

Community

Energy

Update

May 2017

Monthly news from the
Centre for Sustainable
Energy communities team



Visit www.cse.org.uk/communities for further support or email communities@cse.org.uk.

For useful resources, check out www.cse.org.uk/thesource.

Sign up for this monthly newsletter at www.cse.org.uk/communities-update

We have **2,360** followers on Twitter.
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Extra £8,000 in fund for community buildings energy efficiency improvements

The successful Thrive Renewables Community Benefit Programme, which funds low carbon improvements to community buildings, has been topped up with another £8,000. So if you know of a community facility that could do with new lighting, some insulation, better

doors or windows or improved heating controls, **please tell them about this scheme.**

An organisation or individual can apply for up to £4,000, but must be in the close vicinity of Thrive Renewables wind turbines and hydroelectric installations. There's a map and more information here:

www.cse.org.uk/projects/view/1304.

CSE administers this fund on behalf of Thrive Renewables (formerly Triodos Renewables).



Prince solar campaign

10:10 have launched a new campaign, inspired by the late musician Prince, who was an **advocate for solar power** before he died last year.

The funds raised will go towards adding solar panels to the roofs of various organisations that Prince believed in, including food banks and community centres. As Prince himself might say, 'The sun, the moon and stars, Don't seem as far as they did yesterday.'

Find out more here: www.1010uk.org/princesolar.



Vacancies at CSE ... We're looking for two fuel poverty advisors. see p2



Come and work with us!

CSE is looking for two fuel poverty advisors to work on a new project run in partnership with two other Bristol organisations: Talking Money and WE Care & Repair.

The posts are available to cover a combined total of 60 hours (8 days) per week and command a salary of £19,421-£23,835 subject to experience. Closing date: 12:00pm on Thursday 25 May.

Details and application form from www.cse.org.uk/jobs

Bright Ideas Fund

Community groups have only got until 31 May to apply in the second round for up to £20,000 through Locality's Bright Ideas Fund, which is aimed at helping community groups set up a business. Groups can also access business development support and peer to peer networking. See more here: www.bit.ly/2pNMioz



Cooperative Energy Community Energy Strategy

In March, Co-op Energy launched its Community Energy Strategy which included a range of new targets to increase its contribution to the sector such as new commitments in the areas of power purchase support, local supply innovation, customer engagement and lobbying for support.

Co-op Energy has already increased the number of power purchase agreements (PPAs) it has in place with community owned energy generators from nine in 2014 to forty in early 2017, and has pledged to increase that to 60 over the next three years.

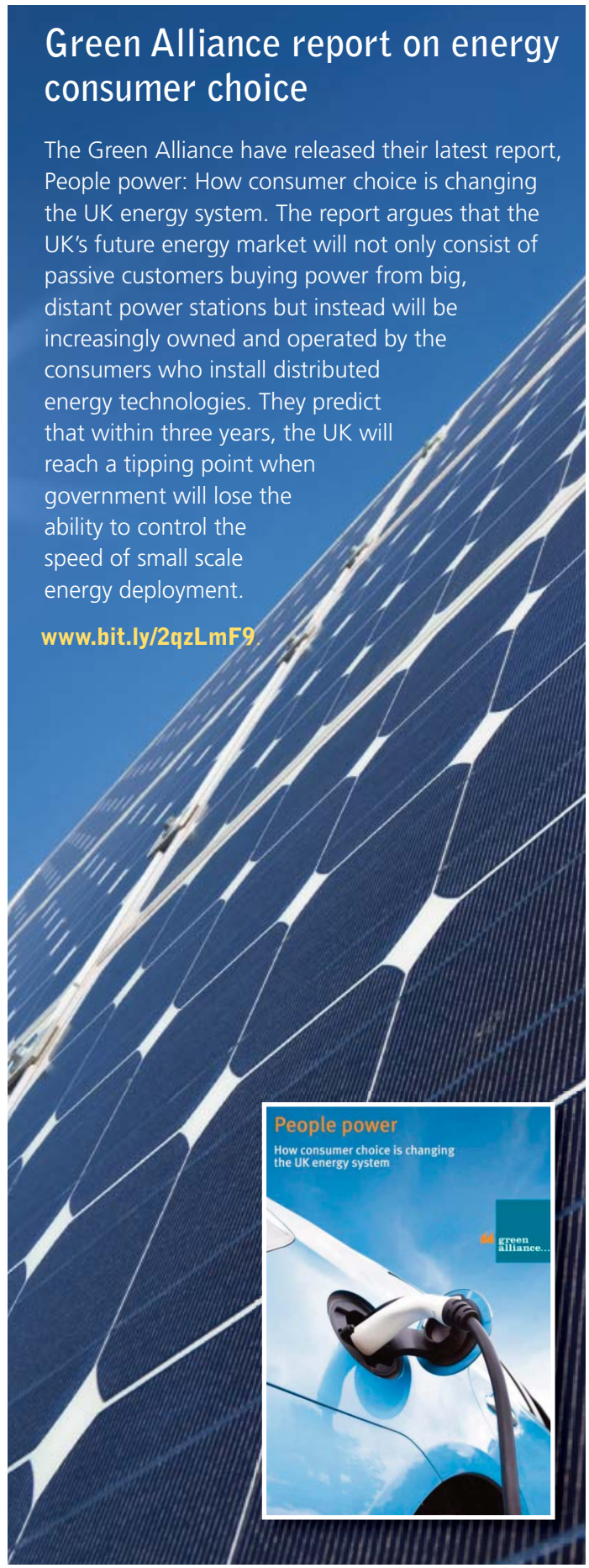
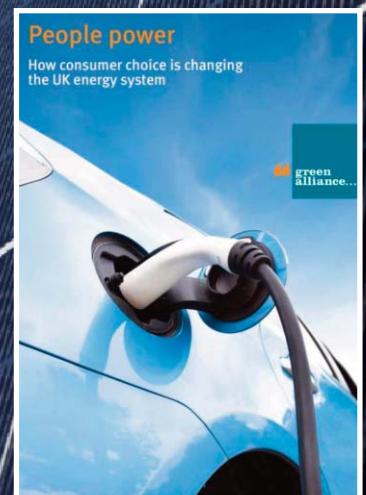
Co-op Energy's strategy outlines how it is supporting the trial of innovative new 'time of use' and 'local energy' tariffs and will work with schools and local groups to demonstrate the positive impacts of community energy on local communities. Find out more here:

www.bit.ly/2pNSJaX

Green Alliance report on energy consumer choice

The Green Alliance have released their latest report, People power: How consumer choice is changing the UK energy system. The report argues that the UK's future energy market will not only consist of passive customers buying power from big, distant power stations but instead will be increasingly owned and operated by the consumers who install distributed energy technologies. They predict that within three years, the UK will reach a tipping point when government will lose the ability to control the speed of small scale energy deployment.

www.bit.ly/2qzLmF9



The Community Energy Spring Gathering, organised by RegenSW will be a chance to discuss current community energy opportunities and challenges, get to know one another, relax, learn and have fun. It takes place in Totnes, Devon on Fri-Sat, 19-20 May. For more on the weekend get-together, see: www.bit.ly/2q1h7G6



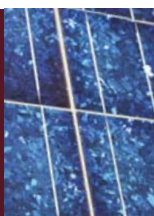
Listen again

Costing the Earth: Insulation for the Nation, BBC Radio4

Our chief executive Simon Roberts was one of the guests looking at talk about low carbon retrofit and supply chains. www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b08n2v3f



We've heard that the Government will launch a fresh review into feed-in tariffs on small scale projects by the end of this year. Let us know if you hear anything!



Share offers open

We haven't run the share offers feature for a while but thought it would be worth mentioning that the shares.coop website has ceased to update community share offers. So keep an eye on the websites of Ethex, Shareenergy, EnergyforAll and similar for community energy share offers.

There are still some live offers open including from Awel Coop (<http://awel.coop>) and Low Carbon Hub (www.ethex.org.uk/low-carbon-hub_1866.html).



Video of the month

www.youtube.com/watch?v=cFmwQZ7rSKc&t=138s

Summer's coming. Here's a video we made way back looking at how you might start a community solar project ...

