



## Partner in renewable energy with Reading Community Energy Society

Reading Community Energy Society (RCES) is a not for profit community based social enterprise founded in 2016, with a mission to establish and expand community owned renewable energy facilities in the Reading area.

We are supported by Energy for All <http://energy4all.co.uk>, which supports 28 community benefit societies and co-operatives nationally.

Our Board of Directors are all investors in the Society, and typically live in the local area. They are all volunteers, with a range of relevant experience to offer, and share a common interest in increasing the uptake of renewable energy locally.

### Current installations

In December 2019, we installed our 20<sup>th</sup> solar photovoltaic (PV) system in the area. Collectively, these systems total 434 kWp (approximately 1,600 individual panels), which is enough to generate enough electricity each year to power 128 homes!

Our installations are funded through community share offers, enabling individuals and local organisations to support and benefit from our scheme. Since 2016, we have raised almost £500,000 – demonstrating the support and commitment for delivering renewable energy locally.

### Community benefit

Our community shareholders typically receive 4% - 5% interest on their investment annually. As a not for profit organisation, any surplus funds each year contribute to a Community Fund to support local projects focussed on carbon reduction, energy efficiency and wider sustainability.

### Partnership opportunity

RCES is constantly seeking further opportunities to extend its portfolio of buildings within a 10 mile radius of Reading. We are **seeking owners and users of suitable buildings to have renewable energy facilities** (such as solar and possibly other technologies) installed on their buildings.

Building owners and users will benefit through:

- RCES purchasing and installing renewable energy solutions at **no cost to the building owner**;
- Purchasing 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:

- Medium or large buildings, with suitable roof space of at least 50 m<sup>2</sup>
- Those that have a single occupier and a single electric meter
- Those using most of the electricity generated
- Unshaded roofs facing south-east to south-west in a good state of repair

Suitable buildings include schools and colleges, offices, museums, medical centres and care homes as well as commercial buildings such as factories, technology centres and retail stores.

For more details or an informal discussion, please email [info@readingenergy.coop](mailto:info@readingenergy.coop)