



# North West Net Zero Hub – Activities Update

Climate Partnership  
September 2023



# Community Energy Fund



# Community Energy Fund

North West Net Zero Hub will manage our share of the national £10 Million funding as regional programme for community groups to develop projects from feasibility to commercialisation.

The funding will support eligible community groups to consider options, design schemes and overcome barriers to investment.

*It should be noted that it will not provide a grant for capital investment in the projects themselves.*



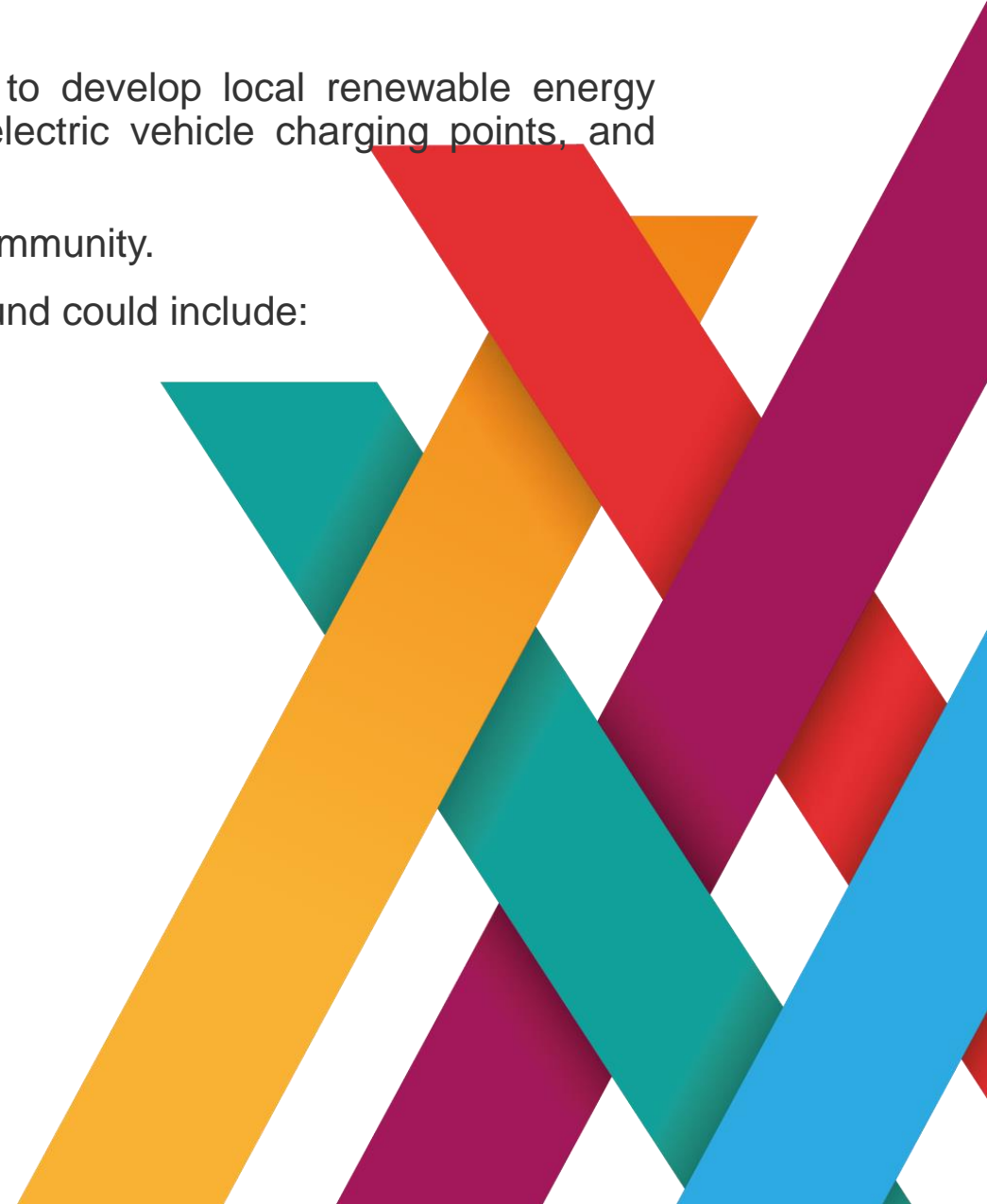
# Community Energy Fund

The Community Energy Fund is for urban and rural communities to develop local renewable energy projects, such as wind farms, hydro power, rural heat networks, electric vehicle charging points, and electric car clubs.

The CEF funds are for community groups and for the benefit of the community.

It is likely that example technologies which will be considered by the fund could include:

- Anaerobic digestion (AD)**
- AD (biogas) fuelled heat network**
- Bio liquids/gas/fuels**
- Biomass heat network**
- Heat pumps**
- Hydropower**
- Solar (photo voltaic)**
- Solar (thermal)**
- Wind turbines**
- Battery Storage**
- Multi-technology approaches**



# Community Energy Fund

If you or a potential Community Energy Group would like to express initial interest in the funding, please email [NWNZHub@liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk](mailto:NWNZHub@liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk).

We will be in touch with programme guidance and application forms when published.



# Community Energy – Next Steps

The Net Zero Hubs in collaboration with Community Energy England has published a [Top Ten Guide to Getting Started](#) for groups embarking on new projects.

You can also register your interest in the Hubs wider work to support communities on their net zero journey. [NW Route To Net Zero | Join – NW Route To Net Zero](#)



# Proposed Liverpool Based Event





**LIVERPOOL  
CITY REGION**  
COMBINED AUTHORITY

**METRO MAYOR**  
LIVERPOOL CITY REGION

North West of England  
**NET ZERO: GOING TO SCALE**  
Event Proposal

INITIAL DRAFT 2023



Department for  
Energy Security  
& Net Zero



**NORTH WEST  
ROUTE TO NET ZERO**



north west  
net zero hub





# NORTH WEST ROUTE TO NET ZERO

## KEY FACTS

- 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023, 9:00am – 4:00pm  
(Speakers from 10:00-3:00)
- Central Liverpool Venue
- Audience 200-400
- 4 Panel Sessions on Key Topics
- Keynote Speakers: LCR CA Portfolio; Metro Mayors, Sub-regional Leaders
- Hub provide pre-event briefing notes/videos (drafts to share with board end September)*
- Deep dive videos by speakers published online after the event.



**NORTH WEST  
ROUTE TO NET ZERO**

# FORMAT

- ❑ Main Hall – Exhibitor Space and Food Stalls/Catering
- ❑ Conference Room – Speaker Podium and Chaired Panel Sessions
  - ❑ 4 \*5 minute summary's, with 25 mins of debate.
- ❑ Video Room – speakers give more details to a small audience about their topic which is recorded and edited for publication after event,
- ❑ ? Breakout Rooms – Optional Presentations during breaks at 9:00, 12:00 and 3:00



**NORTH WEST  
ROUTE TO NET ZERO**

# CALL TO ACTION

- The North West has been making great strides to decarbonise homes, buildings, industry and the energy systems.
- This event brings together organisations that are already acting and those looking to act. Participants will hear from thought-leaders and will debate the ways in which partnership and collaboration can help scale up investment, grow jobs; to do more of what already works and to innovate where necessary.

Solar Together



# What is Solar Together?

- A collective purchasing solar PV scheme that provides a streamlined and transparent process and seek to guarantee high-quality installations from competent installers at a competitive price.
- The scheme is aimed at residents who own their house (or have permission from the landlord) and have the funds and access rights to suitable roofs.
- Small and medium-sized enterprises and churches can participate to the scheme.
- Electricity storage and EV charge-points can also be added to the offer.

# How does it work?

The scheme is administered by iChoosr, a group-buying service provider.

LCR Combined Authority will be responsible for undertaking a filtering exercise to identify a target list of residents to receive direct mail and then providing details to the Direct Mailing house.

LCR CA will run the marketing campaign, including procuring brochures, posters, press releases, social media, adverts, etc.


# The process


## Set up


iChoosr runs a strict supplier qualification process for the region.


**Do you want to bid in an auction?**

Please register your interest in plenty of time with iChoosr so we have time to complete the qualification process and explain what is required of participating suppliers.



**Energy supplier**  
Are you an energy supplier and want to bid in an auction?  
[Please contact us](#) 



**Solar PV Main contractor**  
Are you a solar PV supplier and do you want to participate in an auction?  
[Apply here](#) 

**Solar PV Subcontractor**

Are you a solar PV installer and do you want to work with our winning supplier to install Solar PV? Apply [here](#)

# The process

## Marketing Campaign

A targeted comms and marketing campaign is run to promote the scheme to residents.

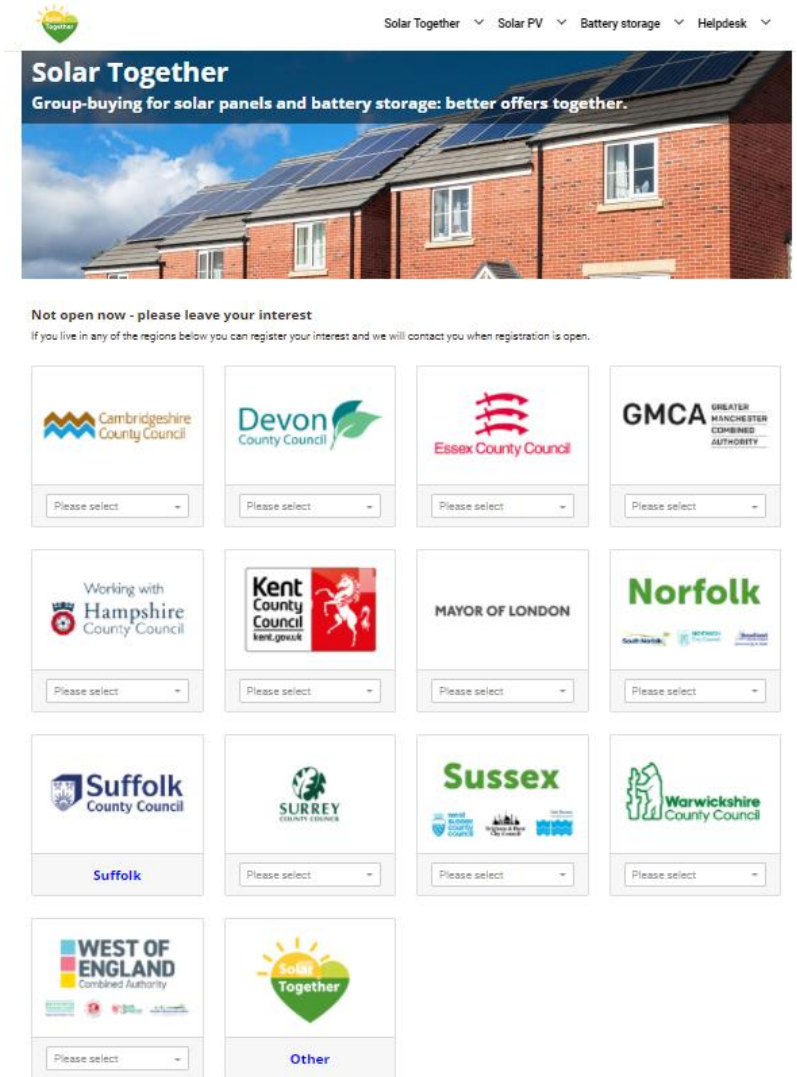




# The process

## Registration

Residents register their interest for free via a website, giving details of their energy use and roof to very roughly determine their optimum size of a solar PV system.



# The process

## Auction

- Pre-qualified suppliers bid in a reverse auction.
- iChoosr then meet with the winning supplier to validate their bid and sign the contract.

## Personal Offer

- The winning supplier provides the registered residents with a personalised offer for a fully installed solar PV system, based on the information the resident previously submitted via the website.

## Decision

- If the resident decides to accept the personalised offer, the supplier will survey their home and install the solar PV system.

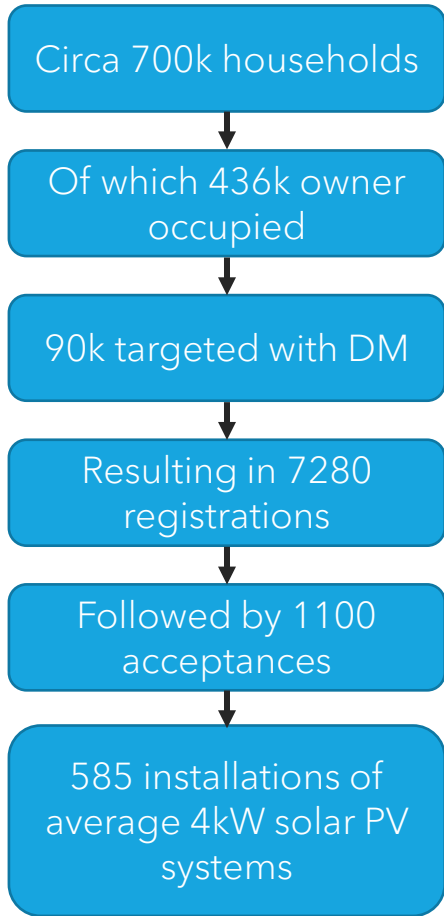
# Benefits for residents

By coming together, residents can leverage collective purchasing to:

- Work with experts who have vetted suppliers and researched the market to reduce risk and quality issues.
- Receive a step by step user-friendly education and impartial guidance to help them understand and make a well-informed decision.
- Receive a personalised offer at no cost and without obligation.
- Purchase a high-quality solar PV system at a competitive price, previous schemes have achieved discounts of between 16-35% on market rate.
- Access advice and support at all stages of the process provided by iChoosr.



# Costs and Carbon Reduction



2.3 MW total installed capacity

>10k t lifetime CO<sub>2</sub> reduction

**£5M of private investments**

Solar Together LCR	September 2022
Households	692,673
Owner-occupied	436,384
Targeted DM letters	90,000
Registrations	7280
Acceptances	1100
Net installations	585

Total PV installed capacity	2.3 MW
Total installed battery storage	9,808 kWh
Year 1 electricity generation	1,875 MWh
Lifetime electricity generation	44,067 MWh
<b>Year 1 CO<sub>2</sub> reduction</b>	<b>414 t CO<sub>2</sub></b>
<b>Lifetime CO<sub>2</sub> reduction</b>	<b>&gt;10,000 t CO<sub>2</sub></b>

# Autumn 2023 scheme key dates

- Registration Opens: 28<sup>th</sup> of August
- Installer Auction: Mid-September
- Registration Closes: 27<sup>th</sup> of October
- Offers start going out to residents in batches every 2 weeks from 9<sup>th</sup> of October
- 4 weeks to decide and accept the offer
- Acceptance Closes: 15<sup>th</sup> of December
- All installs completed by: 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2024

