

DSEN Newsletter

Welcome to the seventh edition of Devon Sustainable Energy News. Produced for the Devon Sustainable Energy Network this quarterly newsletter aims to facilitate the exchange of news and information across Devon. It covers all aspects of sustainable energy from renewable energy to energy efficiency and affordable warmth and encourages partnership working across all the sectors. If you would like to make a contribution to the next newsletter, have an event to publicise or wish to be removed from the mailing list, please contact Jo Nicholson, secretariat for DSEN on 01752 235180 or email info@dsen.org.uk.

In this edition:

DSEN News

- [DSEN Update](#)
- [Domestic Energy and Health Decent Homes Briefing Session](#)
- [RE4D Update](#)
- [Sustainable Energy Briefing Sessions for Officers & Members](#)

Devon News

- [Climate Change Roadshow 2007](#)
- [Private Landlords Energy Efficiency Grants in South Hams](#)
- [Biomass for County Hall](#)
- [Free Water Saving Scheme Launched](#)
- [World's Largest Offshore Wind Farm Proposed for Devon](#)
- [Church of England tackling Carbon Footprint](#)
- [Successful first month for major international eco Wood Culture festival](#)
- [Exmoor Renewable Energy Group \(EREG\) application to EDF](#)
- [South West success at Ashden Awards](#)
- [Opportunity to exhibit at Wind Fair 18th August](#)

Regional News

- [Westcountry Energy Action, Create, BRE and DfES launch schools environmental project](#)
- [Bioheat – the heat is really on!](#)
- [Senior politicians in Wales and Westminster Back the Barrage](#)
- [South West Bioheat Projects Finalised](#)
- [Nuclear Power Station Plan for the West](#)
- [Concern Over Future of Rail Travel in Region](#)

National News

- [Draft Climate Change Bill Published](#)
- [UK environmental fund to help communities go green launched by E.ON](#)
- [New proposals to relax laws around the installation of small scale green technologies](#)
- [Renewable Energy 'Resource Bank' for Planners Website](#)
- [Low Carbon Buildings Programme—UPDATE](#)
- [HIPs Delayed to August](#)
- [First houses designed to conform to the 'Code' to be unveiled](#)
- [New Wind Energy Resources Published by DTI](#)
- [Stamp Duty Relief for Zero Carbon Homes](#)
- [3rd Sector Declaration on Climate Change](#)

Training Courses

- [Sustainable Energy Training for Officers and Members](#)
- [DfES sustainable schools](#)
- [Understanding Fuel Poverty and Energy Awareness](#)
- [Renewable Energy Basics](#)

DSEN News

DSEN Update

Exciting changes are on the horizon for DSEN through the development of the DSEN Sustainable Energy Strategy. This work, commissioned by the Devon, Plymouth and Torbay Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs), is examining the leadership role the LSPs can play in cutting carbon emissions through the sustainable use of energy and in so doing help our economy, our communities and the environment.

The strategy has taken a major step forward with a piece of work by the University of Exeter, with contributions from DSEN project partners, entitled "Save Money, Make Money, Cut Carbon – A Carbon Reduction Analysis for Devon, Plymouth and Torbay". This analysis (which can be downloaded from the DSEN website www.dsen.org.uk/index/news.htm) identifies what might be done across Devon, Plymouth and Torbay to meet the Government's 2003 interim target of a 20% reduction in carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions (from 1990 levels) by 2010.

The DSEN Steering Group proposes that this strategy process should be the Network's focus for the immediate future. The Steering Group also acknowledges that the outcome of the strategy process may affect the structure of DSEN. DSEN partners will be kept informed as the delivery plans progress and any changes in the structure or function of the network will be subject to a consultation process. DSEN chair, John Sunderland, contacted all DSEN partners with this news in June. If you missed the communication please visit www.dsen.org.uk/dsen_ses_letter_12th_june_signed.doc to download the letter.

Domestic Energy and Health Decent Homes Briefing Session

The briefing session held on June 6th and delivered by Philip Doidge of Housing Renewal Services Ltd was attended by 30 individuals, many of whom had not previously been involved with DSEN. The majority of the attendees were from Local Authorities and Housing Associations, and much positive feedback was received following the event. Thanks go to Philip for delivering the briefing and to Westcountry Energy Action for sponsoring the event. Philips presentation is available for download at www.dsen.org.uk/index/sub-groups/domestic.htm as are the minutes of the meeting which followed the briefing session.

RE4D Update

RE4D is progressing well and is on course to achieve the targets set at the projects inception. The one area which needs more action is the domestic sector. It is often difficult to capture data from household installations as there is no grant offered under RE4D. Renewable energy installers can help RE4D by keeping in touch with the project coordinators and informing them of household installations they know to be going ahead.

On the community front, CASE (Chagford Action for Sustainable Energy) has been set up in Chagford with help from DARE and has been awarded £18,000 from the sustainable development fund for solar installations in the village. Between Jan – March, 5 new RE jobs were created in the objective 2 area, but RE4D still need to capture data from installers regarding sub contractors they have trained to install. Again installers can assist with the success of this project by advising project coordinators when they train sub contractors to install renewable energy systems.

For more information on RE4D or to get in touch with project coordinators call 0800 512 012 or email [.energy@re4d.org](mailto:energy@re4d.org)



Devon Sustainable Energy Network

Sustainable Energy Briefing Sessions for Officers & Members

Westcountry Energy Action is running two sustainable energy briefing sessions designed to advise and inform Officers and Members on a range of sustainable energy topics. By attending the sessions participants will have increased understanding and knowledge of:

- National, local and regional energy policy and strategy
- Climate Change
- Local authorities responsibilities and key drivers
- Funding available for sustainable energy projects
- Sources of help for energy projects and partnerships

The sessions will take place on 19th July at Phoenix House, Tiverton and 26th July at the Devon Energy Efficiency Advice Centre, Plymouth. For further details and to download an itinerary go to www.dsen.org.uk/index/events.htm or email fiona@wcea.org.uk.

Devon News

Climate Change Roadshow 2007

The Devon County Council lead 'Climate Change Roadshow' is now out and about the County, asking people to 'Do it for Devon'. Experts will be on hand at every venue to talk to people about climate change, renewable energy, recycling and sustainable transport. Partners on the bus include the Devon EEAC, RE4D and Car Share Devon. Visitors can collect free low energy lightbulbs, thermometer cards and other goodies, and can be entered into prize draws to win items such as a solar ipod / phone charger and anti-standby gadgets. Venues include the Devon County Show, Mid Devon Show and the Honiton Show.

For more information on the roadshow or for a list of dates and venues see:

www.devon.gov.uk/index/environment/climatechange/ccroadshows.htm

Private Landlords Energy Efficiency Grants in South Hams

The Private Landlords Energy Action (PLEA) grant has now been launched in the South Hams. Landlords can receive a grant of up to £1000 for energy efficiency improvements to their properties, including loft and cavity wall insulation and boiler replacement. They can also claim free low energy lightbulbs and hot water tank jackets. Similar schemes are already running with great success in Exeter, Mid Devon and West Devon.

To find out more about this grant scheme contact Westcountry Energy Action on 0800 512 012

Biomass for County Hall

DEVON County Hall could slash its heating emissions by 90 per cent by making the big switch to green power. Massive reductions in CO2 and costs could be made by installing a biomass boiler, according to a report due before the Council's Executive on Tuesday 1 May. Under the proposals to be considered by councillors, County Hall's heating could be supplied by a high efficiency 500kW woodchip system, which would cut annual emissions by 348 tonnes and save £20,000 a year in energy costs and taking into account the capital costs of the new boiler, the proposals would be cost neutral in seven years.

Read the full story at:

www.devon.gov.uk/index/press-releases/press_county_hall_looks_for_green_light_on_green_energy.htm



Devon Sustainable Energy Network

Free Water Saving Scheme Launched

A new scheme to help people pay their water bills has been launched by South West Water. It aims to target those most in need by better managing their water use. WaterCare began in April and includes trained advisers meeting about 2,500 customers in their homes to offer a range of advice and services. SWW says by installing water-saving devices such as tap flow restrictors, customers will drastically reduce their water consumption. Other measures include carrying out repairs and assessing whether water meters are needed, as well as introducing more affordable payment plans.

For more information see the South West Water website www.sww.co.uk



World's Largest Offshore Wind Farm Proposed for Devon

The world's largest offshore wind farm could be built off the Westcountry coast under ambitious plans unveiled today. The £3 billion Atlantic Array project would generate enough electricity for more than half (53 per cent) of the Westcountry's homes and, at a stroke, cut the region's greenhouse gas emissions by more than a quarter. It is the brainchild of Farm Energy, the Westcountry company behind the London Array project in the Thames Estuary, the world's largest offshore wind scheme. It would create hundreds of jobs and cement the Westcountry's place as the leading region in the UK for producing renewable energy and tackling climate change.

Covering an area the size of the Isle of Wight off the North Devon coast, it would include some of the largest wind turbines in the world, up to 150 metres high with blade diameters bigger than the wing span of a jumbo jet. Peter Crone, director at Farm Energy, said: "Atlantic Array would be a landmark project that would see the South West taking a significant step towards a more environmentally sustainable future. Every year, the wind farm would avoid the release of 2.3 million tonnes of carbon dioxide - the main gas contributing to global warming - equivalent to over 5 per cent of the South West's greenhouse gas emissions."

The scheme would be located in the Bristol Channel, 20 kilometres (13 miles) off the North Devon coast and 15km (nine miles) north of Lundy Island.

For more on this story see http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/devon/6664005.stm

Church of England tackling Carbon Footprint

Exeter Diocesan Synod overwhelmingly agreed on 31st March 2007 to formulate action plans to cut its carbon footprint. The national Shrinking the Footprint campaign aims to reduce energy use and carbon emissions of the Church of England by 60% from 1990 figures by 2050. The Council for Church & Society will be taking the lead on this, but in close co-operation with other Councils and departments. The Devon Churches Energy Network is now working with 36 church buildings and one Mosque to improve energy efficiency, conservation and the use of renewables. This is able to offer energy feasibility studies with recommendations for action on conserving power and also using renewable sources such as solar, wind, geo-thermal heat and local bio-fuels.

For more information on this contact Martyn Goss, Director, Council for Church and Society on 01392-294924 or email martyn.goss@exeter.anglican.org

Successful first month for major international eco Wood Culture festival

The new year-long Wood Culture festival at the Centre for Contemporary Art and the Natural World (CCANW) in Haldon Forest, Devon, which was launched on the 5th of May 2007, has already been a great success in its first month. Visitors of all ages flocked to the Centre throughout May to take part in the various Wood Culture events, programmed by the CCANW with the aim to re-ignite the British public's enthusiasm for timber. Events that took place this May included exhibitions of work by photographer Matthew Pontin and Devon artist and craftsman Sean Hellmanan, an educational workshop for teachers and community group leaders, plus the first in a series of Wood Culture forums led by industry professionals and aimed at opening up debates amongst timber growers and traders, architects and members of the public about all aspects of the future of timber in the UK.

For more information contact info@lionartprojects.co.uk or call 01392 22 15 13

Exmoor Renewable Energy Group (EREG) application to EDF

An innovative Exmoor scheme which could produce enough electricity for over 60 homes, and save over 100 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions per year, is seeking support from one of the southwest's leading power suppliers. The Exmoor Renewable Energy Group (EREG), formed early this year by Exmoor residents committed to installing and promoting renewable energy, submitted a bid to EDF Energy's Green Fund, which sponsors innovative community renewable energy projects.

The group is seeking £50,000 of grant funding for their first project, known as "EREG 1st Wave", to develop five new hydro installations in Exmoor National Park, two of which are sited at historic mill sites still housing working water wheels. The bid was prepared in partnership with the Devon Association for Renewable Energy (DARE) and supported by Exmoor National Park Association (ENPA).

For further information visit www.devondare.org/news.htm

South West success at Ashden Awards

Two south west companies, Ecotricity and Wood Energy have won first prize in their categories at the prestigious Ashden Awards for Sustainable Energy. The Awards reward outstanding and innovative projects in the UK and developing countries which tackle climate change and improve quality of life by providing renewable energy and energy efficiency at a local level. Stroud based Ecotricity won the Energy Business Award whilst Wood Energy won the Renewable Energy Award. Seaton Primary School received second prize in the Sustainable Schools category. The Awards were presented by former US Vice President Al Gore.

For more information see www.ashdenawards.org



Opportunity to exhibit at Wind Fair 18th August

Good Energy is hosting the third Delabole Windfair on Saturday 18th August. The event was a huge success last year with about 3,000 people attending. Good Energy aims to have wind turbine tours, forums about generating your own electricity at home, entertainment for kids and grown ups, plenty of local organic food and drink, live music and the spectacular turbine illumination. The event will be on Saturday 18th August at the Gaia Centre, Delabole. It will be a free event for the public with the doors opening at 11am and closing at 6pm. Renewable energy companies are being invited to exhibit at the Wind Fair – a stand space within the Gaia centre will cost £200. If you would like further information on exhibiting and a booking form, contact Amanda Watson at Amanda.watson@goodenergy.co.uk

REGIONAL NEWS

Westcountry Energy Action, Create, BRE and DfES launch schools environmental project

WcEA is heading up an exciting new project aiming to work with schools in Devon to help them reduce their carbon footprint, conserve water and raise awareness amongst pupils about climate change and resource conservation in general. Nominations for schools who would like to participate are currently being taken so if you know of a school that would like to be involved in this excellent project, please get in touch with Tony Merrick, training officer for Westcountry Energy Action, on 01752 235180 or email tony@wcea.org.uk
To download a flyer about this project go to www.dsen.org.uk/index/news.htm

Bioheat – the heat is really on!

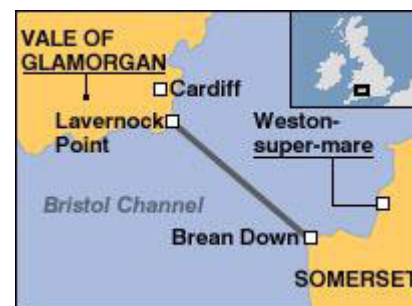
CSE is leading on a programme to drive a six-fold increase in South West wood-heat capacity. The project, Bioheat, is commissioned by Regen SW and funded by the South West RDA and The Forestry Commission. CSE has been appointed to run the initiative in partnership with two other organisations, international engineering consultancy Black & Veatch and Enviros Consulting. The aim is to identify around 40 sites in the South West which have good potential for large-scale biomass heating and to provide them with strong practical support in order to encourage and enable them to install a biomass facility.

*To find out more call **08450 74 06 74** or visit: www.cse.org.uk/cgi-bin/projects.cgi?business&&1088*

Senior politicians in Wales and Westminster Back the Barrage

First Minister Rhodri Morgan and Welsh Secretary Peter Hain have backed plans for a £115bn barrage over the Bristol Channel. The consortium behind one proposal says its 10-mile project would bring as much energy as three nuclear power stations. The Severn has a tidal range approaching 14m, the second highest in the world. The Severn Tidal Power Group (STPG), a joint venture between six power engineering and construction firms, estimates this can be harnessed to generate up to 6% of the electricity for England and Wales.

For more information see: http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/south_east/4927744.stm



South West Bioheat Projects Finalised

The MET office Headquarters in Exeter and Dairy Crest's Davidstow factory site in Cornwall are two of the 30 successful projects which Regen SW has decided to offer development support to as part of the South West Bioheat Programme. Regen SW has just completed the difficult task of choosing which 30 new potential biomass sites to offer development support from over 100 that came forward. The successful sites have an interest in investigating the viability of woodfuel technologies but have nothing installed as yet. These sites will now be provided with detailed development support with the hope they will proceed to installation. The support being offered covers areas such as technical and financial feasibility, fuel supply negotiations, planning liaison and grant applications. This is part of the larger South West Bioheat Programme, an initiative funded by the South West RDA and The Forestry Commission, which will also deliver activities around woodfuel suppliers and regional training courses. The project aims to generate an investment of £8 million on capital equipment, the creation of 48 new jobs and a sustainable market for local woodfuel worth an estimated £2.4 million per year. For further information contact Sarah Forrow on 01392 474322 or email sforrow@regensw.co.uk

Nuclear Power Station Plan for the West

The Government has paved the way for a new nuclear power station in the Westcountry, sparking a major row with environmentalists. A five-month consultation has been launched on the "significant role" new nuclear power stations could play in cutting emissions and diversifying energy supplies. But ministers made it clear they want new nuclear power stations to be built - with Trade and Industry Secretary Alistair Darling saying it was "more likely than not" that construction would take place on existing sites opening up the possibility of a development at Hinkley Point in Somerset which serves the South West.



A secret document from the Department for Trade and Industry was released by Greenpeace this month showing there are "no major barriers to new reactor development" at Hinkley which is top of the list of potential sites. Ministers stressed a decision would need to be made "this year" on the nuclear plans "because new stations take a long time to build". Mr Darling said the Government had three aims - to reduce the amount of energy consumed in this country, to increase the amount of power generated by renewables and to ensure an energy mix. "I firmly believe that the mix we have will serve us well in the future. My firm view is that nuclear does need to be part of that - to exclude it as an option makes no sense at all."

For more information see <http://www.thisisdevon.co.uk/displayNode.jsp?nodeId=141507&command=displayContent&sourceNode=141850&home=yes&contentPK=17402697>



Concern Over Future of Rail Travel in Region

Concerned rail campaigners have urged the Government not to jettison vital infrastructure investment in the far South West after an assessment of the region's transport needs focused chiefly on Bristol. As the Department for Transport (DfT) released a report on railway needs in the region over the next 20 years, Transport Minister Tom Harris has been talking to Westcountry politicians about priority schemes. The minister promised further investment and careful planning to meet the soaring demand for rail travel in the South West as the population grows. But commentators fear the more prosperous northern half of the region could reap most of the benefits. Gerard Duddridge, chairman of pressure group Railfuture Devon and Cornwall, said the far South West was often the "forgotten quarter" in terms of rail investment. Improving rail connections to Bristol,

hailed as the region's economic powerhouse, featured heavily in the DfT's assessment of the South West's railways and a similar draft report by the South West Regional Assembly.

The DfT said routes around Bristol were likely to grow in years to come, with the controversial, under-capacity Bristol to Bath line singled out. Yet long-awaited schemes, such as diverting lines away from the flood-threatened Dawlish coastline, failed to get a mention.

Read the full story at <http://www.thisisdevon.co.uk/displayNode.jsp?nodeId=141507&command=displayContent&sourceNode=141850&home=yes&contentPK=17333806>

NATIONAL NEWS

Draft Climate Change Bill Published

The draft Climate Change Bill, the first of its kind in any country, and accompanying strategy, set out a framework for moving the UK to a low-carbon economy. It demonstrates the UK's leadership as progress continues towards establishing a post-Kyoto global emissions agreement.

Key points of the draft bill include:

- A series of clear targets for reducing carbon dioxide emissions - including making the UK's targets for a 60% reduction by 2050 and a 26 to 32% reduction by 2020 legally binding.
- A new system of legally binding five year "carbon budgets", set at least 15 years ahead, to provide clarity on the UK's pathway towards its key targets and increase the certainty that businesses and individuals need to invest in low-carbon technologies.
- A new statutory body, the Committee on Climate Change, to provide independent expert advice and guidance to Government on achieving its targets and staying within its carbon budgets.
- New powers to enable the Government to more easily implement policies to cut emissions.
- A new system of annual open and transparent reporting to Parliament. The Committee on Climate Change will provide an independent progress report to which the Government must respond. This will ensure the Government is held to account every year on its progress towards each five year carbon budget and the 2020 and 2050 targets.
- A requirement for Government to report at least every five years on current and predicted impacts of climate change and on its proposals and policy for adapting to climate change.



The draft bill will be subject to a full public consultation alongside pre-legislative scrutiny in Parliament. Early responses generally applaud the Government for taking this leading step in tackling climate change, although there are some concerns over the 5 yearly reviews of targets, which will allow MP's to shirk accountability, as well as the exclusion of aircraft and shipping.

The full document can be found at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/climatechange-bill/> with a good summary at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/uk/legislation/pdf/CCBill-summary.pdf>

UK environmental fund to help communities go green launched by E.ON

E.ON, the power and gas company, is offering grants of up to £30,000 for UK community energy projects that reduce carbon emissions. The grants could be used for everything from wind turbines on community hall roofs to extra insulation to cut down on heat loss.

The fund forms part of a new web resource created to help not-for-profit groups find out how they can lower their carbon emissions and so help the fight against climate change.

Applications for funding will be reviewed three times a year. The website, which contains full details of how to apply for a grant, can be accessed at www.eon-uk.com/source

New proposals to relax laws around the installation of small scale green technologies

proposals to relax planning restrictions surrounding microgeneration technologies launched in April, at a meeting of the Green Alliance by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government Ruth Kelly. If the consultation is approved, the proposals to make it easier for householders to install small scale technologies from solar panels to ground source heat pumps, will be included in the planning white paper this spring. Some small scale technologies will be exempt from planning permission, however applications will still be needed where neighbours will be affected considerably.

Renewable Energy 'Resource Bank' for Planners Website

Planningrenewables.org.uk - the specialist website for planners and local authority councillors involved with planning applications for renewable energy projects - has added a new 'resource bank' of articles, reports, research papers and policy documents. The purpose of the resource bank is to support planners and councillors when assessing planning applications for renewable energy developments and/or formulating planning policy in their local authority

To view the new part of the site, click here www.planningrenewables.org.uk/cgi-bin/resource.cgi

Low Carbon Buildings Programme—UPDATE

The DTI's Low carbon buildings programme provides grants for microgeneration technologies for householders, community organisations, schools, the public sector and businesses. This grant was suspended in April to allow for restructuring. The new format of the grant has now been unveiled and a full update on the new structure can be found on the website. The grant, under its new structure, opened from **9am, Monday 29th May 2007.**

In summary the main changes to the grant are as follows:

- Provisional installers are available for selection on the online system.
- The monthly cap on grant allocations has been removed.
- Some grant levels have changed (see table below).
- There is a £2,500 grant cap per household.
- Grant offer validity periods have changed for some technologies.
- Householders must have in place any required planning consents **before** applying to the scheme.
- Extensions of up to two months only allowed where delays are out of applicants control.
- The paper application form has been revised.

See the website, www.lowcarbonbuildings.org.uk, for news and updates.

HIPs Delayed to August

The launch of the anxiously awaited Home Information Pack has been postponed until August 1st 2007, the government announced this month. Not only that but when they do come in HIPs will only be compulsory for properties with 4 or more bedrooms. This news has come as a blow to some of the 520 Domestic Energy Assessors who have recently qualified in the UK. Many estate agents, insulation companies and entrepreneurial individuals have shelled out thousands of pounds to get staff qualified as DEA's, in time for the anticipated launch on June 1st. This delay and the further watering down of HIPs could cost both individuals and businesses dearly, not to mention further compromising the perception of HIPs in the eye of the general public.

For more information on HIPs go to www.homeinformationpacks.gov.uk

First houses designed to conform to the 'Code' to be unveiled

Leading companies from the UK and abroad are building the first houses designed to demonstrate compliance to the new Code for Sustainable Homes, ready for unveiling at OFFSITE2007, 11th – 14th June at BRE Watford. The Code, launched in April 2007, has been developed by Communities and Local Government (CLG) based on BRE's [EcoHomes](#) method to enable a step change in sustainable building practice for new homes. It provides a means of assessing the sustainability credentials of new homes for energy, water, materials, waste, pollution and other issues.

See <http://www.bre.co.uk/newsdetails.jsp?id=441> for more information



New Wind Energy Resources Published by DTI

The DTI has just published four resources that will help local planning authorities, communities and wind energy developers engage more effectively with each other:

- 1) 'The Protocol for Public Engagement with Proposed Wind Energy Developments in England'
- 2) The Protocol for Public Engagement with Proposed Wind Energy Developments in Wales'
- 3) 'Delivering Community Benefits from Wind Energy Development – A Toolkit'
- 4) 'Bankable Models which Enable Local Community Wind Farm Ownership'

For more details follow this link www.cse.org.uk/cgi-bin/news.cgi?full&live&&1286

Stamp Duty Relief for Zero Carbon Homes

The aim of the Stamp Duty Tax Relief is to generate consumer demand for new homes to be built to zero-carbon standard ahead of changes to Building Regulations. The relief will be effective from 1 October 2007. To qualify for this exemption, developers will need to produce a certificate stating the property they have developed is built to zero-carbon standard - it is anticipated that Energy Performance Certificates will be used for this purpose. The relief will only be available for newly built homes at the first point of sale and will not apply to the second or subsequent points of sale and will be limited to a maximum of £15,000.

3rd Sector Declaration on Climate Change

The third sector declaration on climate change was launched by David and Ed Miliband on 18 June 2007. This declaration has been drawn up by Every Action Counts (EAC) - a consortium of over twenty voluntary sector and non governmental organisations with social and environmental remits working together across England to encourage and deliver social and environment justice

The declaration has two main sections. The first section recognises the crucial role of the third sector and the importance of understanding the link between social justice and climate change reduction. The second section deals with the commitment of tackling climate change and provides a plan of action to be taken by those signing up to the declaration.

To find out more visit the Every Action Counts website at www.everyactioncounts.org.uk/declaration/

Forthcoming Training and Events

- **DfES sustainable schools**—WcEA is heading up an exciting new project aiming to work with schools in Devon to help them reduce their carbon footprint, conserve water and raise awareness amongst pupils about climate change and resource conservation in general. Nominations for schools who would like to participate are currently being taken so if you know of a school that would like to be involved in this excellent project, please get in touch with Tony Merrick, training officer for Westcountry Energy Action, on 01752 235180 or email tony@wcea.org.uk
- **19th & 26th July - Sustainable Energy Training for Officers and Members**, 19th July in Tiverton and 26th July in Plymouth. Contact Fiona@wcea.org.uk for further information.
- **July 14th—October 2nd - Christian Aid's Cut the Carbon March**: Between July 14th and October 2nd Christian Aid will be marching across the country raising awareness of climate change. Throughout the march events and workshops will be taking place, including a large event in Bristol. To find out more visit the website www.pressureworks.org/dosomething/act/290307_march.html
- **2nd August - Training Session: Understanding Fuel Poverty and Energy Awareness** run by Westcountry Energy Action in Exeter. For more info see www.dsen.org.uk/index/index/sustainablenergytraining.htm
- **16th August - Training Session: Renewable Energy Basics** run by Westcountry Energy Action in Exeter. For more info see the www.dsen.org.uk/index/index/sustainablenergytraining.htm
- **18th August - Windfair**, Gaia Centre, Delabole, Cornwall
- **15th - 16th September - Self Build and Design Show**, Westpoint Arena, Exeter
- **10th & 11th October - BHA's annual conference** is being held in Birnam, Perthshire on the 10th (starting midday) and 11th October 2007 and will incorporate a diverse range of conference sessions, a technical exhibition and a gala dinner with after dinner entertainment like you have never seen before! See www.british-hydro.org for further info.
- **18th - 19th October - Business South West**: Business South West is a business to business sales exhibition and will be held at WestPoint Arena Exeter on the 18 th & 19 th October 2007. Last year this event attracted over 3000 business decision makers from across the region. The event incorporates a 'New Business Zone' in which businesses less than 18 months old will be showcased... exhibitors in this section get a significant discount on the cost of exhibiting. For more information or to book a place please contact Tim Stanford of TJW exhibitions on 01823 250579.

For other related news please follow the links to the following newsletters;

Devon Association for Renewable Energy (DARE) www.devondare.org/news.htm

Regen SW <http://www.regensw.co.uk/press/newsletters.asp>

Corwall Sustainable Energy Partnership (CSEP) www.csep.co.uk/page115g.html