

# Community energy event

## Creating your own kit



If you're running a community energy awareness event and want to get people interested, it's important to have a good range of accurate and up-to-date information on hand, as well as some interesting visual displays.

This guide from the Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE) is intended to help you source the materials and information to create a handy kit of event materials. Follow the steps below guidance to get you started. Areas covered in this guidance are:

**Information resources | Samples | Display materials | Support and funding**

### Information resources

There are a number of sources of information available to ensure that what you give out is useful and accurate. The following websites allow you to download and print advice leaflets which are a great way of providing help and engaging people.

#### CSE advice leaflets

CSE has produced a number of short guides on various topics surrounding energy saving at home, including insulation and heating advice. You can download them from here:

[www.cse.org.uk/pages/resources/energy-advice-leaflets](http://www.cse.org.uk/pages/resources/energy-advice-leaflets)

#### EST advice leaflets

The Energy Saving Trust has a range of publications which cover all aspects of domestic energy advice including renewable technology and transport:

[www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/resources/publications#resources/publications](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/resources/publications#resources/publications)

#### CAT advice leaflets

The Centre for Alternative Technology also produce a range of factsheets. These cover energy issues as well as other aspects of sustainable living such as waste, water and eco-building: [info.cat.org.uk](mailto:info.cat.org.uk)

### Samples

It's really handy to have samples of energy saving materials and products on your stand to demonstrate options to members of the public, as well as making the stand look more interesting. Manufacturers do provide free samples which you can use. Here are some organisations you might wish to approach. An internet search provides more leads.

#### Insulation

##### Loft insulation

- Knauf glass and mineral wool (08700 668 660)
- Kingspan glass and mineral wool (01544 388 601)
- Rockwool glass and mineral wool (01656 862621)
- Sheep wool insulation Ltd (0871 218 5218)
- YBS Insulation plastic bottle (0844 991 0044)
- Boulder development thermal foil (01636 639900)

##### Cavity wall insulation

- Domestic & General Insulations graphite beads (0800 0132910)

##### Solid wall insulation

- Weber external and internal (0870 333 0070)
- Knauf Marmorit external and internal (0117 982 1042)

##### Internal insulation

- Sempatap insulating wallpaper (020 8337 0731)

It may also be worth contacting local stockists like DIY shops or local green stores who may be keen to get involved and display their products.

#### Lighting

Megaman have produced a display case to showcase energy saving light bulbs to maximum effect. Contact Megaman and ask for a free light box and light bulbs on 0845 408 4625.

Other light bulb manufacturers may have similar products.

#### Heating

A full range of heating controls would include thermostatic radiator valves, programmers and wall thermostats. You may be able to get old or broken ones from a local plumber to use on a display board to show the range of products available or to explain how to set controls properly. You could buy display models from a DIY or trade shop.

## Appliances

Energy saving appliances and gadgets often make good giveaways. Having a competition or a prize draw will also draw more interest to your stand. You could look into sourcing things like eco-kettles, solar powered gadgets and energy saving standby plugs or monitors. Try contacting your fuel supplier who sometimes give away this kind of product for free.

## Water

Your local water supplier may have water saving tips or products to give away, such as flush saver bags, tap flow restrictors, shower flow regulators and shower timers.

To find your water company, click on the map below or go to [www.water.org.uk/home/water-for-health/healthcare-toolkit/download/a4-the-uk-water-industry-map.pdf](http://www.water.org.uk/home/water-for-health/healthcare-toolkit/download/a4-the-uk-water-industry-map.pdf)

A wide range of materials and kits are also available for sale at C.A.T. [www.cat.org.uk](http://www.cat.org.uk) and at [www.mindsetonline.co.uk](http://www.mindsetonline.co.uk)

## Renewables

Samples of renewable products maybe more difficult to obtain due to size and cost. It's important to ensure that you point people in the right direction if they're considering a renewable project. The Energy Saving Trust provide free and impartial advice: [www.est.org.uk](http://www.est.org.uk) or 0800 512 012.

You can buy broken pieces of monocrystalline solar cells relatively cheaply from [www.knowyourplanet.com](http://www.knowyourplanet.com)

For information on local installers and approved products contact the Microgeneration Certification Scheme, [www.microgenerationcertification.org](http://www.microgenerationcertification.org)

If there's interest in community renewables visit the PlanLoCaL website to access information, download resources and watch videos about how to set up a community scale renewable energy project: [www.planlocal.org.uk](http://www.planlocal.org.uk)

## Display materials

### Leaflet display holders

There are many companies that produce leaflet display stands and holders so shop around for a suitable sized and durable product.

You may be able to get hold of a discarded or second hand one, e.g. freecycle, gumtree etc.

### Table cloths

A table cloth is a great way of making your stand look more attractive and can also be branded with your group name or logo. A number of companies should be able to do this for you, one example is:

[www.bluejigsaw.co.uk/products/33/79/printed-tablecloths/table-cloths.htm](http://www.bluejigsaw.co.uk/products/33/79/printed-tablecloths/table-cloths.htm)

### Banners

Pop up banners can be a great way of both attracting people to your stand, and providing some information and advice. A number of companies can design and build a banner for you so try an internet search for somewhere local.

Flags can work well at large events as they can be seen from a distance and are also more robust in bad weather conditions.

## Support and funding

The National Energy Foundation has a list of Community Energy Practitioner's Forum members who may be able to help you to engage your community and provide further advice: [www.nef.org.uk/communities/cepf.html](http://www.nef.org.uk/communities/cepf.html)

Your local council might also be able to help you with resources and support.

It's also worth finding out if any projects or grant schemes are running in your area. Contact your local Community Foundation for information on small grants which may help with costs of resources: [www.communityfoundations.org.uk](http://www.communityfoundations.org.uk)

You can also apply to Awards for All, a National Lottery scheme aimed at local communities providing grants of between £300 and £10,000 visit: [www.awardsforall.org.uk](http://www.awardsforall.org.uk) or call: 0845 4102030.



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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.