

# Supporting Bristol's Community Energy Initiatives Projects and priorities

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We are a national charity that shares  
our knowledge and experience to  
help people change the way they  
think and act on energy.

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# Background

## Report overview

This report was commissioned by Bristol City Council and funded by the Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC). It provides an overview of the community energy sector in Bristol based on the results of a questionnaire distributed to community energy groups.

Twenty-two survey responses were received from 18 groups. A summary of each group has been used as the basis for an internet map of Bristol Community Energy projects<sup>1</sup>, and a short 'capacity profile' graphic for each group has been created for this report. Templates of the questionnaire and self-assessment matrix are included in the appendices for wider and/or future use.

Key recommendations are made for the development of Bristol City Council's action plan to support the community energy sector in Bristol around improving networking and information sharing; addressing gaps in capacity of community projects; and improving access to – and knowledge of – funding and finance.

## Aims

The aims of the piece of work resulting in this report were to provide more detailed capacity profiles of community energy groups in Bristol, to identify key support needs, and to make recommendations for actions to support the sector in future.

## Methods

Information for this report was gathered using the following methods:

- A survey of groups carried out through an on-line questionnaire distributed through local networks and incentivised to generate as many responses as possible<sup>2</sup>.
- Feedback from applications and workshops for the Bristol Community Energy Catalyst Fund and from Bristol Energy Network meetings.

The questionnaire was developed and tested by the Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE) in partnership with Bristol Energy Network, with the aim of collecting more detailed information about groups, their activities, capabilities, knowledge and support needs. Questionnaires were also available to download from the CSE website for return by email, and in hard copy to return by post.

In order to gather useful information about groups, the questionnaire combined multiple choice questions about the group's structure and activities, open-ended questions to provide more specific detail, and self-assessment questions. These required groups to rate different dimensions of their community energy projects, such as the level of community involvement, availability of resources, and capacity to run successful projects.

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1 <http://tinyurl.com/BristolCommunityEnergy>

2 The questionnaire template can be viewed here:  
[www.cse.org.uk/downloads/file/Bristol\\_Community\\_Energy\\_questionnaire.pdf](http://www.cse.org.uk/downloads/file/Bristol_Community_Energy_questionnaire.pdf)

Responses were received from a wide range of organisations, from established environmental charities to neighbourhood sustainability initiatives and recently formed community based social enterprises.

## **The local picture**

There is a significant amount of activity in the community energy sector in Bristol. The city hosts the charity, the Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE), one of the UK's leading specialists in supporting community energy initiatives, as well as a number of key organisations operating in the wider sustainability field, including Sustrans, Forum for the Future, the Soil Association, Life Cycle UK, Streets Alive and many more. There is a very active network of Transition groups, a growing number of food and permaculture groups, as well as much local activity around transport, waste and wider sustainability issues.

The Bristol Energy Network (BEN) was established in autumn 2010 and has met quarterly since then. High attendance at every BEN event to date demonstrates strong support and enthusiasm in this area. Energy groups in Bristol are at various stages of development and focussed on many different activities although there is considerable crossover. Activities extend beyond the groups that responded to the questionnaire and there are many links and synergies between the groups and individuals working across the city, not all of which are captured here.

There is a range of resources and organisations operating within the city and beyond which are available to support Bristol's community energy groups. However, there is currently little systematic co-ordination of resources to support these groups or funding to enable such support to take place. Moreover, informal soundings suggest that the current support activity is either very limited in its funding or is being funded from reserves. This indicates a risk that the support activities will (a) not be sustained in the future without further support and (b) remain rather piecemeal in their coverage and impact.

## **Bristol Community Energy Catalyst Fund**

In order to support the development of community-owned and community-driven sustainable energy enterprises in the city, Bristol City Council set up a £50,000 'Community Energy Catalyst Fund' in March 2011. The fund, designed and administered by CSE, provides access to finance to help local enterprises and projects 'break through' key business development hurdles and catalyse the transition from a well thought-through idea into a successful working enterprise.

The fund is intended to act as a revolving fund, with successful projects undertaking to pay back the funding award over time so that other groups could benefit in future. Funds were available primarily to cover costs of professional expertise such as legal documentation, market research, technical studies or detailed financial modelling (e.g. VAT, tax and leasing rules etc). It was not planned to be to fund staff costs, company 'start up', or capital funding. The fund was promoted across Bristol and documentation made available online<sup>3</sup>, although timeframes for submitting applications were short (to fit in with budget and political cycles) which made it difficult for some groups to respond.

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<sup>3</sup> [www.cse.org.uk/bristolcommunityenergy](http://www.cse.org.uk/bristolcommunityenergy)

Six applications were received and assessed by CSE staff and reviewed by a judging panel<sup>4</sup>, and two groups were awarded funds (see below). The scheme is still live.

#### **Bristol Community Energy Co-op**

The Bristol Energy Co-operative is being established to create a community-owned social enterprise which will own energy infrastructure and support investment in energy efficiency, in homes, businesses and community resources in Bristol and surrounding region; and produce financial returns for reinvestment on a 'revolving fund' model, starting by installing up to 300kW of Solar PV on community buildings across Bristol. Funding from the Bristol Community Energy Catalyst Fund is to support activities to realise the project, including detailed professional reports and advice (e.g. technical specifications of PV systems and structural surveys of roofs) and costs associated with setting up a formal legal structure; launching the project and raising funding.

#### **Saxon Road Green Space Group**

This project focuses on the development of a viable sustainable energy project to support the Saxon Road Greenspace Group's plans to improve an area of waste land at the corner of Saxon Road in St. Werburghs for the benefit of the community. Funding from the Bristol Community Energy Catalyst Fund will be used to pay for a professional options appraisal to assess the scope, cost and viability of a range of sustainable energy projects for the neighbourhood, including but not limited to an anaerobic digester on the site.

## **The national picture**

Nationally the community energy sector is growing at a very fast pace, with a huge number of community energy projects now running nationally. The Energy Saving Trust (EST)'s Green Communities programme gathered a list of approximately 6,000 contacts interested in community energy; almost 1,000 groups are registered on the Energyshare website and the Low Carbon Communities Network has roughly 600 registered contacts. Projects range from small scale to large scale and cover the spectrum of energy issues, from fuel poverty to energy efficiency to renewables.

Projects vary in the extent to which they focus on community benefits, community engagement, community ownership (of assets), and in how much they are motivated by (and successful in) generating income, reducing carbon, or addressing local priorities. Some groups focus on local or national campaigns, some concentrate on research, some deliver practical projects in their communities, and some follow structured programmes (e.g. Transition / GAP Ecoteams), but most carry out a range of activities.

There has been a rise over the last five years not only in the number of energy groups that have adopted legally recognised structures (particularly for renewable energy projects), but also in the number of community share offers by community energy schemes<sup>5</sup>.

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<sup>4</sup> The panel consisted of Simon Roberts (Chief Executive of CSE), Cllr Neil Harrison (Bristol City Council), Alex Minshull (Sustainable City Group Manager, Bristol City Council), James Vaccaro (UK Head of Investment Banking, Triodos Bank)

There are various agencies and organisations offering support to community energy groups, including networks such as the Low Carbon Communities Network, Transition Network, organisations like the Co-operative Development Agency, web-based information and support such as DECC's Community Energy Online website, EST's Green Communities pages, and Plan LoCaL suite of resources produced by CSE. Different levels of support (and funding) are available to groups in different parts of the UK, although sources of capital funding are becoming more scarce and with the closure of the EST's Green Communities programme there is no longer a centralised source of practical support that all communities across the UK can access.

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<sup>5</sup> [www.bakerbrown.co.uk/cshares\\_one\\_year\\_on\\_report\\_2010.pdf](http://www.bakerbrown.co.uk/cshares_one_year_on_report_2010.pdf)

# Bristol community energy project questionnaire responses

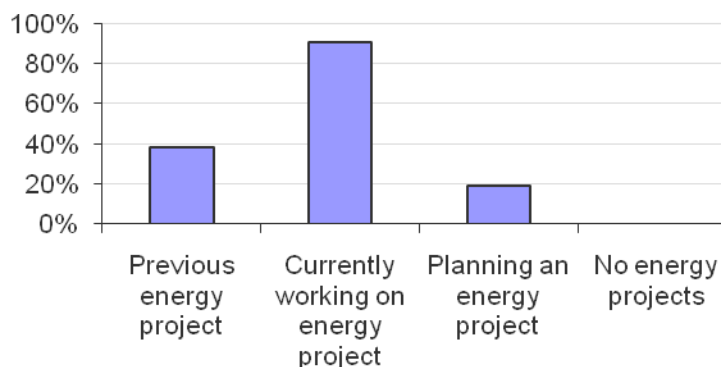
This section of the report summarises responses from groups about their aims, structure, funding, capacity and support needs. The following groups responded to the survey.

Group
Bristol Close the Door (Sustainable Redland initiative)
Bristol Energy Co-operative
Bristol Energy Network
Bristol Friends of the Earth
Bristol Green Doors
Bristol Power Co-operative
Coexist
Easton Energy Group
Future Fit Bristol
Green Community Warmth
MakeyourhomeEco
re:workltd
St Monica Trust
Sunshine Community Fund
Sustainable Bishopston
Sustainable Redland
Sustainable Southville / Transition BS3
The Converging World

## Group aims

The vast majority of groups responding to the survey (91%) were actively working on energy projects; 38% had done so previously and 19% were planning something in future.

**Figure 1: energy project experience**

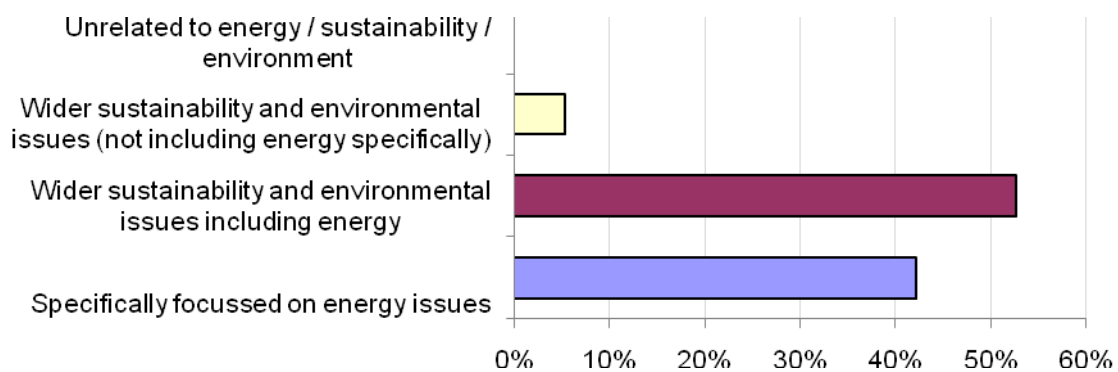


Fuller profiles of the groups are shown later in this report, but all groups had aims related to energy, sustainability, and environment, and 42% of the groups that responded said their main aims were

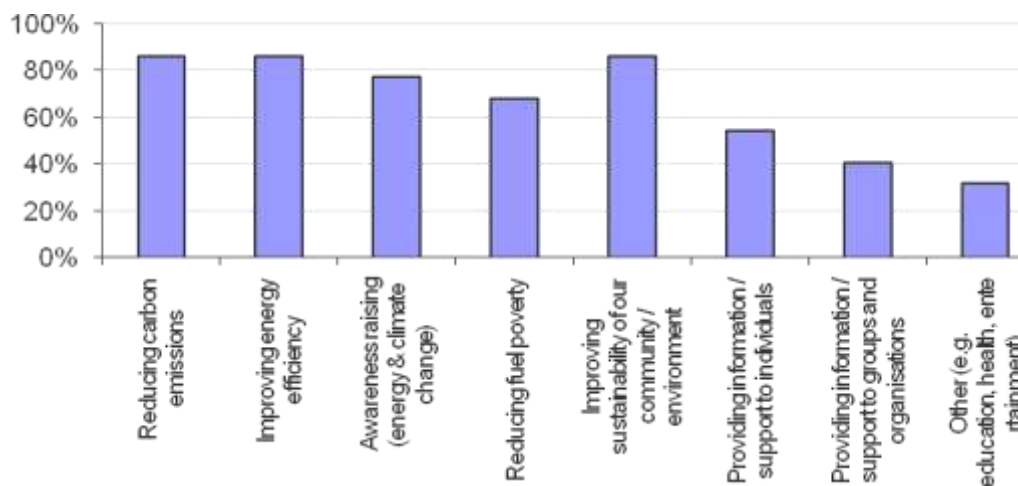
‘specifically focussed on energy issues’ (see figure 2). Groups were also asked about their more specific aims (shown in figure 3).

- the most frequent response was from groups which had aims to reduce carbon emissions; improve energy efficiency; and improve the sustainability of their community and environment (more than 80% of groups included these as aims)
- three quarters of groups had aims to raise awareness of energy issues and climate change
- 68% included reducing fuel poverty amongst their aims
- 55% included provision of information and support to individuals as an aim

**Figure 2: Main aims of group**



**Figure 3: Specific aims of group**

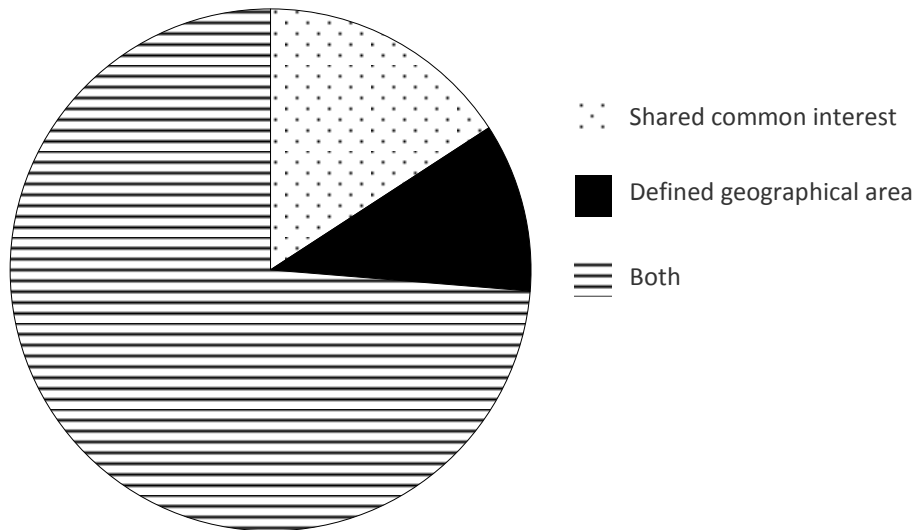


### Group members

Survey responses indicated that most groups have around 6 or 7 people. When asked how clear group members were about their aims, 96% of respondents rated their group as being ‘reasonably clear’ to ‘absolutely clear’ about their aims. Only one group reported that most of the group was ‘not at all clear’.

The questionnaire also asked how members of the group were linked (see figure 4). The chart below shows that nearly three quarters of the groups shared common interests *and* a defined geographical area. The geographical focus of groups was split evenly between a Bristol wide scope and a more local focus on neighbourhood areas within the city.

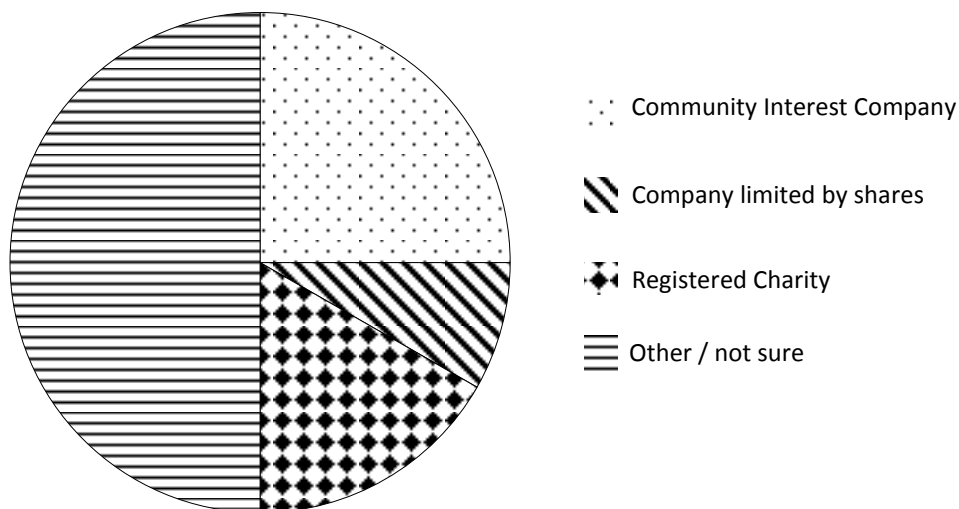
**Figure 4: how members of groups are linked**



### Structure and activities

About half of respondents said that their group was constituted, with several other groups saying that this was in progress. Where there was a legal structure, the most common (25% of groups) was a Community Interest Company.

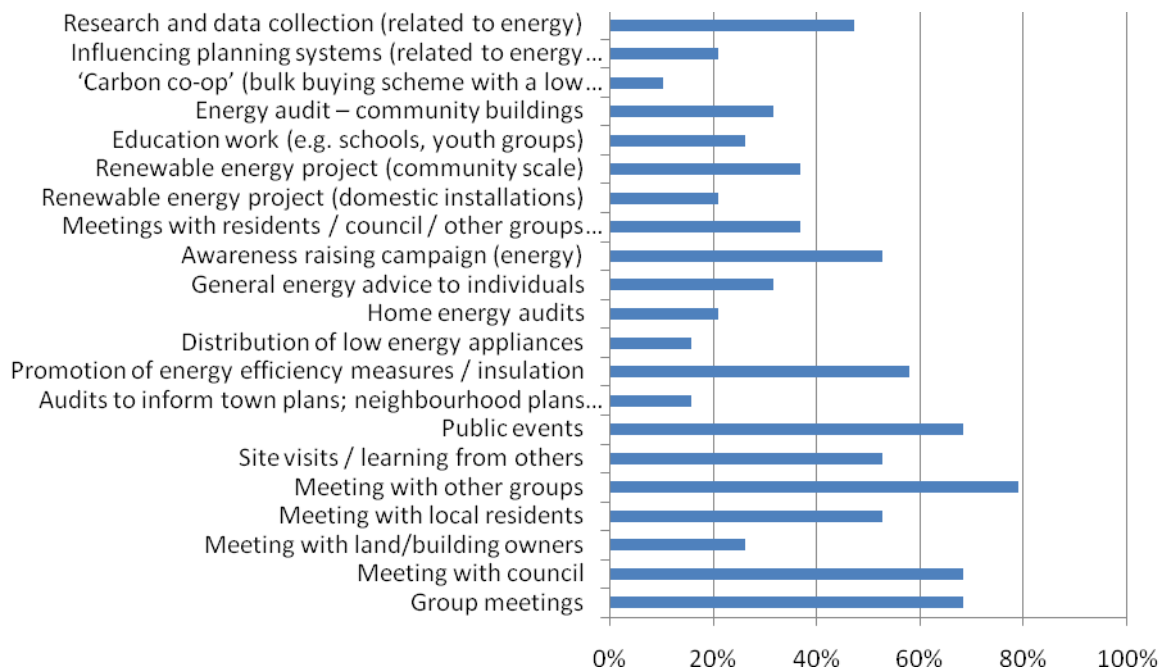
**Figure 5: legal structure**



The rest of the groups were either un-constituted, still deciding on a structure, in the process of registering a legal entity, or did not know.

In terms of activities, 90% of groups had monthly (or thereabouts) meetings and 10% met quarterly. Activities carried out by groups to date covered quite a lot of common ground (e.g. 79% of groups had met with other groups; 68% had met with the Council; 68% had held public events; 58% were promoting energy efficiency), as well as some quite specific activities (e.g. bulk buy schemes; distribution of low energy appliances; local audits to inform neighbourhood planning). Figure 6 below shows the full breakdown of responses:

**Figure 6: what have been your activities up to now**



## Measuring achievements

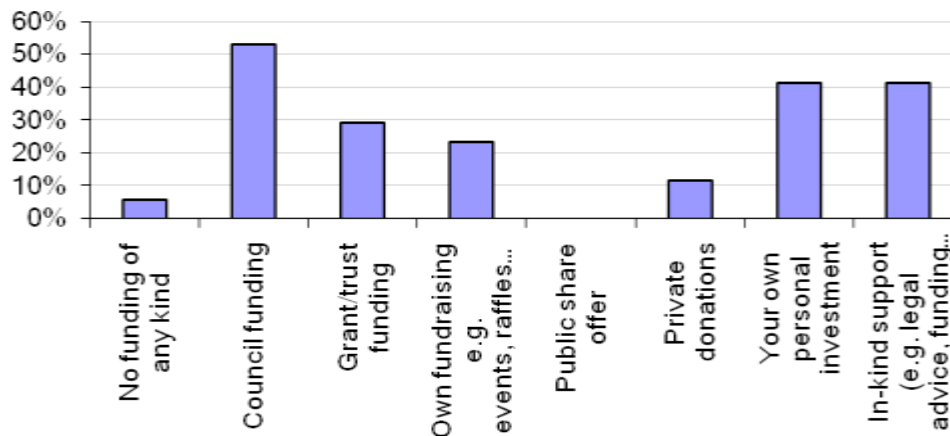
41% of groups described measuring achievements as something they wanted to improve on or were planning to do as their projects develop. Several groups measured energy/CO<sub>2</sub> savings achieved and a few groups said they monitored progress through meetings and feedback from people at their events and meetings. The questionnaire also asked whether the groups had set themselves targets to work towards:

- 78% of groups had annual targets
- 61% had targets for 6 months
- 39% had targets for the next month
- 33% had targets for 2 years or more

## Funding

44% of groups had received more than £1,000 in the past year; 31% received between £250 and £1,000, and 25% had received no funding. The main sources of funding were: Council funding, in-kind support and personal investment. 29% had received grant funding and 24% had carried out their own fundraising activities to raise money.

**Figure 7: what form did funding over the last year take**



## Community engagement

The questionnaire specifically asked for a rating of the groups' level of community engagement (i.e. public knowledge of group, involvement of wider public), with the following responses (see also figure 9 below):

- 38.9% of groups thought they had little community engagement
- 33.3% of groups thought they had average levels of community engagement
- 27.8% of groups thought they had reasonable level of community engagement

Answers were given on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being very little community engagement ('few people know what your group is and you have little contact with the wider community') and 5 being extensive engagement ('the group is well known, activities are integrated and many other local people are involved'). Many groups regarded the lack of time and volunteers as the main reason for a lack of community engagement. Several groups were only recently formed and were planning more community engagement. 'Apathy of local communities' and 'difficulty of reaching minority groups' were also raised as barriers.

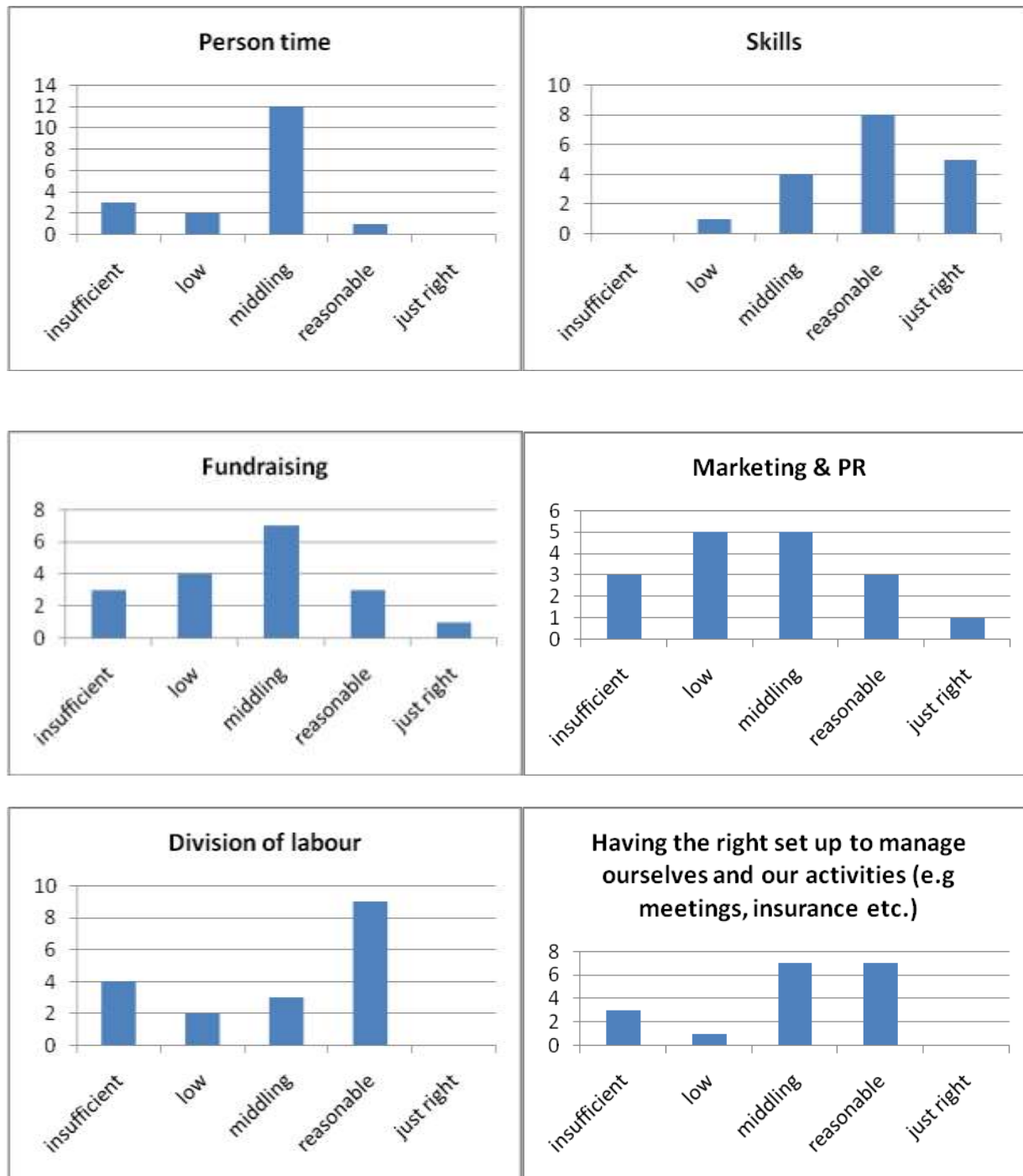
When asked to describe actions they had carried out around community engagement, groups described a wide range of activity, including:

- Group newsletters
- School visits / talks / work with schools
- Stalls at events
- Articles in magazines and local newsletters (e.g. the Pigeon and Bishopston Matters)
- Radio Bristol interviews
- Links to / talking with other groups
- Distribution of leaflets or flyers (e.g. around shops, cafes and community spaces)
- Working with churches
- Publicising meetings
- Group websites and pages and/or links on other websites
- Open google group, emails
- Facebook page
- Posters and use of public noticeboards
- Networking meetings and/or events
- Promotion of other groups
- Events postings on relevant websites
- Home visits, energy audits
- Set up and run the Whiteladies Road Farmers and Fairtrading Market
- Evening talks/events
- Carbon Club
- Green Doors participation / open days
- Involving local MP
- Run residents meetings or resident liaison groups

## Capacity

The 8 graphs in Figure 8 below show how groups self-assessed their capacity as a group in a number of key areas, together with the community engagement and clarity of aims ratings described above (the vertical axis is shows the actual number of responses):

**Figure 8a: Capacity to deliver**



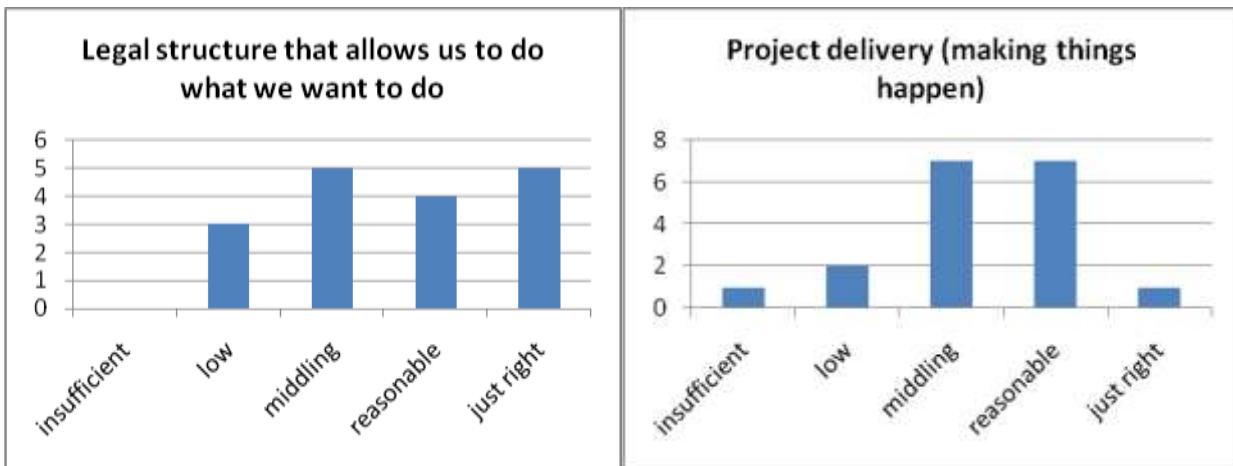


Figure 8b: Capacity to deliver (mean values)

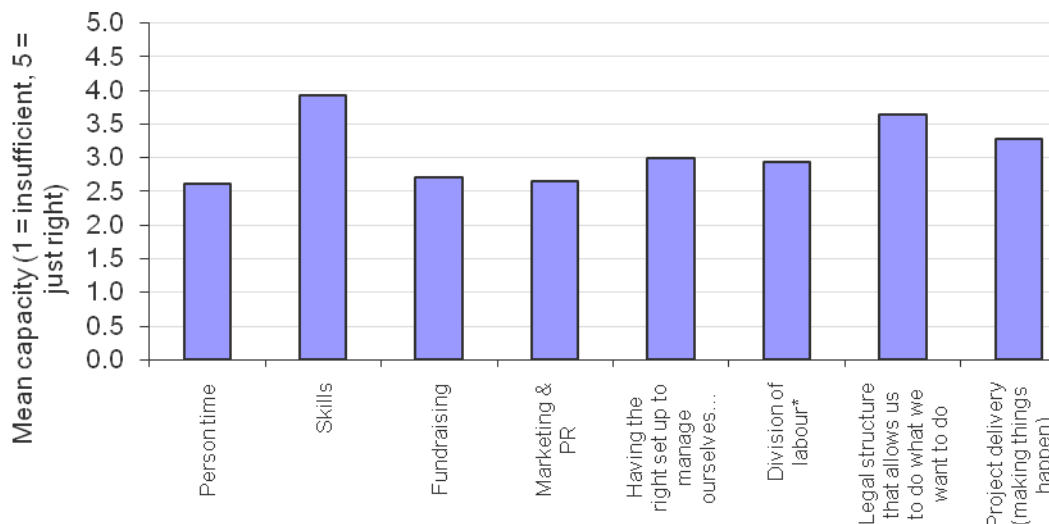


Figure 8b shows the *mean* 'capacity value' based on aggregated values on a 1 to 5 scale where 1 is 'insufficient' and 5 is 'just right'. The values are calculated by multiplying the capacity value by the number of groups who selected it, then dividing by the total number of respondents (18). The charts show that community engagement, person time, fundraising, marketing and PR are the areas where the groups feel they have least capacity. On the areas where groups rated their capacity as 'just right', the highest scores were in having a legal that allowed groups to do what they want to do, and having the right skills.

Figure 9: Level of community engagement

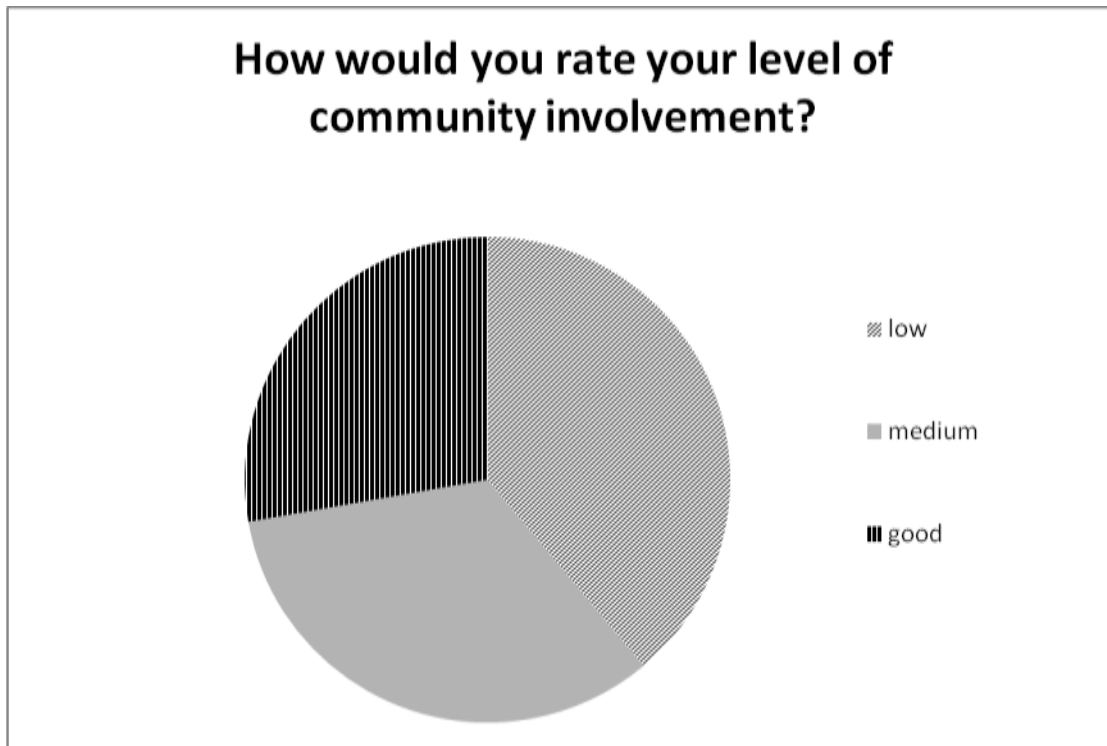
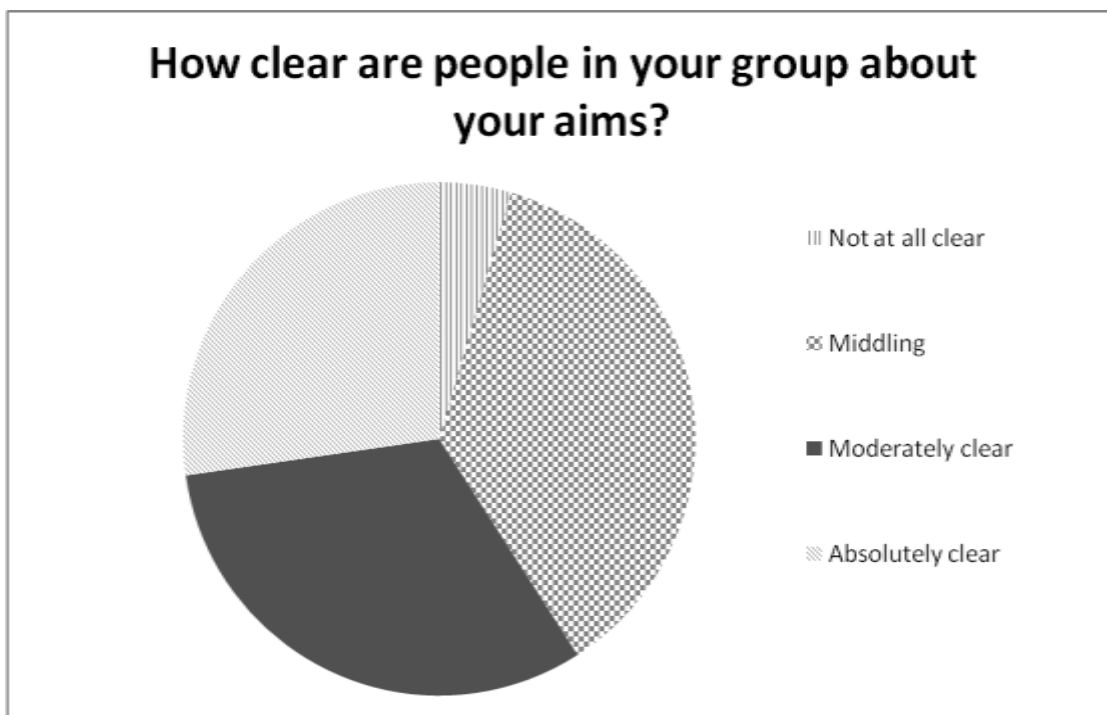
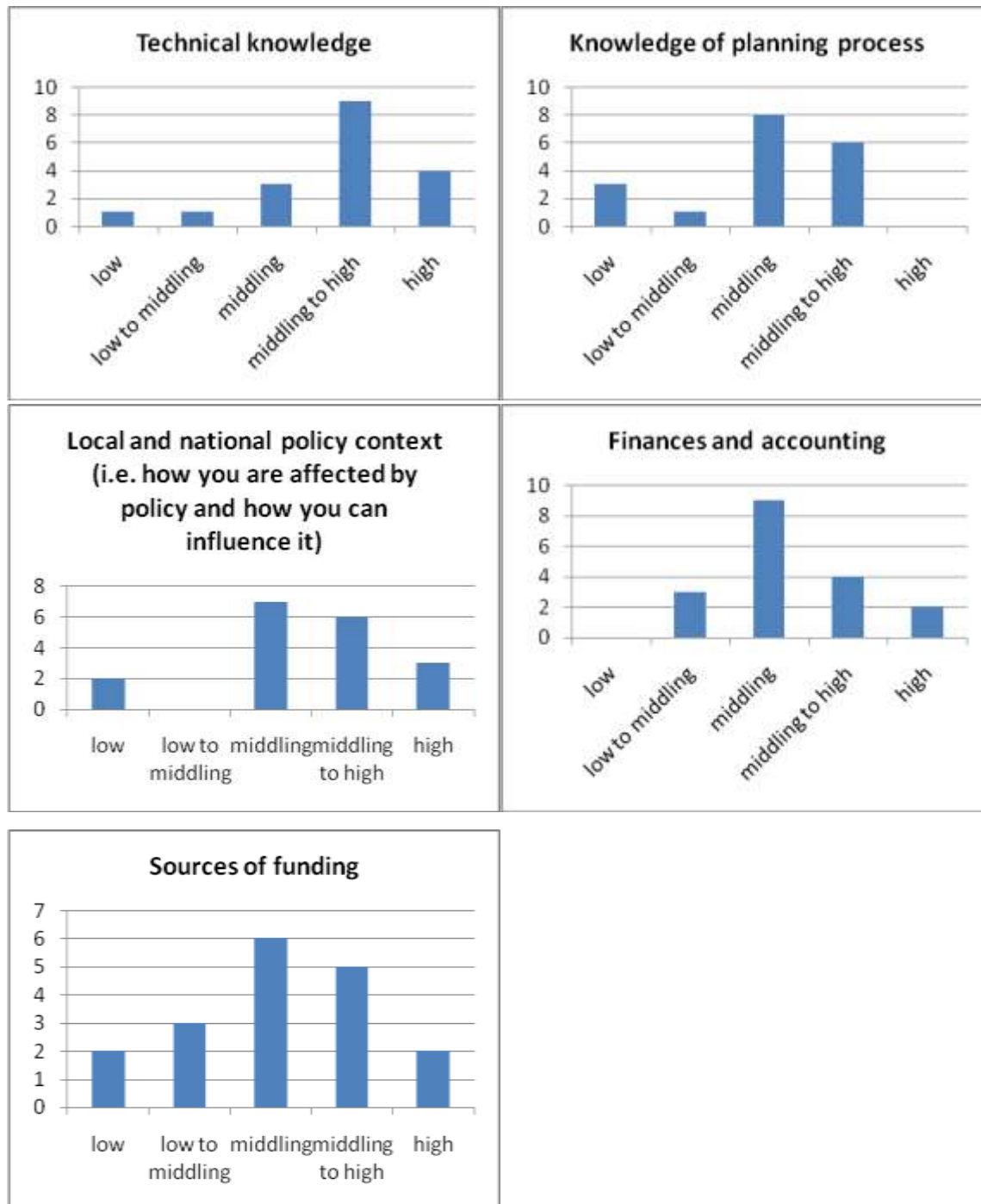


Figure 10: Clarity about aims

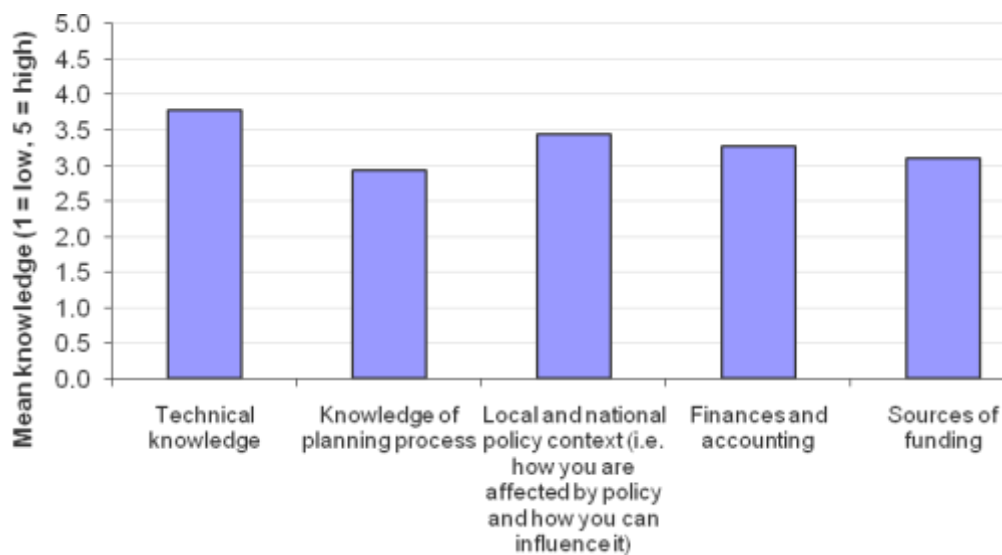


Groups were also asked to self assess their knowledge in a range of areas (see figure 11). On average, groups believed their knowledge of finances, accounting and sources of funding was middling, and just below middling for knowledge of the planning process.

**Figure 11a: Knowledge in relation to existing / planned project(s)**



**Figure 11b: Knowledge in relation to existing / planned project(s) – mean values**

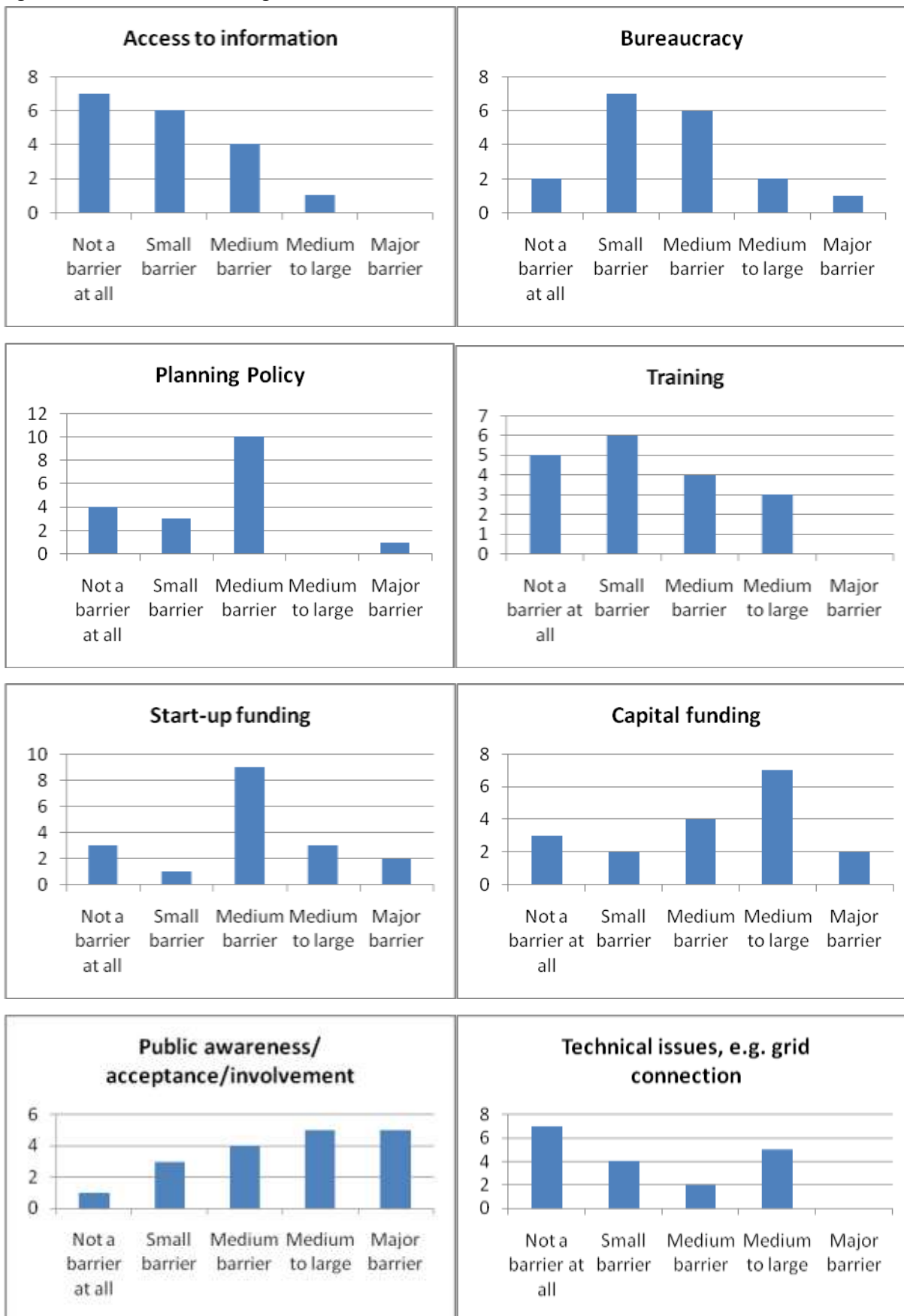


The chart above shows the *mean* ‘capacity value’ based on aggregated values on a 1 to 5 scale where 1 is ‘insufficient’ and 5 is ‘just right’. The values are calculated by multiplying the capacity value by the number of groups who selected it, then dividing by the total number of respondents (18). The charts show that the groups rate their technical knowledge the highest, with sources of funding and the planning process the lowest, though the highest number of responses was for ‘middling’ on all issues except technical, where it was ‘middling to high’.

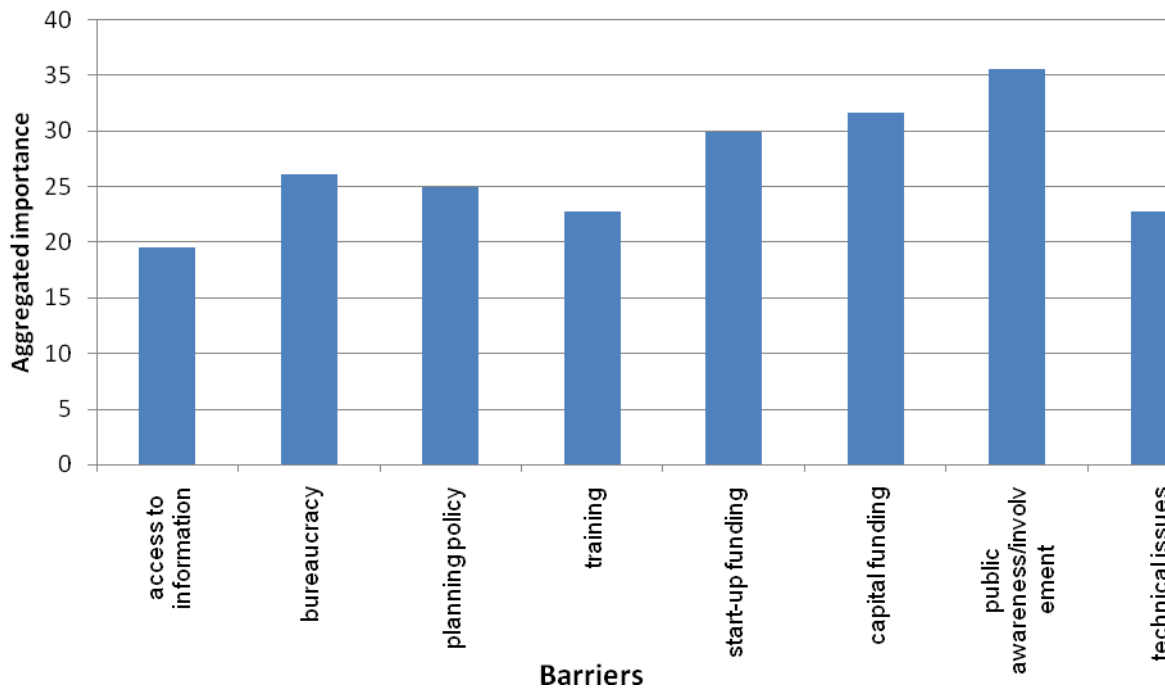
**Barriers**

Groups were asked to rate specific issues according to how much of a barrier they considered them to be to achieving their aims, on a scale of 1 to 5 (with 1 being not a barrier at all and 5 being a major barrier). The chart shows the aggregated importance of each barrier based on the percentage of groups that selected each value on the 1 to 5 scale.

Figure 12a: Barriers to achieving aims



**Figure 12b: Barriers to achieving aims- averages**

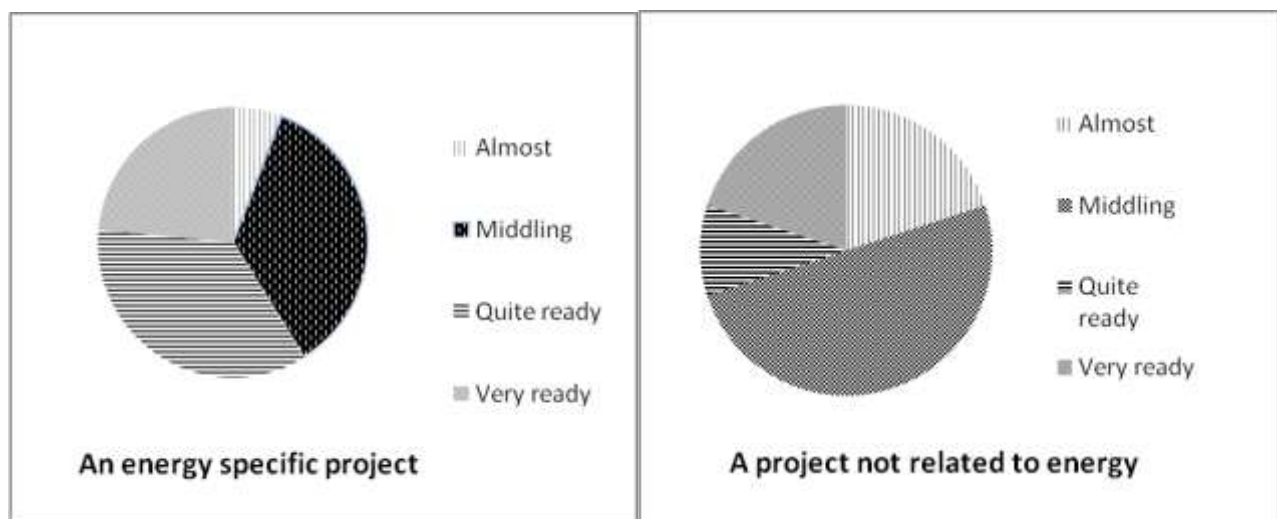


On average, the groups thought the biggest barrier was public awareness, acceptance and involvement. Start-up and capital funding were the next biggest barriers, suggesting more support could be needed in the provision, facilitation and identification of future funding opportunities.

**Development priorities**

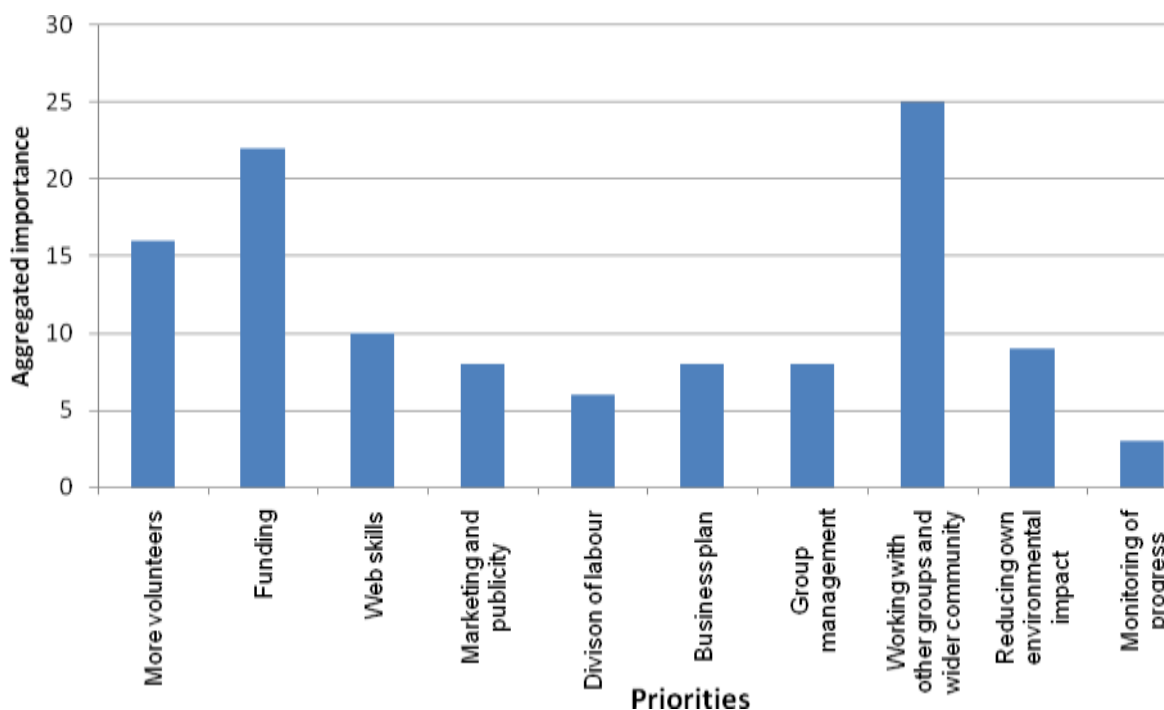
Most groups were currently delivering an energy project or were planning one in future. The questionnaire also asked for a rating of ‘readiness for the next step of a project’, comparing an energy specific project with a wider project. On energy specific projects, there were no groups that said they were ‘not at all ready’ but only 10% felt ‘very ready’.

**Figure 13: Readiness for the next step of your project**



Respondents were also asked to identify and prioritise the 4 most important areas for their group’s development. Full answers are shown in Appendix 1 and show a real spread of priorities for development activity. Respondents seem quite clear in their answers about the activities that are required for their projects. The top priority for roughly a quarter of groups was recruiting more volunteers, raising funds or business planning. Website development and engagement activities also featured as key priorities. Though not a first priority for any groups, working with other groups and the wider community was a common third or fourth choice priority. The chart in figure 14 aggregates the scores for the main areas of development that groups prioritised, on a scale of 1 to 4; first priorities were given a value of 4, second 3, third 2 and fourth 1.

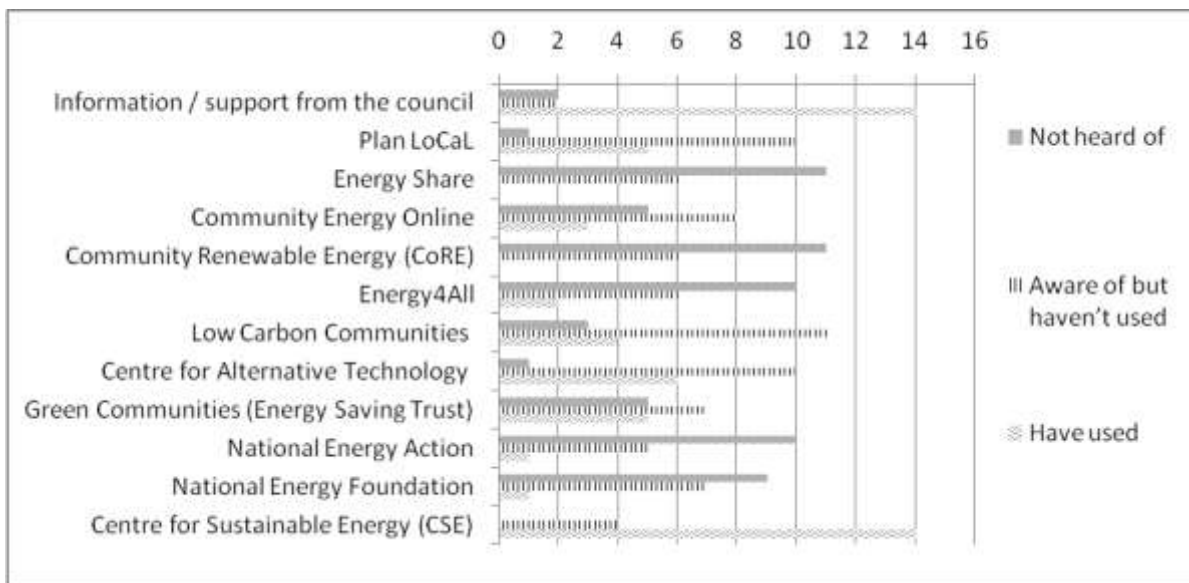
**Figure 14: Overall development priorities**



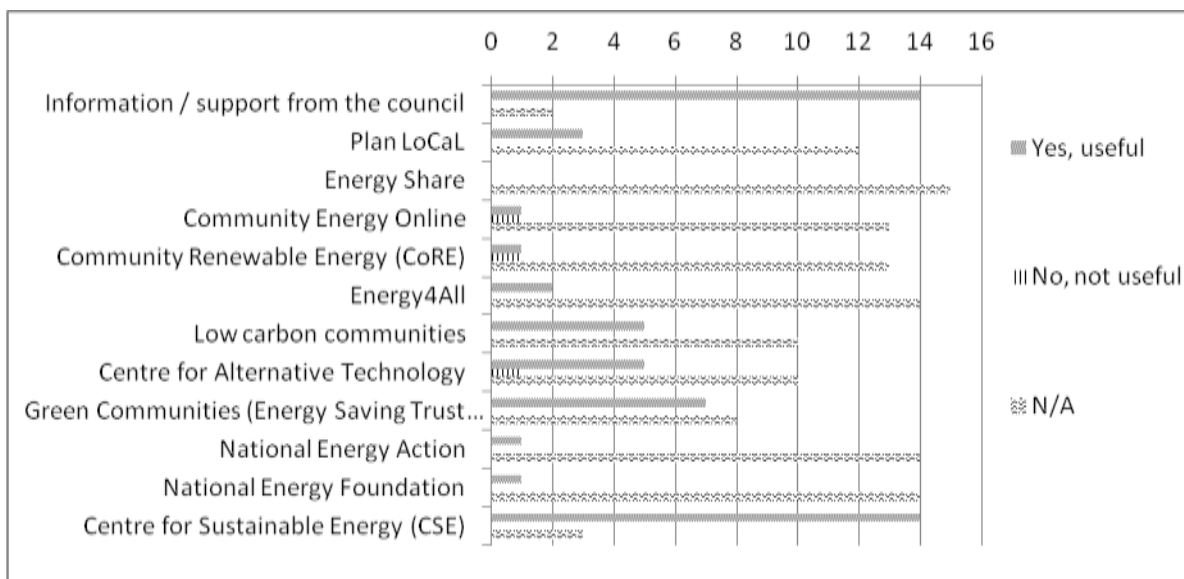
## Sources of support

There are a number of organisations, networks and resources currently providing different levels of information, advice and support for community energy projects. The charts below are based on the survey responses when groups were asked whether they had used any of these, and to assess their usefulness. Most groups had accessed support from the Council and CSE and found it useful. CAT, Plan LoCaL, Green Communities and Low Carbon Communities had each been used by between four and six groups, most of whom found them useful. However many of the sources of support and information listed were either not known or not used by groups.

**Figure 15: Support accessed**



**Figure 16: Usefulness of support**



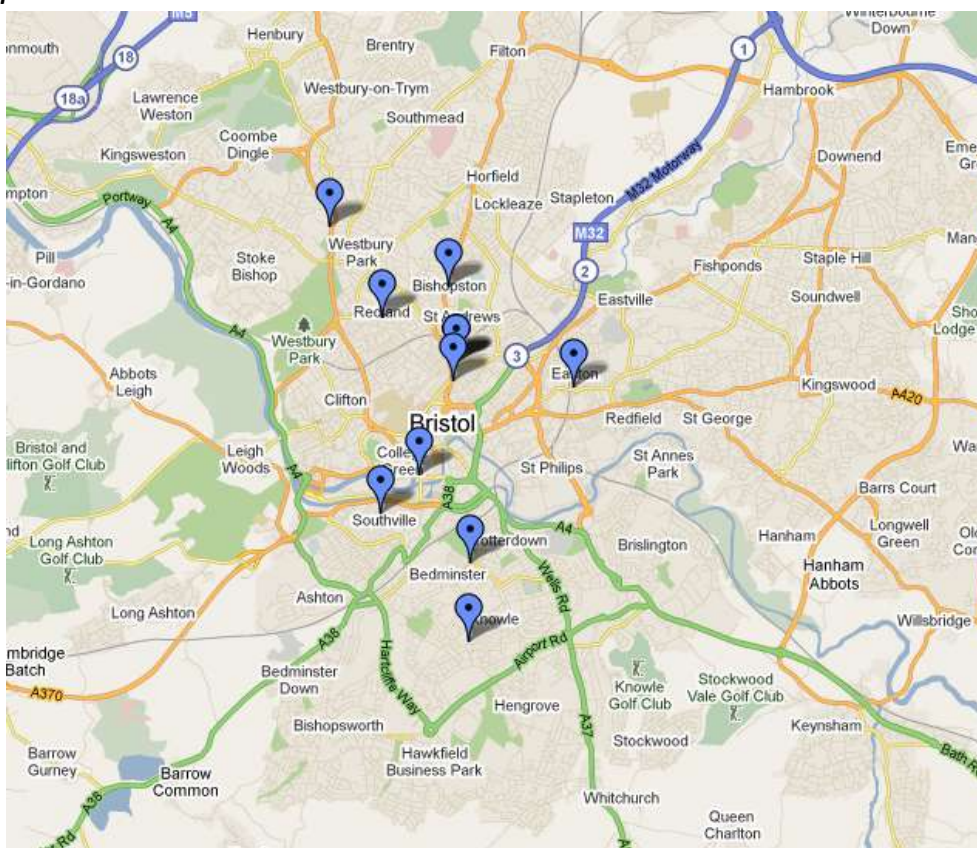
# Geographical spread of energy groups

Groups are spread across the city but with concentrations in the centre of Bristol and no responses from the East Bristol area covering Redfield, St Annes and Brislington. The survey did not include groups on the outskirts of the city, but there are a number of particularly strong groups in North Somerset (e.g. Low Carbon Gordano, Eneco, Sustainable Backwell, Transition Clevedon) that are beginning to link more with Bristol groups and Bristol Community Energy initiatives. This online Google map shows the location across the city of each of the Bristol groups that responded to the survey, including short 'thumbprint' profiles of their aims and activities (as above).

<http://maps.google.co.uk/maps/ms?msid=216686658882996502498.0004a78d3ed2a2042ef29&msa=0&ll=51.459783,-2.584877&spn=0.106956,0.220757>

or <http://tinyurl.com/BristolCommunityEnergy>

Figure 17: Map



# Summary and Action Plan recommendations

## Capacity profiles (amalgamated)

The following charts show the total number of responses from all the groups for different areas of need with respect to self assessment of general capacity building, knowledge gaps, and perceived barriers. In all the charts a higher score shows a greater need.

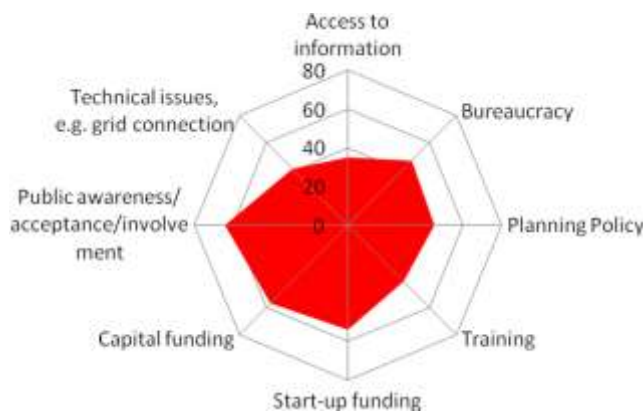
**Figure 18: General capacity of groups**



**Figure 19: Knowledge for project delivery**



**Figure 20: Barriers to achieving aims**



## Identified support needs

The main areas identified by groups through the questionnaire (both self assessment of set elements and open ended responses about priorities) and feedback at workshops are listed below.

- Public awareness, acceptance and involvement
- Access to funding (start up, capital and access to small amounts of funding for aspects of project delivery)
- Knowledge of funding and finances
- Knowledge of planning and policy
- Person time
- Recruiting volunteers
- Community engagement
- Project delivery
- Support with aims / roles / structure
- Networking and links with other groups
- Website development / skills
- Business planning
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Sources of support

## Recommendations

Based on the survey findings, a number of broad recommendations and opportunities can be identified to inform the development of the Council's action plan for supporting the community energy sector in the city. Recommendations have been split into four broad categories:

- Networking
- Capacity building
- Funding
- Public awareness raising

These themes can be further developed for implementation with strategic input from partners and taking into account links to other current developments.

## KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

<b>Networking</b>	○ Provide financial support for quarterly Bristol Energy Network meetings
	○ Improve web-based information for and about groups (e.g. by supporting the setting up and maintenance of a dedicated website for Bristol Community Energy projects similar to the Dorset Community Energy site, <a href="http://www.sustainabledorset.org.uk/community-energy">www.sustainabledorset.org.uk/community-energy</a> )
	○ Support the development of an online forum for groups to share information, ideas, resources, and requests for volunteers and support
	○ Research and map existing networks and types of links between groups to identify key hubs, isolates (i.e. groups that don't have strong external links) and group features, and generate a network diagram. This approach will improve opportunities for collaboration, information sharing and building capacity <sup>6</sup>
<b>Capacity building</b>	○ Commission a programme of community training targeting specific areas of need (e.g. knowledge of planning and policy; community engagement; project delivery; selecting a structure; website development; monitoring and evaluation)
	○ Provide funding to cover costs for small, defined elements of project activity such as individuals events, promotional leaflets, attending national conferences, visits to other projects
	○ Support the provision of expert support for groups that have encountered specific barriers (e.g. help with business planning; team roles; overcoming planning constraints; technical expertise), dovetailing with other provision available locally and nationally to understand gaps and avoid duplication
<b>Funding</b>	○ Commission specific support service for groups on securing project funding, such as identification and promotion of suitable funding opportunities for groups, securing external funding, advice on finances and fundraising options)
	○ Explore approaches to funding for significant development and capital costs of community renewable energy projects that can be applied and shared city-wide in order to reduce duplication of effort and costs
	○ Review outcomes of first two rounds of Catalyst Fund funding awards to assess impact on project progress and potential to establish on a self-sustaining basis
<b>Public awareness</b>	○ Carry out range of publicity and awareness raising activities (e.g. media campaign; public displays; promotional activities) to increase public understanding of the community energy sector and its aims and benefits to Bristol, gain greater acceptance, and encourage greater involvement in community energy projects
	○ Develop and promote a coherent picture of the community energy sector in Bristol, showing the integration of existing and planned Council endeavours with those of support organisations such as CSE and the activities of community groups

<sup>6</sup> A networking project is currently being run in Oxford ('*Understanding Local and Community Governance of Energy*')

# Profiles of Bristol community energy groups

## Explaining the Capacity Profiles

The amalgamated capacity profiles above were based on short profiles (available in the full report to Bristol City Council) which used key information provided by each of the groups on a self-assessment of their capacity as a group. Two charts were produced for each group, the first showing general capacity ratings, and the second showing the extent to which group feels certain barriers are preventing them from achieving their aims.

- In the first capacity profile, groups scored themselves on a scale from 1 to 5 where 1 was ‘low’ or ‘insufficient’ and 5 was ‘high’ or ‘just right’.
- In the second rating of barriers, groups scored areas which could be barriers to achieving aims and plans related to energy projects on a scale from 1 to 5 where 1 was ‘not a barrier at all’ and 5 was ‘major barrier’.

## Group types

Groups below are listed alphabetically but since a wide range of groups and organisations are included, they have also been categorised into: un-constituted groups; small constituted groups; and large constituted groups (with an annual income of more than £100,000). At the time of writing this report, several of the groups were in the process of setting up a constitution and/or registering a legal structure. Several groups are also part of wider networks or businesses. For example, Bristol Friends of the Earth and Bristol Close the Door are both linked to national organisations; The Converging World operates across the UK and India; St Monica’s Trust has properties across the old Avon area, Somerset, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire; Future Fit has partner organisations that have wider remits.

Un-constituted groups	Small constituted groups / organisations (low turnover)	Large constituted groups / organisations (annual income of more than £100,000)
Bristol Close the Door	Bristol Friends of the Earth	Re:work Ltd
Bristol Energy Co-op	Bristol Green Doors	St Monica Trust
Bristol Energy Network	Co-exist	The Converging World
Bristol Power Co-op	Green Community Warmth	
Easton Energy Group	Sunshine Community Fund	
Future Fit Bristol	Sustainable Bishopston	
MakeYourHomeEco	Sustainable Redland	
Sustainable Southville		

## Appendix 1: development priorities by group

As part of the research, groups were asked to prioritise the four most important areas for their group's future development. The results are shown in this table, where each group is shown on a separate row.

Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Priority 4
Developing community energy champions	Engagement with neighbourhood partnerships	Quality web directory with reviews of sustainable energy businesses (like Bristol local food)	Synergy with student groups
Getting more volunteers to approach shops.	Getting more support from the Bristol green capital group.	Getting one or two people to take a more responsible position in the campaign.	
Clarity on detail for PV installation schemes	Time and money	Getting more local people involved	Keeping track of all the different projects and sub-groups as part of a larger group - whilst not detracting from them
Fund raising	Solar panel discounts bulk buying	Working with other groups	Keeping technically up to date
Raising awareness of sustainability	Promoting projects for sustainability	Advocacy & lobbying other groups and BCC	Ensuring a sense of positive well-being
Get the web-based information sharing network up and running properly	Improve division of labour and project delivery	Get involved in more practical projects in the community	Improve measurement of progress
Website development skills	Keeping informed and up to date with energy-related projects/initiatives/developments/policies across the city.	Understanding the set-up requirements of the initiative e.g. structure, constitution, insurance once it gets properly off the ground	Marketing and networking. So we are invited by communities to come and deliver the course in their area.
Recruit more volunteers to join our dedicated ones	Improve division of labour and project delivery	Carry out more practical projects in the community	Improve measurement of progress
Collaboration with local groups to bring our service to people who will benefit from demystification of home energy issues and how to take action	Effective support for the task of getting many more thousands of householders ready for their own appropriate response to the green deal, so they have suitable plans of their own and confidence to talk to installers and other professionals	Access to funds and channels of communication	A formal structure
Attracting capable local people with capacity to help on a voluntary basis with publicity and projects	Publicity	Having the means to engage with local businesses for the benefit of all who live, visit and work here	And the more that people realise that fuel depletion is serious then the greater the momentum will be

To reduce our use of electricity and gas	To reduce our water consumption	To increase our recycling rate	To understand whether or not initiatives or new systems have worked.
Complete the business plan and constitute ourselves	Get a demonstration solar roof on Hamilton House (40kw is planned)	Plan a pilot project with a local community group - PV for a whole street?	Get seed funding and use 1-3 to bring in a first tranche of commercial funding
Finalising robust financial projections and business plan	Developing a sound procurement process for selecting roofs and installation partners	Building significant community support so that the share offer will successfully raise sufficient capital	Ensuring that the legal framework for roof leases and the share offer are sound.
More funding	More marketing	More community involvement	More people involved with projects
Help more community projects move forward	Help raise awareness and promote international twinning with young people	Raise the charity's profile and awareness about our work	Raise money to continue and expand our work
Funding to continue activities - can fund events, but struggling to fund 'person hours' involved	Funding to improve systems that would make putting on events easier to manage (website development)	Setting up structures/processes to make running of company smoother - more efficient	Additional human resources to help deliver events - very labour intensive for small team
Funding (both capital and revenue to fund more time of people involved)	Identification of gaps in knowledge and finding partners to fill these	Council support	Marketing and pr
Arranging governance of group	(no answer)	(no answer)	(no answer)