

# Energy Saving Trust: Supporting UK Renewable Energy Communities



# Energy Saving Trust

- An independent organisation – working to address the climate emergency and bring about a just transition
- We work across home energy, SME energy efficiency transport, community energy, renewables, access to sustainable energy and more
- In 2020–21, 2.8 million people used our online resources and our communications campaigns reached 1.4 million
- We have supported community energy for over 20 years through grants and support programmes.

# Supporting Renewable Energy Communities

- Government programmes:
  - Scottish Government: CARES programme
  - Welsh Government: Welsh Government Energy Scheme
- The programmes provide a mix of advice and guidance, loans and development grants
- Other grant schemes: Energy Redress, Transport programmes, Efficiency for Access R&D Fund
- Insight, policy and advocacy

# Renewable Energy Communities in the UK

- Strong grassroots movement
- Not adopted Article 22
- No specific legislation on energy communities and local supply
- Some “sandbox” projects on local supply
- Devolved government programmes in Wales and Scotland
- Past UK programmes include feasibility funds, challenge funds

# Solar Connected Communities



- 29 PV systems on public and community buildings
- Combined capacity of 542kW
- Used FiT extension
- On-site supply
- Scottish Govt supported

# Ripple Energy



- New model of consumer-owned renewables
- Share-owners receive discount on energy bills
- Welsh Govt Energy Service supported development