



# Creating an Energy Efficient and Sustainable Community – Cardenden, Fife

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# SFHA and Ore Valley

- SFHA
- Representative body for the principle providers of new build affordable housing Scotland
- Role – positively influence government policy and promote good practice
- Ore Valley Housing Association – Small (even in Scottish context) community focussed Housing Association.

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## Background – inefficient buildings and fuel poverty in Scotland

- Scotland/UK have highest number of avoidable deaths in EU caused by winter cold (BBC 2005)
- 419,000 households living in fuel poverty in 2004/5 (Scottish Government)
- Scottish Government proposed solution – Sullivan Report – proposed steps towards low carbon building stock by 2016
- Recently increased Building Standards are first step

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## Potential for low carbon affordable energy in Scotland

- SG has stated will not support development of new nuclear power stations
- Scotland has potential
- 25% of Europe's wind power
- 25% of Europe's tidal power
- 10% of Europe's wave power
- Saltire Prize announced - £10 million for innovations in clean energy generation

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## Cardenden Initiative - The stock & residents

- Ore Valley is an area occupying the former Central Fife Coalfield
- Edinburgh 30 miles & St. Andrews 'World Class' 30 miles
- Ore Valley characterised by high levels of multiple deprivation.
- Significant numbers of 'fuel poor'
- Extremely positive community spirit

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## Cardenden Initiative – The stock & residents

- OVHA housing stock – 400 units
- Fife Council housing stock – 700 units
- Private housing – 800 units
- Population – 4946 (Census 2001)
- Social Housing built predominantly in the 1950's & 1960's
- Recent investment in energy efficiency measures
- Developer interest in expanded Cardenden as an 'Eco-town'

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# Cardenden Initiative - Proposals

- Fife Community Wind
  - Medium Scale (1-6 80 metre turbines on each site)
  - 2 sites at Cardenden + 2 sites elsewhere in Fife
  - Community Controlled
  - Electricity sold to the grid & potential for private wire
  - Profits invested in Community Regeneration

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# Cardenden Initiative - Proposals

- Cardenden Heat & Power
  - Biomass boiler
  - Fuel Source – waste wood and/or chipped virgin timber
  - Incorporating district heating system retrofitted to existing OVHA and Fife Council housing stock as well as non-housing buildings
  - Electricity sold to the grid & potential for private wire
  - Financial projections based on saving of 20% on energy costs to tenants
  - Added value considerations in terms of training & employment
  - Community controlled
  - Profits invested in community regeneration and/or reduced energy costs.

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# Cardenden Initiative - Details to date

- Fife Community Wind
  - Initial feasibility and wind screening undertaken
  - 4 sites identified
  - Community engagement to date has been extremely positive
  - Funding secured for detailed and extensive community consultation, feasibility/business planning and wind monitoring over the next 12 months
  - Aim to submit full planning application to the Local Authority in 12-15 months time, implementation following thereafter.

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# Cardenden Initiative – Details to date

- Cardenden Heat & Power
  - Initial feasibility study undertaken
  - Viable 1<sup>st</sup> phase identified
  - Community engagement positive
  - Discussions with waste wood suppliers positive
  - Applications submitted for funding to complete detailed technical appraisal and to further develop the business plan
  - Aim is to submit a full planning application in the next 15 – 18 months

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## Cardenden Initiative - Conclusion

- Positive partnership with Fife Council
- Community engagement is crucial and positive partnership with the community will be a major factor in the success of this initiative
- Elected members of the Council and members of the public have shown that they are well informed
- All partners are highly motivated to deliver

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