



Green Investment Plan, Cumbria

Community Finance Instruments for Cumbria

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Community investment key



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- To get to Net Zero – we need to take everyone on the journey
- Investment in projects gives an opportunity for people to be involved in a way that is meaningful
- Over 60% of Brits put money aside regularly. In Cumbria: estimated £15 billion in savings
- Various community models exist – all provide investors with a stake in the future and engage them in the net zero transition
- Community renewables can boost local economic activity through investment, jobs and tax revenue staying in local hands

Finance structures that work “for all”



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- We have looked at options that mean citizens can invest in projects in different ways depending on their investment wants and needs:
 - Level of risk they are happy with
 - Return seeking
 - Level of involvement they would like
 - Level of altruism
- Also contemplate how community projects benefit from a proportion of profits
- Think about what is deliverable: should not make renewable energy more expensive for the public

Finance structures that work “for all”



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- Crowd funding in different forms:
 - Development phase: **community share offers**; **donations**
 - Construction phase or refinance: partial or full ownership with funds raised through **community share offers** or through a platform (**debt** or **equity**)
- Local Authority **Community Municipal Investment**:
 - LA investing directly in the project using funds raised from citizens (as little as £5 each)
 - Risk/return commensurate with the covenant strength of the LA
 - Opportunity for LA involvement in lynchpin projects and engagement with its residents
 - Create a communication platform and mechanism for receiving Interest Donation



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