



Partner in renewable energy with Reading Community Energy Society

Reading Community Energy Society (RCES - <http://readingenergy.coop>) is a not for profit community based social enterprise founded in 2016 (supported by Energy for All <http://energy4all.co.uk>) to establish community owned renewable energy facilities in the Reading area. In 2016 it made its first successful public share offer that generated £300,000. This allowed the installation of solar photo voltaic panels on 12 buildings (including a library, schools, churches and community centres), representing 176 kWp (approximately 700 solar panels – enough to power 48 houses with electricity).

RCES receives income from the Government's Feed in Tariff (FiT) and from selling electricity to building users. Shareholders receive 4-5% interest and remaining profits contribute to a Community Fund to support local projects focussed on sustainability and energy efficiency.

Following its successful first year of operation, RCES is extending its portfolio of buildings to cover a radius of 10 miles from the centre of Reading. As a consequence, **the Society is seeking owners and users of suitable buildings to have renewable energy facilities** (such as solar and possibly other technologies) installed on their buildings **at no cost**.

Building owners and users will benefit through:

- RCES purchasing and installing the renewable energy facility at **no cost to the building owner**;
- The building owner/tenant will be able to purchase electricity generated at a **preferential price, guaranteed for 20 years**;
- **Demonstrably supporting the uptake of low carbon technologies**, and supporting local community initiatives through the Community Fund
- **Optionally, invest in the scheme itself**, to benefit from the projected shareholder returns

Buildings that are particularly suitable for partnership with RCES include:

- those medium or large buildings (with suitable roof space of greater than 100 m² requiring an installation of over 10kW)
- those that have a single occupier and a single electric meter
- those using most of the electricity generated
- roofs that are largely south-east to south-west facing and unshaded, of a construction that will enable safe installation of these panels.

The buildings that are most likely to fit into these criteria include schools and colleges, offices, museums, medical centres, care homes and leisure centres, as well as commercial buildings such as factories, technology centres and retail stores.

For more details or an informal discussion, please email John Malone - john@energy4all.co.uk - or Tony Hoskins – aahoskins@aol.com