Stakeholder engagement for Community energy

LOOKING AT

• Critical partnerships with local authorities and other
• Stakeholder engagement best practice
• Community energy advocacy

Ollie Pendered
Rhion Jones
21 March 2024
WELCOME to this WORKSHOP

WHO is in the ROOM?
Terminology

AN INTRODUCTORY ‘JARGON-BUSTER’

The difference between:

Engagement  Consultation  Involvement  Participation  Empowerment
LEARNINGS and CONCERNS from inside this room ...

FIVE-MINUTE shout-out

• What have you learnt from your experience of managing relationships with others?

• What are your issues and concerns – and where might you like some guidance?
THE PRACTICALITIES

– Lessons from Community Energy South

(Ollie to prepare this and/or more slides)
The truth about Local government in 2024

• It has no money
• It supports net zero
• Too many priorities
• Will do most when communities help
Why Councils are critical ...

- Place-based multi-functional capabilities
- Councillors DO set the local agendas
- Power to convene ...
- Even if no money – often able to find money
STAKEHOLDER Engagement - Best practice Guidance 1

☑️ It’s ALL about relationships

☒ Not ‘communications/PR’
Understand your stakeholders ... and capture it through stakeholder mapping

Don’t assume they are the same
STAKEHOLDER Engagement – Best practice Guidance 3

Generate dialogue

Not just ‘advocacy’
Agree consistent messages

Avoid excessive individualism

STAKEHOLDER Engagement – Best practice Guidance 4

REGIONAL FORUM
THURSDAY 21 MARCH
NEWHAVEN

Supported by
Exploit your knowledge of ‘place’

Avoid trying to solve others’ problems
Think long-term

Do not economise on record-keeping
Stakeholder engagement for Community energy

CONCLUSION

The better we are at managing stakeholder relations, the quicker Community energy will succeed.

Invest in best practice

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