



**Cornwall Sustainable
Energy Partnership**



CSEP is a public & private sector partnership working to achieve a sustainable energy future for Cornwall, its communities and businesses

PRESS RELEASE

Wednesday 6th September 2006

For Immediate Release

Cornish Councils to advise Government on Sustainable Energy

Having been awarded the highest accolade of Beacon Council in 2005 Cornish Councils have now been appointed to advise the Government on sustainable energy.

The Council was awarded Beacon Council Status as a result of its work in creating the Cornwall Sustainable Energy Partnership and delivering the Cornwall Energy Strategy.

The Beacon Council Award for Sustainable Energy is the highest accolade a council can achieve from the Government. It places Cornish Councils in the vanguard in achieving energy sustainability and mitigating against climate change. It was achieved by all the councils in Cornwall who, by working in Partnership, are seen as being exemplars in delivering a wide range of energy programmes from dealing with fuel poverty through to the generation of renewable energy.

Now the council will be working through the Partnership to fulfil the request of four key government departments DTI, DEFRA, DFT and DCLG to help them better align their policy with the type of sustainable energy programmes necessary in regions like Cornwall.

Over the next month councillors and officers will be meeting with their counterparts from around Cornwall to make recommendations which will directly feed through to Government Ministers. It is the start of a process that is expected to take about 10 months.

Cornwall Sustainable Energy Partnership (CSEP) was formed in 2001 when the County Council, the Council of the Isles of Scilly and the districts of Cornwall agreed that climate change and energy sustainability is a priority for the future.

Programmes which the council, through the Partnership is involved have already brought nearly £8million pounds of funding into Cornwall.

CSEP Director Tim German says, ***“Cornwall has major issues with energy sustainability - we have the SW's highest number of residents who cannot afford their electricity and heat, we are losing a vast amount of local income derived from energy and we are at the forefront of Climate Change.*”**

Through their work in the Partnership Cornish councils are seen as UK and European leaders in achieving an effective approach to these crucial issues. It is fantastic that having been chosen as Beacon Councils the Government has turned to them for advice in improving its own approach these issues which affect all our communities and businesses.”

-ENDS-

Notes to editors

- In April of this year, and as a direct result of its achievements and awards over the past few years Cornwall Sustainable Energy Partnership (CSEP), which includes all the local authorities of Cornwall & the Isles of Scilly, is being funded by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) to advise four government departments on carbon reduction and sustainable development.
- **Community Energy Plus (CEP)** is a registered charity (Number 1068990) and profit-recycling company. Established in 1998 with financial support from Carrick District Council, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Health Authority and the Energy Saving Trust. CEP manages the international award-winning* Home Health project which was developed by the 72 members of the Cornwall Sustainable Energy Partnership.
- CEP, the lead partner of the **Cornwall Sustainable Energy Partnership** (founded in 2001), is a consortium of 72 organisations from the public, private and health sectors that are committed to a multi sector approach to a sustainable energy future for Cornwall. It is the first partnership of its kind in the UK and is providing a model for other parts of the UK. www.csep.co.uk
- CEP manages the **Cornwall Energy Efficiency Advice Centre** supported by the Energy Saving Trust (EST) and the County and District Authorities of Cornwall. It is one of 52 independent centres across the UK, providing free, impartial and locally relevant advice to households. Please call free on **0800 512012**.
- * On the 30th June 2005, Community Energy Plus was recognised by the prestigious international **Ashden Awards** in the UK Energy Efficiency category for its Home Health project, which has installed nearly three and a half thousand energy efficient measures into Cornish homes.

For more information or an interview please contact:

Jasmine Reilly

CSEP and CEP Press and Publicity Officer

Tel: 01209 614974

Mobile: 07811 191 696