

Powering Together

#CEconf17



#CEF17

24th June – 9th July 2017



Co-op Energy's Community Energy Strategy

David Bird, Co-op Energy CEO



Co-operative Energy

- In 2011, Midcounties Co-operative launched Co-op Energy to supply electricity and gas across England, Scotland & Wales.
- 400,000 customers
- £300 million income
- 500 staff
- Member customers enjoy share of profits
- Reinvigorated commitment to low-carbon supply
 - No coal in energy mix
 - 75% renewables by end 2018

Midcounties Co-operative:

- Queens Award for Sustainable Development
- Exemplary ranking in BitC's Corporate Responsibility Index
- Fair Tax Mark pioneer



Fair Tax



Community Energy Strategy

- **We aim to be the UK's leading supporter of locally-generated low-carbon energy**
- **We have drawn together progress into a new 'Community Energy Strategy'**
- **Strategy sets nine targets and these will be reviewed annually**
- **Will report openly and honestly on our progress within Midcounties Co-operative's annual Social Responsibility Report**
- **Published Wednesday 8th March**



Strategy: power purchase support

- **Highlight**: Number of Power Purchase Agreements with community energy groups now stands at 40, more than quadrupling the nine we had end 2014
- **TARGET**: Increase the number of community PPAs supported to 60 over the three years to end 2019
- **TARGET**: Continue to develop simplified and longer PPA contract terms, with ensuing commercial benefits for community energy groups



Strategy: local supply innovation

- **Highlight: Co-op Energy supporting the roll-out of Smart Meters and trialling of innovative new ‘time of use’ and ‘local energy’ tariffs. Working with Energy Local, these enable customers to benefit from load shifting at off-peak times and when local, low-carbon generation is active.**
- **TARGET: help complete SWELL Solar-PV project in Oxfordshire and disseminate learnings**
- **TARGET: help roll-out Cyd Ynni hydro project in Bethesda, north Wales to one hundred households and share learnings**



Strategy: engaging customers & members

- **Highlight: We offer User Chooser facility that allows customers to control energy mix of their electricity; and, in 2016, launched Co-operative Energy Saving - sells energy efficient and low-carbon products and services.**
- **TARGET: Revamp User Chooser with expanded community energy offer**
- **TARGET: Roll-out Co-operative Energy Saving offer with expanded products & services.**
- **TARGET: Work with schools and communities local to Co-op Energy and pilot a template to disseminate learnings on community energy and related matters**



Strategy: lobbying for good

- **Highlights:** We are the only UK energy supplier to play a full and active role in Community Energy England, the UK Community Energy Coalition and the European federation for renewable energy cooperatives (REScoop)
- **TARGET:** We will sponsor the UK's Community Energy Fortnight for fourth year in 2017 and deliver a fifth national Community Energy Conference.
- **TARGET:** We will continue to support and play an active role in Community Energy England, the UK Community Energy Coalition and REScoop



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