

CFCG Newsletter Jan 09

The Next Step.

Hello folks you have probably heard by now that we have secured £115,397 funding for our project which we now have to manage and deliver to the 8 communities involved within the project, which are Strathfillan, Gartmore, Lochgoil, Buchanan, Kilmarnock, Sandbank, Strachur, and Benmore & Kilmun.

There are several things that are going to happen within each community so the purpose of this newsletter is to keep you up to date.

In each community we are looking for a person who will become the local 'champion' who will receive appropriate training to enable them to deliver the project effectively.

The local champion will set up a 'library' of 20 energy monitors which will be loaned out to households after showing them how to use them. The monitors will show the household how much energy they are using and hopefully within a short period of time how they can save money by simply switching things off that are not needed. If these savings are then recorded this information can be used to encourage others to save money as well, so everyone wins.

We also aim to employ a partner agency who will have several tasks to deliver for us. One of these will be conducting out household surveys to determine if anything further can be done to help householders to reduce their energy usage. This could mean applying for grants to install insulation to make homes warmer determining on circumstances. It was felt that this would be better done by professionals that have a proven track record of delivering this for us. This agency would also be responsible for delivering lessons to local schools in energy saving.

It is also proposed to work with other partners to look at community buildings, such as village halls, to see if any energy savings can be gained there as well. Some communities have already started on this so you will understand what I am talking about.

Another thing that is planned is to write to local businesses to get them involved in the project as well.

Well

folks I hope this puts your minds at rest as to what is going to happen, all I can say that the next period will be extremely busy for all of us and hopefully we all gain out of what is on offer and that energy savings will be experienced by us all.

John
Massey

Interim Director - Community Partnership