

Monday 10 August 2020

Capturing the value of community energy

Energise Sussex Coast and South East London Community Energy are set to benefit from a new collaboration, led by Dr Colin Nolden.

Academics from the University of Bristol will help the social enterprises analyse their approaches to energy generation, energy saving and fuel poverty alleviation; to evaluate what has worked in the past in order to maximise their impact in the future.

Dr Colin Nolden from the University of Bristol says "We'll work with the companies to analyse more than 10 years of company data, to take stock of what fuel poverty advice and energy saving action works...and what does not. We're also looking for any multiplier effects for the companies from engaging in both renewable energy trading and fuel poverty alleviation."

With a better understanding how and where value is created, companies can establish a platform to co-operate, reaping the benefits of economies of scale while creating data capture systems which better enable targeted energy saving and fuel poverty advice.

Community Energy South have provided match funding to support this collaboration. Ollie Pendered, CEO of Community Energy South says "We're providing £3,500 in match funding to support this work. This will help Energise Sussex Coast and South East London Community Energy cover the costs of their time and all the necessary information and company data; to enable the University of Bristol team to capture the value of community energy."

Additional information

Project title: Capturing the value of community energy

People:

- Dr Colin Nolden is a Vice-Chancellor's Fellow based on the Law School, University of Bristol, researching sustainable energy governance at the intersection of demand, mobility, communities and climate change. He is also a non-executive director of Community Energy South. Alongside his appointment at the University of Bristol, Colin works as a Researcher at the Environmental Change Institute, University of Oxford.
- Peter Thomas, University of Bristol Engineering PhD student, investigates access to energy in humanitarian relief by combining insights from engineering, social sciences and anthropology.
- Daniela Rossade, University of Bristol Engineering PhD student, investigates the transition to renewable energy on the remote island of Saint Helena and the influence of renewable microgrids on electricity access and energy poverty.

Company information:

- Energise Sussex Coast Ltd <http://www.energisesussexcoast.co.uk/>
- South East London Community Energy Ltd <https://selce.org.uk>
- Community Energy South <https://www.communityenergysouth.org>

For more information on the project contact: Dr Colin Nolden colin.nolden@bristol.ac.uk

About the University of Bristol

The University is ranked within the top 10 universities in the UK and top 60 in the world (QS World University Rankings 2021); it is also ranked among the top five institutions in the UK for its research, according to analysis of the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014; and is the 4th most targeted university by top UK employers.

The University was founded in 1876 and was granted its Royal Charter in 1909. It was the first university in England to admit women on the same basis as men.

The University is a major force in the economic, social and cultural life of Bristol and the region, but is also a significant player on the world stage. It has over 20,000 undergraduates and over 7,000 postgraduate students from more than 100 countries, and its research links span the globe.