



Local Energy Solutions

12.45pm, Thursday 18 May 2017

Committee Room 2

The Scottish Parliament

Convenor: Mark Ruskell MSP

1. Attendees and Presentations

A provisional list of attendees is attached to the end of this note. If you attended and are not shown on the list, please email Gavin Donoghue (gdonoghue@scottishrenewables.com)

All presentations can be accessed through the following [link to the Dropbox account](#) sent to members in email on 24 April 2017.

2. Introduction by Chair and Minutes

Mark Ruskell MSP welcomed everyone to the meeting and passed on apologies from Liam McArthur MSP, Jackie Baillie MSP, Ben Macpherson MSP and Maree Todd MSP who were unable to attend as they had clashing parliamentary business.

Mark said that, after discussions at the last meeting, all of the day's presentations have been made available to download in advance from the Dropbox account accessible from the email sent out to members. No group member had flagged up any problems with accessing presentations to the Secretariat in advance, however, Mark asked the group if there were any issues and none were forthcoming.

Minutes of the previous meeting, held on 23 February 2017, had been sent round group members in advance and the Secretariat received no requests for additions or corrections.

3. Presentation: Jennifer Ramsay, Project Manager for the Local Energy Challenge Fund at Local Energy Scotland

Jennifer provided an introduction to Local Energy Scotland and talked about local energy solutions through the lens of Local Energy Plans.

She then provided examples of different types of local energy projects and talked about the kinds of non-financial support LES could provide local projects through the CARES scheme.

4. Presentation: Gordon Cowtan, the SMART Fintry Project Director at the Fintry Development Trust

Gordon provided a background to Fintry Development Trust and the Smart Fintry project before discussing the structure of the project, its partners and its funding.

He then went into more depth about the progress the project has made to date, and what plans there are for the future.

5. Presentation: Gavin Slater, the Group Manager for City Energy & H2020 RUGGEDISED at Glasgow City Council

Gavin provided an introduction to the RUGGEDISED project and explained its funding model, before discussing how Glasgow was one of the 'lighthouse cities', alongside Umea and Rotterdam.

He then provided a more in depth look at Glasgow's 'Smart Street' project, and outlined the challenges and solutions the project's partners had come up with.

6. Question and Answer Session

- **Stephen Young**
 - Asked about the viability of small wind turbines on streetlights
- **Angela Lamont**
 - Asked about the use of batteries
- **Joan Pisanek**
 - Asked about heat storage
- **Gavin Slater**
 - Stated that GCC had discussed small-scale wind, but had concerns around rotational speed and limited generation.
 - Said batteries were technologically ready but needed sophisticated control systems.
 - Believed heat storage may be part of the process for the projects partners individually, but part of the Smart Street project itself.
- **Gordon Cowtan**
 - Said that batteries and EVs may be part of the future of the Smart Fintry project
- **Jennifer Ramsay**
 - Stated that a number of communities were looking at batteries for their own Local Energy Plans

- **Fiona Riddoch**
 - Asked how big the energy demand was in Fintry
- **Bill Rodger**
 - Asked how many of these projects were 'pre-roll out' and how many required proactive help
- **Gordon Cowtan**
 - Said he didn't know about demand level but local DNO is SSE who are kept abreast on development and have been supportive
 - Also stated that there have been conversation about the replicability of the project
- **Jennifer Ramsay**
 - Stated that LES had now done a number of demonstration projects and were looking to roll these out to new communities, such as in the highlands and islands.
 - Also said they had a good relationship with the DNOs

- **Gavin Slater**
 - Said that the Technology readiness level was 7 and that the energy was at a pre-feasibility stage
 - Also stated that they have an Independent Distribution Network Operator (IDNO) in their area – but they are looking at minimum impact on the grid.

- **Paul Mosely**
 - Asked about Ofgem system charges and District Heating
- **Lorna Ross**
 - Asked whether hydrogen storage was being used
- **Jan Webb**
 - Asked whether any of the projects were self-financing
- **Gordon Cowtan**
 - Said conversations were still to take place with Ofgem as part of project’s second phase
- **Gavin Slater**
 - Looking at more longer term financing than self-financing
 - Still don’t have too many models of DH schemes connecting to third parties and there is lack of regulation for heat.
 - Said hydrogen was not considered for this project but that there is work ongoing within the council to look at it.
- **Jennifer Ramsay**
 - Said LES would rather give out loans than grants
- **Gordon Cowtan**
 - Stated that hydrogen would be part of future investigations and are looking at heat when thinking about replicability for future communities.

7. AOB

Mark Ruskell MSP closed then meeting and informed the group that the next meeting of SPREEE would take place on Thursday 14 September, and would be the group’s AGM.

8. Attendees

Members

Gavin	Donoghue
Lorna	Ross
Bill	Rodger
Mark	Whittet
Tariq	Muneer
Jeremy	Smith
Jeff	Justice
Pete	Roche
Stephen	Young

Scott	Duncan
Simon	Kerr
Sam	McMillan
Sue	Kearns
Joan	Pisanek
John	Birchmore
John	Taylor
Neil	Barnes
Tony	Brunton
Mark	Ruskell MSP
Claudia	Beamish MSP
Murdo	Macdonald
Angela	Lamont
John	Maclean
Enrique	Troncoso
Donna	Kelly-Gilmour
Gavin	Mowat
Roddy	Hamilton
Faye	Wade
Jeremy	Smith
Stewart	Little
Margaret	Tingey

Non-member guest

Gordon	Cowtan
Jennifer	Ramsay
Gavin	Slater
Mareike	Lührs

For suggestions of corrections for this note please contact the secretariat, Gavin Donoghue (gdonoghue@scottishrenewables.com)