



ABERDEEN COMMUNITY ENERGY'S DONSIDE HYDRO SCHEME

ABERDEEN'S FIRST COMMUNITY-RUN RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT

Donside Hydro is a community initiative driven by members of the Donside Community Association (DCA). It seeks to harness energy from its neighbouring river – The Don – to create electricity to be sold to the national grid.

The Vision is to deliver on the ethos of a sustainable community that truly works for its inhabitants while delivering a project that is aligned with local and national government policy on energy, climate change and sustainable communities.

In 2014 the DCA secured all the required permissions to build the renewable energy scheme. As a result Aberdeen Community Energy (ACE), a community benefit society, was established to build, own and operate the scheme on behalf of the community.

Revenue generated from the project will be channelled into initiatives that will achieve social and environmental benefits for the local area.

Revenue will also be used for new community enterprise projects through a Social Enterprise called Sinergy, maximising the benefits to the wider Aberdeen community for years to come.

As the project and associated enterprises develop, skills and expertise will be needed, creating jobs in Aberdeen and bolstering the local economy.

How does it work?

The Donside Hydro is capitalising on one of the oldest and most proven methods of energy capture, especially in Scotland – hydro power. It will work by drawing a share of water from the River Don and passing it over an Archimedean screw turbine, capturing energy from the water's movement and converting it into clean, renewable electricity.

Investment opportunity

The development phase was funded through an initial start-up grant and loan from the Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES).

The construction phase will be funded by cash generated through a Community Share Offer that is open to all. A Community Share Offer fully aligns with the overall vision and social objectives of the project, offering the opportunity for members of the wider community and indeed country to secure a solid and low-risk financial return on investment.

POWERING
130
HOMES
ANNUALLY

30k
GENERATED
ANNUALLY
FOR THE
COMMUNITY

AT
LEAST
5%
RETURN ON
INVESTMENT

240
TONNES
CO2
AVOIDED
ANNUALLY

Find out more:

