



beat - energy

committing to energy and water efficiency

Welcome to BEAT's WINTER community energy newsletter!

We seem to have escaped lightly so far this winter with just a brief snowfall in December. Is there worse to come or can we look forward to spring?! Regardless, energy is never far from the national spotlight with the introduction of the Renewable Heat Incentive, controversial reviews of the feed-in tariff and ever-changing energy prices.

GREEN DRINKS



Every month people who work in the environmental field meet up at informal gatherings known as Green Drinks. In Yorkshire there are groups in Bradford, Leeds, Sheffield and York. For more information contact Roland Arnison or check out the green drinks facebook page by clicking [here](#).

Free energy audits are still available!

Making Changes - Event

24th April 2012 - St Michael's enterprise Centre, Mytholmroyd

Bringing together the projects achievements

Film Launch. -



Case studies, from community buildings. talks - lighting, heating controls, insulation renewable technologies.

Register your interest by emailing BEAT to ensure you are kept up-to-date with event details.

Latest news from BEAT

Training and information event - 24th April 2012 - see

Do you know any community centres who would benefit from an energy audit? Please put them in touch with us - audits are free and impartial, could save you money and help you with funding applications.



Update: Incentives for Renewables

Renewable Heat Incentive

Community centres can now receive payment for generating heat by renewable technologies such as biomass or solar thermal. Click [here](#).



Feed-in tariffs

The government has recently consulted on proposals to significantly reduce the level of feed-in tariffs paid to small scale

above and put it in your diary - more information will follow nearer the time....

Please tell us what you thought

If BEAT has done an energy audit of your community building, we will be contacting you shortly to get your feedback on the project and on what energy saving measures you have put in place. Your input will be greatly appreciated as we look at ways of continuing the project.

DVD now on general release!

The DVD commissioned by BEAT to provide practical energy saving guidance to community buildings has now been released. It features case studies of six local community centres who have taken effective measures to reduce their energy bills. Email BEAT if you would like a copy.

See the DVD at the Making Changes event

Funding opportunities

The biggest issue with any project - where will the money come from? Some new energy-related funding opportunities have arisen (see below) but you need to act fast as the deadlines are short.



Community Sustainable Energy Programme (CSEP)

CSEP has recently re-opened, offering grants for energy efficiency measures and for heat-generating technologies. The deadline for applications is Friday 29th February. Click [here](#).

LEADER funding

For community buildings in rural areas across the South Pennine area (the LEADER area), there are still some grants available of up to £2,000 for energy efficiency measures. Contact BEAT for further information.

Big Lottery Fund

The Reaching Communities Fund has money available to improve community buildings in deprived areas of the country. Click [here](#) to see if you would be eligible.

WREN funding

generators of electricity by photovoltaic (PV) panels. Click [here](#).

Community Renewable Energy (CoRE) training



This 3 day training course was organised by BEAT to provide information and guidance on setting-up a community renewable energy project. This is an idea that is common in Scandinavia and some European countries whereby a community can own a means of energy production and influence how any profits are spent.

The course was well attended and took place at Baildon Link, a brand new (and very energy efficient) community centre which has incorporated various renewable technologies. Possible project ideas discussed included working with a local business to install solar PV on their site, giving reduced electricity costs to the business and passing the feed-in tariff income onto the community group for local projects.

If your building is near a landfill site (and a surprising number are!) you may be able to secure funding under WREN or similar scheme. This can be used for major improvement works. Click [here](#).

BEAT'S Top Tips

This time it's a lightbulb moment!



1) Switch off!

Always turn the lights off when you leave a room. It does NOT use more energy to turn lights on and off than to leave them on. Arrange light switches so that it's easy to turn them off.

2) Label it!

Label any banks of switches so that it is easy for users to only turn on the lights that they need.

3) Use less Watts

Replace 50W halogen downlighters with 6W LED bulbs and save £70 over the life of the bulb. The thinner a fluorescent tube, the less energy it uses. Replacing old thick tubes ('T12') with 'T8' tubes can save 8% of energy. Even thinner 'T5s' could save up to 30% of lighting costs (but require an additional fitting).

4) Sense it!

Fit lights with a motion sensor so they only come on when required. External lights can be fitted with a sensor and a time switch so they only come on when someone approaches during specified times.

5) Select carefully

Use the right light for the job in hand. If you're showing a film or giving a presentation you probably only want low level background lighting, but if your centre users are reading and writing they will want something brighter.

Why Waste - furniture

Before buying new furniture register with the online waste exchange Why Waste, managed by BEAT. Several community centres have managed to re-home unwanted office furniture from businesses at no cost.

For example before christmas Architects, Robinson Design in Shipley were having a clear out and donated office chairs and furniture to Newlands Community

Association.

Join why waste @ www.whywaste.org.uk/ and see what resources are available for your community building.

Supported in partnership by:

The logo for beat (Bradford Environmental Action Trust), featuring a green background with white leaf graphics and the word "beat" in white lowercase letters, with "Bradford Environmental Action Trust" below it.

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