff caused considerable uncertainty and consternation across the community energy sector. In our view DECC took very little account of the position of community energy groups in Scotland.



Despite this, it is fantastic to see what has been achieved on the ground and how these projects have enabled so many community groups to manage or reduce their energy costs as well as make vital community facilities warmer and more comfortable to use. It is also striking how much the scheme has stimulated new supply and installation businesses. We have seen many volunteers become 'energy literate' through developing their own projects and this is a great reward for us. We are seeing how these dedicated people are driving energy awareness and further energy developments in their own communities.

Particularly striking is the progress that has been made with community-owned wind farm projects. Typically involving installations of less than 5MW, these projects are wholly community owned and have adopted a 'non-profit distributing' model, where the whole community will benefit, not just private investors. All these projects have generated widespread community support. We provided advice and on-going support to over 100 community groups engaged in developing these projects. The Udny community wind turbine (below) is the first of what we hope will be many wholly community owned projects on the Scottish mainland. We also see opportunities for joint ventures between community groups and local farmers and landowners and have been closely involved in a handful of projects in the vanguard of this development.

We are determined to do all we can to promote this powerful, bottom up process. The significant platform of motivated and engaged groups that now exists provides a real opportunity to drive a radical transformation of local energy generation and use, strengthen communities which contributing directly to Scotland's low carbon future.

Carola Bell, CES Chairperson

Social Impact of renewable energy projects

A pilot survey of groups supported by Community Energy Scotland in various stages of renewable energy project development was carried out in August by an independent consultant on our behalf.

The survey was carried out on just under 90 groups throughout Scotland. The results showed a marked increase in energy efficiency and renewable energy awareness, increased support in for communities developing projects and an increased sense of purpose in these communities amongst other findings. Several groups demonstrated an increase in the number of jobs created and volunteering opportunities.

Results of a more extensive group of respondents in future work will help us determine just how much social impact the groups Community Energy Scotland support are having in their communities.

Chief Exec's Diary 2010/2011

April

Very pleased to attend formal opening of new 900kW community wind turbine on Tiree. A great event - a real achievement for the community after years of hard work.

All hands to the pumps to try to avert major issue on community wind farm grid connections in the Western Isles. Serious risk that connection dates will be severely delayed, jeopardising years of volunteer community work and grant funding. Meeting with SSE, National Grid and OFGEM to urge them to stick to 2012 connection dates. Excellent support from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar on this.

Dust settled on last year's (2009-2010) CARES grant scheme - over £6.4 m in grants to community groups to progress renewable energy projects!

CES response to UK Govt Renewable Heat Incentive consultation prepared. Real concern that removal of grants will make it very hard for small community groups (who can't access finance for capital costs) to take forward renewable heat projects.

Attend Aberdeen Energy Summit and All Energy - great opportunity to get across CES' message to politicians and businesses.



We now have a building which can be used for even more community events without increasing the financial pressure on the club. We no longer have to sit with our coats and hats on in the evenings!!
Stromness Golf Club

May

Meet and brief Richard Loch-head, Cabinet Secretary Rural Affairs, in the Scottish Parliament on community energy development issues. Clearly receptive and very keen to find ways to improve community benefits from renewables. CES response on UK Feed in Tariff - as with RHI, real concern about the impact on small community groups unable to raise capital. Will it just favour the rich?

June

Looks like real progress on Western Isle connection issues - most groups likely to get firm connection offers for 2012.

July

Fantastic news! CES application to the Scottish Investment Fund for £650,000 grant and loan package approved. This will allow us to develop our trading subsidiary - our foundation for financial sustainability. Wrote to Gregory Barker, Minister of State, DECC, urging him to continue to permit grants for small non-trading community groups under the new Feed-in Tariff regime.

August

Scottish Govt announce CARES grant scheme closed to new applications owing to unprecedented demand. As there is no guarantee what will happen by the way of support next year this is a prudent step, but we'll now need to try find other ways to help community groups who were planning on developing a project.

Community Energy International

This year saw considerable International recognition for Community Energy Scotland. We received an invitation to speak about the achievements of community energy projects in Scotland at the Central American Clean Energy Conference in Honduras organised by the UK embassy. This was a result of discussions at last year's All Energy conference and exhibition in Aberdeen. With the theme of More Trade, Less Carbon, the local energy generation with profits remaining in communities and more opportunities for local jobs demonstrated by CES supported projects is exactly what the Central American countries want to achieve.



Community Energy Scotland encourages the groups we work with to visit and learn from each other and establish networks for learning. CES themselves were fortunate to be offered an opportunity to do exactly the same as part of an Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) project. The Scottish Government invited CES to accompany them to the first meeting of this group in Puglia, Italy. The aims of this project are to meet and exchange ideas about ways renewable technologies can provide social, economic and environmental gain specifically in rural areas. The participants from the 15 regions in 9 countries recognise Scotland as a front runner in this field and subsequent reciprocal visits will inform the group even further.

Ro-ràdh an Neach-cathrach

Thug iomairt a' chumhachd aig ìre coimhearsnachd ann an Alba ceum mòr air adhart am-bliadhna. 'S e bliadhna fìor thrang a bh' ann dhuinn uile aig CES le cuid de rudan a thug togail mòr dhuinn - 's rud no dhà a dh'fhàg iosal sinn. Tha mi air leth toilichte innse gu bheil CES air a h-àite, aig ceann leasachadh cumhachd sa choimhearsnachd, a leasachadh 's a neartachadh.

Chan eil teagamh ann gu bheil an £6.7m a thug Riaghaltas na h-Alba seachad airson prògram de thabhartasan cumhachd coimhearsnachd (an Sgeama Coimhearsnachd agus Cumhachd Ath-nuadhachail) air cothroman a thoirt do bhuidhnean air feadh na h-Alba. Air an làimh eile, dh'adhbharaich an dòigh anns an do làimhsich DECC agus OFGEM an Tarraif biathaidh (*Feed-in Tariff*) mòran mi-chinnt agus buairidh air feadh an àite. Nar beachd-ne cha tug DECC mòran feart air suidheachadh nam buidhnean cumhachd coimhearsnachd ann an Alba.

A dh'aindeoin seo tha e air leth math a bhith a' faicinn na tha a' tachairt anns gach àite 's mar a tha pròiseactan mar seo a' leigeil le buidhnean coimhearsnachd na cosgaisean cumhachd aca a riaghladh 's a lùghdachadh, cho math ri goireasan coimhearsnachd a dhèanamh nas blàithe 's nas cofhurtail. Tha e iongantach cuideachd mar a tha an sgeama air gnìomhachasan ùra a bhrosnachadh san roinn seo (fios gu h-ìseal). Chunnaic sinn mòran dhaoine a' fàs fìor eòlach air gnòthaichean cumhachd tro na pròiseactan aca, rud a tha na thoileachadh mòr dhuinn. Chithear mar a tha na daoine dìcheallach seo a' toirt aire an t-sluaigh gu cùisean cumhachd agus a' leasachadh nan coimhearsnachdan aca fhèin.

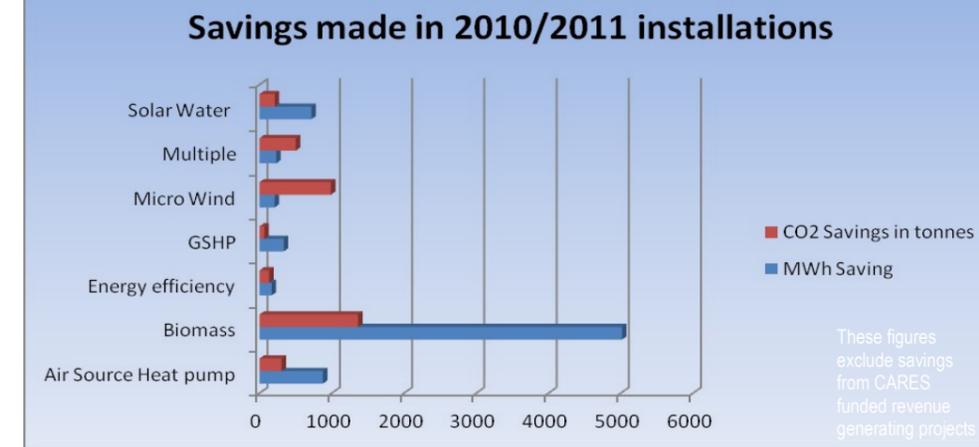
Tha adhartas air leth air a bhith ga dhèanamh le pròiseactan coimhearsnachd gaoithe. Mar as trice tha uidheamachd nas lugha na 5MW aca 's than na pròiseactan gu h-iomlan ann an làmhnan na coimhearsnachd; bidh a' choimhearsnachd air fad a' buannachadh às na prothaidean, a thuilleadh air luchd-maoineachaidh prìobhaideach. Tha taic na coimhearsnachd gu lèir air a bhith aig na pròiseactan seo agus bidh sinn a' toirt comhairle agus taic leantainneach do chòrr is 100 buidhnean coimhearsnachd a tha an sàs. 'S e turbine coimhearsnachd Udny a' chiad fhear de na pròiseactan coimhearsnachd seo air tìr mòr na h-Alba 's tha sinn an dòchas gum bi mòran eile dhiubh ann a dh'aithghearr. Tha sinn cuideachd air a bhith an sàs ann an dhà no trì pròiseactan com-pàirt eadar coimhearsnachdan agus tuathanaich agus uachdarain fearainn.

Tha sinn gu mòr airson am pròiseas làidir coimhearsnachd seo a thoirt air adhart. Tha bunaid mhath de bhuidhnean èasgaidh, trang againn a-nise a tha a' toirt dhuinn cothrom dha-rìribh gus atharrachadh susbainteach a thoirt air cruthachadh agus cleachdadh cumhachd aig ìre coimhearsnachd, gus coimhearsnachdan a neartachadh agus gus pàirt dha-rìribh a chluich ann an lùghdachadh càrboin ann an Alba anns na bliadhnaichean ri teachd.

Carola Bell, Neach-cathrach CES

Without the help of Community Energy Scotland, our community would not have reached the start line in our investigation of producing renewable energy locally in a way that would benefit our villages.
Rosneath Peninsula West & Cove and Kilcreggan

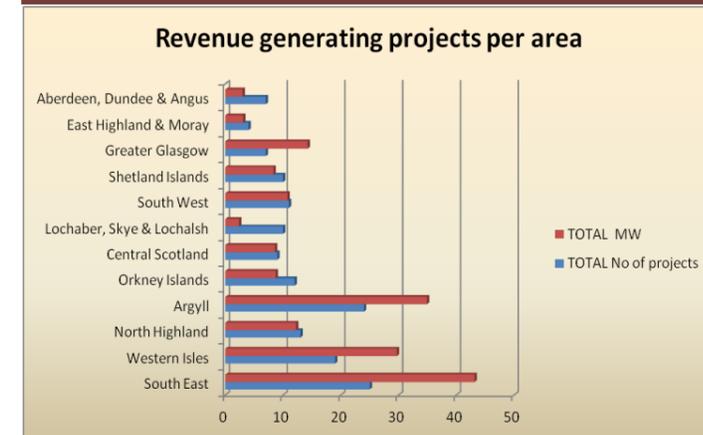
CARES delivery



CARES funding in 10/11 will result in an estimated 8GWh of energy savings and 2200 tonnes of carbon reductions annually (this excludes CARES funded revenue generating projects). Coupled with the calculated saving last year this will be a total in the two years of 21 GWh, 6200 tonnes of carbon reduction (see below for technology breakdown).

This was achieved by approving 192 projects, 144 capital projects including energy efficiency and 148 feasibility and education. The total amount of money approved was £3.36m and this was matched with £11.1m of funding from other sources resulting in an average intervention rate for CARES of 29%. The team also worked on projects from 2009/2011 taking the overall spend to £6.7m. In total 557 projects/ community groups have been helped through CARES 2010/11.

Revenue Generating projects



This year saw continued momentum with the number of communities developing renewable energy projects that will generate income for their local areas. CES 'RevGen' team piloted a new learning and networking resource for groups involved. Interactive Coaching Sessions (ICS) are monthly conference calls which are attended by community groups working on projects of the same

technology and at a similar stage. The ICS' follow the path of the community group's projects and new topics are covered each month. CES Development Officers co-ordinate the ICS': pulling together the relevant learning materials and recording experiences from each session to transfer the knowledge to other ICS'. Therefore community groups pick up valuable information from CES officers, the experiences of other community groups and professionals on specific topics. The ICS' are ideal for groups to bounce ideas off each other and build up each other's confidence through a network of communities that are tackling the same types of projects. Feedback from the community groups which use the ICS' has been very encouraging, with groups commenting in particular that they appreciate being able to share their ups and downs with other community groups. Through Highlands and Islands Enterprise's Community Renewable Energy Support Programme (CRESP) CES attended events on grid, different technologies, crofting and FiT, enabling CES to input and respond effectively to consultations and represent the interests of community groups. In January CES began providing support to 13 community groups through Investing in Ideas II, a BIG Lottery Programme.

September

Tender submitted for new Big Lottery Fund Investing in Communities programme - provision of renewables advice. Fingers crossed!

Good meeting with The Robertson Trust, the quiet but influential Scottish charity. May be interested in supporting a new CES programme focussed on community renewable in deprived urban areas. Looking forward to further discussion.

Joint work now underway with Scottish Agriculture College (SAC) to scope demand for and potential issues relating to a new Scottish Government renewables loan fund.

Excellent progress being made with joint venture wind farm project with Berwickshire Housing Association. Early days but strong sense of shared agenda and interest in generating funds for re-investment in our charitable purposes.

October

National conference on 'Next Steps in Community Energy' held in Edinburgh - over 100 delegates from across Scotland and a great buzz. Some great presentations.

November

Pleased to be invited to contribute to a Joseph Rowntree Foundation programme on Community Assets - good event held in Edinburgh. Real interest in the role of community energy development in underpinning community development.