

**Press Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: Wednesday 23 November 2022**

**New London Community Energy Mentorship Programme to help boost uptake of projects**

- **Community Energy London (CEL) launches peer mentoring programme to boost the delivery of community energy projects across the capital**
- **Groups can benefit from expert advice on issues from raising finance to feasibility to installing renewable generation**
- **The Community Energy Peer Mentoring support programme will run for three months and is available free of charge to qualifying groups**

Community Energy London (CEL) today announces the launch of its new ***Community Energy Peer Mentoring Programme***.

Community energy groups have always supported each other in the development and delivery of projects, but as the number and ambition of initiatives in London's community energy sector grow, further expert support is often required by groups to help projects get over the line.

CEL's Peer Mentoring Programme will be offered for a period of three months from November 2022 to London-based community groups and community energy groups delivering a project in London.

Mentoring can help by:

- Increasing confidence and know-how in the sector to take forward new projects.
- Providing practical advice and shared knowledge.
- Avoiding 'reinventing the wheel'.
- Sharing successes and failures in an open and supportive environment.

Syed Ahmed, Chair of Community Energy London said:

*"Community energy groups are constantly pushing to develop bigger and bolder projects. This often requires stretching their skills in terms of the choice and installation of technologies used, innovative routes for raising finance, to establishing working relationships with stakeholders such as councils, schools, installers and so on.*

*"CEL's Peer Mentoring Programme provides a framework of community energy practitioners who groups can draw upon, free of charge, to provide expert advice, technical support or simply an 'extra body' when projects hit challenges in their development."*

To apply to the CEL Community Energy Peer Mentoring programme groups must read the Application Guidance Document and complete the application form found here <https://www.communityenergy.london/community-energy-peer-mentoring-programme-2022-2023/>.

Should you have any questions about the mentoring programme then please email Jess at [officer@communityenergy.london](mailto:officer@communityenergy.london)

**ENDS**

### **Notes to editors**

1. Community energy encompasses projects with a range of aims such as generating energy, reducing energy use, managing energy and purchasing energy. It includes diverse activities such as installing solar panels on public buildings, working in neighbourhoods to help residents make their homes more energy efficient, and delivering energy advice cafes.

Mentors might provide advice in any of these areas, but this might also include business advice covering funding and finance, working within legal and regulatory environments, working in partnership with local authorities, schools and housing developers, insurance etc.

2. Community Energy London (CEL) was formed in 2017 and is an informal network of people and organisations with an interest in supporting the development of community energy projects across the capital.

CEL provides a route for groups to link up and share experiences, resources, best practice and skills gained through the development and delivery of their projects.

CEL also actively campaigns policy makers industry and wider stakeholders on the benefits for community energy, and worked closely with the Mayor of London in helping establish the London Community Energy Fund in October 2017.

*Details of CEL's members can be found at [www.communityenergy.london](http://www.communityenergy.london)*

*A map of London community energy projects can be seen [here](#).*

*For further information contact Syed Ahmed, CEL Chair on:*

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