



**Cornwall Sustainable  
Energy Partnership**

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

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2006

**Embargoed: Until 00:01 Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2006**

### **Government Climate Change Focus on Cornwall**

Within a week of the Government using Cornwall as an example of good Climate Change practice in its Local Government White Paper the county is again under the spotlight at an event linked to the launch of the much hailed **STERN Review on the Economics of Climate Change.**

The Review, commissioned a year ago, by Gordon Brown will be released today in London. As part of a series of events designed to coincide with the Launch of the Stern Review HM Treasury are promoting the work being undertaken in Cornwall to bring together the public and private sectors to achieve local action to reduce carbon emissions. (see press release below)

One of the key speakers at the Treasury's Global Climate, Local Solutions event, Tim German, Director of Cornwall Sustainable Energy Partnership says:

***'Local action on such a crucial Global issue is vital. However, in Cornwall we see climate change as an economic opportunity as well as a threat. We have a real opportunity to be in at the lead to develop and produce new and sustainable energy technologies.***

***The Local Government White Paper is clear in its intention to place more responsibility on councils. Through the work of the Cornwall Sustainable Energy Partnership our eight local authorities are already demonstrating leadership having already achieved Beacon Council Status for Sustainable Energy'.***

### **Sustainable Energy Director Talks Climate Change at HM Treasury**

In his most recent budget speech Chancellor Gordon Brown announced that he would be hosting an important seminar on Climate Change. Amongst the national leaders invited as a main speakers at the 'Global Climate, Local Solutions' event at the Treasury on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October will be Tim German, the Director of Cornwall Sustainable Energy Partnership.

The Treasury have asked that Cornwall's leadership be demonstrated to Council Chief Executives and Finance Officers from across the UK.

The invitation is further recognition of the exemplary work carried out by the Cornwall Sustainable Energy Partnership (CSEP) on behalf of all the councils of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

The Government see the Cornwall Partnership as the perfect example of how local authorities can work together with other organisations in making innovative progress in tackling climate change and energy efficiency. The seminar will examine how these actions have been achieved and how more local authorities can do the same, focusing particularly on the vital role that energy plays in the economic sustainability of local communities and businesses.

Director of CSEP Tim German and the leading person behind the UK's first county based sustainable energy strategy, 'Action Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow' said, ***"Cornwall has been recognised by the Government leading in the field of local sustainable energy strategy, winning the only joint authority award for Beacon Council Status for Sustainable Energy.***

***This was followed by CSEP being selected to directly advise Government ministers on better delivery of energy policy in April of this year. In the forthcoming local government review it will become an even greater responsibility of all local authorities to take the lead on climate change action."***

But Tim German will also have words of warning for the Government;

***" Ironically, it was a recent ruling of a department within the Treasury that eventually led to the withdrawal of national funding to support initiatives like ours in Cornwall. The Government still have confused energy policies which cut across government departments and are often not cohesive with local need and local delivery. In Cornwall our need for greater self sustainability is becoming more and more acknowledged locally, but the Government is still not offering a decentralised energy strategy. They have failed to support the role of local mechanisms and have little understanding of the opportunities that local regeneration provides in achieving sustainable communities and businesses".***

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In his speech Tim German will also use examples from other European countries which will help demonstrate why the UK is lagging behind in the use of renewable energy innovation within sustainable development.

As one of the key speakers at the event, Tim will speak before the Minister, Angela Smith MP, on addressing climate change through regeneration.

Ensuring that energy is at the heart of sustainable regeneration in areas like the Camborne, Pool and Redruth Regeneration project and the Newquay Growth Area are some of the case studies that will be mentioned.

The seminar, chaired by the Government's Chief Micro Economist, will also cover the wider context of the costs of climate change, the links with regeneration and the role for Finance Directors in being innovative. Other speakers include the Head of the UK Climate Impacts Programme,

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#### Notes to editors

- **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.
- The **Cornwall Sustainable Energy Partnership** (founded in 2001) and managed by CEP, 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](http://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 30<sup>th</sup> 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.

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