

2 July 2022

Dear Helen,

Many thanks again for being such a strong supporter of Sustainable Energy 24 and Community Energy in general.

As you will be aware, the Community Energy sector and its supporters have been struggling to make progress with the backbench-sponsored Local Electricity Bill, in the face of Government unwillingness to adopt and adapt the legislation in a way that could really help to facilitate Community Energy investment and engagement.

As you are no doubt also aware, the Government now proposes to introduce its own Energy Security Bill, the first major piece of new energy legislation for many years. Its Second Reading is expected to take place within the next few weeks, before the Summer Recess. Given the level of support for Community Energy across the House, this offers a new opportunity to achieve the aims behind the Local Electricity Bill by amending the Government's own legislative proposals.

Could I therefore encourage you, your colleagues and other supporters of Community Energy to explore and develop this new line of approach?

Community Energy England and Power for People (<https://powerforpeople.org.uk/the-local-electricity-bill/campaign-facts/>) can no doubt provide briefing material and ideas, should you require them.

Based on our experience of Community Energy solar projects in London, for example, a meaningful reform of the current Smart Export Guarantee regime would make a huge difference. We are simply asking that Community Energy be treated no worse than larger renewable generators - with long term guaranteed prices for 'exported' renewable electricity which reflect its genuine market value.

Local Community renewables are a great way to reinforce energy security, sustainability and community engagement, whilst helping to combat the cost-of-living crisis which now afflicts so many people.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Hallas

Director, Sustainable Energy 24 Ltd