



# BOLLINGTON CARBON REVOLUTION

## Appendix 6: Funding

### Introduction

#### Background

This report discusses funding which may be available to achieve a lower carbon footprint for Bollington. Energy efficiency and renewable power initiatives, which may require funding, include:

- Benchmarking and auditing
- Consultancy, research and design
- Energy efficiency
- Micro generation
- Carbon sequestration
- Transport, and
- Group management, education and publicity

When this study was carried out, the group had not finalised its carbon reduction strategy. Consequently this phase of research has not been exhaustive. Additionally because the group noted that transport initiatives would be unlikely to form part of the initial strategy (transport being a personal, local government and national government issue), this report does not include a specific discussion on funding opportunities for transport.

#### Methods of Research

Research has been web based. Web sites referenced include:

- Advise on the reduction of carbon emissions at [www.carbontrust.co.uk](http://www.carbontrust.co.uk)
- Sustainable use of energy at the Energy Savings Trust at [www.est.org.uk](http://www.est.org.uk)
- National Lottery at [www.lotteryfunding.org.uk](http://www.lotteryfunding.org.uk)
- Landfill tax credit scheme at [www.ltcs.org.uk](http://www.ltcs.org.uk)
- Tree planting at [www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-6dcegu](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-6dcegu)
- Biomass funding from DTi and DEFRA at [www.eif.org.uk/initiatives/Biomass/biomass-funding-schemes.html](http://www.eif.org.uk/initiatives/Biomass/biomass-funding-schemes.html)

# **FUNDING FOR MANAGEMENT, CONSULTANCY, PUBLICITY & BENCHMARKING**

## **Introduction**

This section discusses funding which we may be able to draw down to efficiently manage our initiatives and achieve our objectives. We will make full use of free resources, such as: assistance from school children and local universities; consultancy from the Countryside Agency and The Carbon Trust and links with local councils. However we recognise that we will most readily lower the carbon footprint of the town if we can draw upon funding for publicity, group management, contract management and consultancy services. Potential sources of funding for these tasks include:

1. Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)
2. The Landfill Tax Credit Scheme
3. The National Lottery
4. Free consultancy from The Carbon Trust and The Energy Savings Trust
5. The Esmee Fairburn Foundation
6. The Borough and County Councils
7. Our employers

Each of the above is briefly considered below:

### **DEFRA - Climate Challenge Fund**

The Climate Challenge Fund provides financial support for communications which aim to positively change public attitudes. It is designed to help cover the costs of introducing climate change messages into existing 'communication channels'.

In 2006 the Parish Council for Ashton Hayes, a village near Chester, was awarded £26,500 to run their Carbon Neutral Project from the Climate Challenge Fund. The fund simultaneously made awards to 27 other UK organisations. The award is enabling Ashton Hayes to produce a film that explains the link between climate change and carbon neutrality. DEFRA is also funding a climate change conference to be organised by the village.

Contact: [www.climatechallenge.gov.uk/get\\_involved/the\\_fund.html](http://www.climatechallenge.gov.uk/get_involved/the_fund.html)

### **Landfill Tax Credit Scheme**

Every tonne of waste sent to landfill is taxed at £21/tonne (2006/07), rising at £3/tonne every year to £35/tonne. 90% of this revenue is distributed to registered groups, known as Environmental Bodies (EBs), to support a wide range of environmental projects. Money may also be awarded to Distributive Environmental Body (DEBs).

By August 2006 £834 million had been donated by landfill operators to EBs and DEBs, of which £695 million has been spent.

The Bollington Civic Society has developed a relationship with an Environmental Body, known as WREN. WREN, and possibly other EBs or DEBs, may be a source of funding for group organisation, as well as more capital intensive schemes, such as distributed power generation, more of which below.

Contact: either ENTRUST, to register as an Environmental Body, or for WREN see [www.wrg.co.uk/wren](http://www.wrg.co.uk/wren)

## **Lottery funding - Awards for All**

As a not-for-profit group, the Civic Society could apply for between £300 and £10,000. Only £10,000 may be received in any two year period and we may only make one application at a time. Decisions on funding are made within eight weeks and we must use the grant within one year.

On the web site, the National Lottery provides indications of the types of schemes which may be successful, including: '*involving more people in a community event*'; '*publicity materials*'; '*volunteers' expenses*'; '*publicity and promotion of a recycling group*' and '*research costs*'.

Contact: [www.awardsforall.org.uk](http://www.awardsforall.org.uk)

## **Free consultancy**

### **Community Action for Energy (CAfE)**

CAfE is a membership network funded by the Energy Saving Trust. It promotes and facilitates community based sustainable energy projects through the provision of information, support, advice and training to members. Joining the network is free, as are all of the services provided. Most of the CAfE information resources are available online to both members and non-members, however, certain CAfE services are reserved for members only.

Contact: [www.est.org.uk/cafe](http://www.est.org.uk/cafe)

### **Carbon Trust**

The Carbon Trust provides free energy surveys to organisations with energy bills greater than £50,000 per year. The Carbon Trust also offers loans and building design advice, which is discussed later.

Contact: [www.carbontrust.co.uk](http://www.carbontrust.co.uk)

## **The Esmee Fairburn Foundation**

The Esmee Fairburn Foundation makes grants to registered charities to improve the '*quality of life for people and communities in the UK*'. Average grants are £33,000. The foundation also offers loans.

One of the foundations priorities for funding is schemes which '*stimulate changes in policy, planning and practice that will support the achievement of a low carbon economy and lessen the detrimental effects of greenhouse gas emissions*'. We particularly welcome applications which promote:

- sustainable transport: especially work at a strategic level which aims to find viable alternatives to vehicle use, or to reduce demand for air travel
- more rapid adoption, on a nationwide basis, of renewable energy, from a variety of sources, and of energy efficiency
- reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, through policy change, treaties and law
- the role of the investment sector in influencing the environmental performance of businesses

The foundation will not cover capital costs and provide an example of a work plan to guide applicants. Applications for less than £20,000 are usually assessed in two months. Those over £20,000 are generally turned around in five months.

Contact: Helpline 020 7297 4722 or email [info@esmeefairbairn.org.uk](mailto:info@esmeefairbairn.org.uk)

## **Macclesfield Borough Council and Cheshire County Council**

At this stage we have not contacted the local authority to establish the level of support, either logistical or financial, that could be available. Possible assistance may include:

- Bid Support – could the local authority become a partner in a bid to draw down funding? Alternatively they could review and/or steer applications?
- Secretarial support – would the borough council offer part time office support to help our document control? Alternatively would they provide a central server with IT backup? If we have to move to a part time basis, would the local authority provide office space?
- Skills – could the Borough or County Councils provide skilled staff to help drive our programme forwards?
- Funding – would either authority be prepared to pay/contribute towards a volunteer's expenses (principally loss of income) to allow initiative to become semi professional?

## **Our employers**

Would our employers contribute, either in cash, paid leave or free consultancy? Can we offer them something in return – logos on letter heads and handouts for example?

## **ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

### **Introduction**

This section discusses funds that may assist Bollington residents to make their homes more energy efficient.

### **Energy Efficiency Commitment**

The Energy Efficiency Commitment (EEC) requires energy generators to set aside capital, which is to be awarded to homeowners to fund energy efficiency measures. Funding is provided towards cavity wall and loft insulation, condensing boilers, solar water heating and energy efficient appliances. All homes are eligible. The current EEC round runs from 2005 to 2008. The amount of funding available is dependent on the supplier. Eight energy suppliers with EEC commitments are listed by OFGEM and summarised below:

[www.ofgem.gov.uk/ofgem/work/index.jsp?section=/areasofwork/energyefficiency](http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/ofgem/work/index.jsp?section=/areasofwork/energyefficiency)

### Energy Efficiency Commitment Supplier Contact Details

<b>British Gas Trading</b> Jon Kimber Head of Energy Efficiency British Gas 3 The Square, Stockley Park, Uxbridge UB11 1BN  Tel: 0208 734 9027 e-mail: jon.kimber@centrica.co.uk	<b>EDF Energy</b> Keith Cullen EEC Executive EDF Energy Energy Efficiency Commitment Team 27 Osborn Street London E1 6TG  Tel: 020 7247 7380 e-mail: keith.cullen@edfenergy.com
<b>Npower</b> Christine Bennett npower Oak House Bridgewater Road Warndon Worcester WR4 9FP  Tel: 01905 340844 e-mail: christine.bennett@npower.com	<b>Telecom Plus Plc</b> Wayne Coupland Business Development Manager Telecom Plus Plc Dryden House The Edge Business Centre Humber Road London NW2 6EW  Tel: 020 8955 5589 e-mail: wcoupland@telecomplus.co.uk
<b>Opus Energy Limited</b> Valpy Fitzgerald Analyst Manager Opus Energy Limited 1st Floor, Beaver House 23 - 38 Hythe Bridge Street Oxford OX1 2EP  Tel: 01865 264700 e-mail: valpy.fitzgerald@opusenergy.com	<b>Powergen</b> Phil Biddle Head of Energy Efficiency Powergen Newstead Court Little Oak Drive Annesley Nottinghamshire NG15 0DR  Tel: 02476 182 354 e-mail: Phil.Biddle@eon-energy.com
<b>Scottish and Southern Energy</b> Stephen Millward Energy Efficiency Manager Scottish and Southern Energy 55 Vastern Road Reading RG1 8BU  Tel: 0118 9534271 e-mail: steven.millward@scottish-southern.co.uk	<b>Scottish Power</b> Walter French Energy Efficiency Manager ScottishPower Energy Team (Section 25) PO BOX 7111 Cathcart Business Park Glasgow G44 4GP  Tel: 0141 568 3055 e-mail: walter.french@scottishpower.plc.uk

## Warm Front

### Warm Front Grant

The Warm Front Grant provides a package of energy efficiency measures, up to £2,700, except where oil central heating is installed or repaired where a maximum grant of £4,000 is available. Applicants may get a Warm Front grant if any of the following apply (monetary figures are for the 2006/07 financial year):

- Applicants get one or more of the following benefits:
  - Working Tax Credit (with an income of less than £15,050 and which must include a disability element)
  - Child Tax Credit (with an income of less than £15,050)
  - Attendance Allowance
  - Disability Living Allowance
  - Income Support (that must include a disability premium)
  - Housing Benefit (that must include a disability premium)

- Council Tax Benefit (that must include a disability premium)
  - War Disablement Pension (that must include a mobility supplement or a Constant Attendance Allowance)
  - Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (that must include Constant Attendance Allowance)
2. Applicants have a child under 16 or are pregnant and have a maternity certificate MAT B1 and get any of the following:
- Income Support
  - Council Tax benefit
  - Housing Benefit
  - Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
  - Pension Credit
3. Applicants are aged 60 or over and get any of the following:
- Pension Credit
  - Council Tax Benefit
  - Housing Benefit
  - Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance

Eaga Group Government Contracts Division manages the scheme throughout England (see below). Contact: Eaga Partnership, the Warm Front Scheme Manager on 0800 316 6011, text phone 0800 072 0156.

### **Warm Front Heating Rebate Scheme**

A £300 rebate is available to householders who either have no heating system or one which is inoperable. The rebate is available from 11 August 2006 to all householders aged 60 or over who are not in receipt of a qualifying Warm Front benefit (see above).

Contact: Eaga Partnership, the Warm Front Scheme Manager on 0800 316 6011, text phone 0800 072 0156.

### **Carbon Trust - building design advice**

Available free from the Carbon Trust, the Building Design Advice Guide contains a detailed overview on procuring goods and services for energy efficient buildings, both new and renovations. It's especially developed for builds up to 2,500m<sup>2</sup>.

The web site advises that the service includes a detailed printed guide and face-to-face consultancy. The amount of consultancy time you get depends on the size of your project and the potential carbon savings. Whilst there are no set rules, the amount of consultant time is allocated according to carbon savings above those required within the building regulations Part L.

Contact: [www.carbontrust.co.uk/energy/assessyourorganisation/design\\_advice.htm](http://www.carbontrust.co.uk/energy/assessyourorganisation/design_advice.htm)

## **Eaga Partnership Charitable Trust**

The Eaga Partnership Charitable Trust is a grant-giving trust that supports projects and research in two areas, the relief of fuel poverty and the promotion of energy efficiency. The trust is funded by Eaga Partnership Ltd (EPL) a non-profit distributing organisation owned by it's employees.

Contact: [www.eagagroup.com/about/grants\\_offered.htm](http://www.eagagroup.com/about/grants_offered.htm)

## **MICRO GENERATION**

### **Introduction**

This section discusses funding for households, the Civic Society and the local authority to assist Bollington to set up its own power generating schemes and/or power generating company.

### **DTI Low Carbon Buildings Programme**

The Low Carbon Buildings Programme (LCBP) is structured in two phases:

- Phase 1 - £28.5 million to support households, community organisations, housing associations, public sector and private businesses. It will run until April 2009.
- Phase 2 – £50 million for the public sector and charities.

### **LCBP Phase 1**

Phase 1 of the LCBP will fund a range of micro generation technologies including:

- Solar photovoltaics
- Wind turbines
- Small hydro
- Solar thermal hot water
- Ground/water/air source heat pumps
- Bio-energy
- Renewable CHP (Combined heat and power)
- Micro CHP
- Fuel cells

The Guardian (30 October 2006) advised that the current scheme was launched with a pot of £6.5m [we note difference with DTI figures referred to above] to support household renewables over the next three years. It was split £3.5m this year, £2m next and £1m in 2008/09. Trouble is, the popularity of renewables meant this year's £3.5m was used up in just six months. Energy minister Malcolm Wicks recently shifted another £6.2m from other parts of the LCBP into the household renewables pot.

To bid successfully for Phase 1 funding, applicants must demonstrate that they have made carbon savings from energy efficiency measures over and above those from micro generation.

For housing this should include reference to the Energy Saving Trust's Best Practice Standards.

## **LCBP Phase 2**

Phase 2 funding is divided into two:

- Stream 2A - allocated over seven, quarterly funding rounds (and one reserve (?) round). The maximum grant is £100k or 40-50% of total costs (excl. vat).
- Stream 2B - allocated biannually over three funding rounds (and one reserve (?) round). The maximum grant is £1m or 40-50% of total costs (excl. vat).

Stream 2A is a one-stage application process. Eligible projects include new buildings, buildings undergoing refurbishment and simple retrofit projects. Applications are made to the Energy Saving Trust which checks the eligibility of the application and then submits eligible applications to an independent selection panel. The receipt of an offer letter is confirmation that the project can begin.

Stream 2B is a two-stage application process. The first stage involves a building assessment. Approved proposals are allocated a Carbon Trust consultant to refine the design and assist in the second stage application. Eligible projects include new buildings and buildings undergoing major refurbishments.

Contact: [www.lowcarbonbuildings.org.uk/home](http://www.lowcarbonbuildings.org.uk/home)

## **ScottishPower Green Energy Trust**

The Green Energy Trust supports the development of new renewable energy sources in the UK. Funding is available to housing associations, community groups, public sector, private sector and local authorities for schemes which:

- Assist new renewable electricity sources
- Encourage renewable electricity research and development
- Promote renewable energy education in the community

Since 1998, over £680,000 has been awarded to 68 projects. The Trust can provide up to 50 per cent of project costs, up to a maximum of £25,000. The Trust no longer funds feasibility studies.

The Trust meets three times a year to consider applications - usually during the first week of April, September and December. Provided that an application is received seven weeks prior to the Trustees' meeting, it will be screened for eligibility and completeness.

Contact: The Secretary, ScottishPower Green Energy Trust, ScottishPower, 3rd Floor, Main Building, Cathcart Business Park, Spean Street, Glasgow G44 4BE,  
email: [greenenergytrust@scottishpower.com](mailto:greenenergytrust@scottishpower.com)

## **The GreenPlan Fund - Powergen**

The GreenPlan Fund supports renewable energy and sustainable construction. Funding is available to housing associations, community groups, public sector and local authorities, for schemes which support renewable energy in the community. Preference is given to projects which:

- Use the greenest energy sources
- Give the greatest environmental benefit
- Give the greatest community benefit, and.
- Where applicants can provide evidence of their own fundraising

Funding must be used for capital equipment and associated costs. Funding will not be granted for promotions, education or raising awareness, nor will it be granted solely for feasibility studies.

The fund can provide 100 per cent funding, between £2,500-£25,000 per project. 80 per cent of the funding will be issued at the start of the project, with the final 20 per cent issued on completion

Applications are assessed twice a year. Deadlines in 2007 are likely to be around the end of February and the end of August.

Contact: Powergen Community Relations Team, The GreenPlan Fund Committee, 1st Floor, Newstead Court, Little Oak Drive, Sherwood Park, Annesley NG15 0DR, 0870 419 1706, email: [greenplanfund@powergen.co.uk](mailto:greenplanfund@powergen.co.uk)  
[www.powergen.co.uk/Pub/Dom/A/Ui/Residential/GreenPlan.aspx?id=61](http://www.powergen.co.uk/Pub/Dom/A/Ui/Residential/GreenPlan.aspx?id=61)

## **Green Energy**

Good Energy pays 4.5p per kWh to households and small businesses which generate up to 30kW of renewable electricity. The payment is for the total electricity generated, regardless of whether it is used on site or exported to the grid. A parallel scheme has been launched in 2006 for customers who generate between 10kW and 75kW and are net exporters. The general requirements of the scheme are:

- Home generators must be a customer of Good Energy
- Home generators must have a renewable electricity generator
- There must be an OFGEM accredited meter

When researching this report, the database indicated that this fund was not available, but that the scheme was on-going. Contact: email [homegen@good-energy.co.uk](mailto:homegen@good-energy.co.uk)  
[www.good-energy.co.uk/home/33\\_generation.html](http://www.good-energy.co.uk/home/33_generation.html)

## **Landfill Tax Credit Scheme**

The LTCS was referred to above as a potential source of management funding. However it probably has a much more significant role to play in micro generation.

To improve our chances of an award, the LTCS website indicates that where recipients can make funding cost neutral to the landfill operators (there appears to be some cost to the landfill operators when they contribute to the LTCS) they have a much better chance of receiving funds. Hence 'Contributing Third Parties' are playing an increasing role in unlocking otherwise unused landfill tax credits.

We can either apply to an Environmental Body or a Distributive Environmental Body. Alternatively the group, or more likely the Civic Society, could register to become an Environmental Body and receive funding directly from the landfill operators. There is a

registration fee of £100. In addition to the registration fee we would be required to submit a copy of our constitution, with clauses that comply with LTCS objectives, together with a copy of an annual report and accounts.

Contact: [www.ltcs.org.uk](http://www.ltcs.org.uk)

## **Countryside Agency Community Renewables Initiative**

The initiative promotes and assists developments which:

- Are environmentally sensitive
- Have the support of all stakeholders
- Are appropriate to the locality
- Link to other diversification and regeneration schemes

No funding is available, but advice is available free of charge.

Contact: 01242 533 260, email [cri@countryside.org.uk](mailto:cri@countryside.org.uk) web [www.cri-england.org.uk](http://www.cri-england.org.uk)

## **Ashden Awards**

The awards reward outstanding and innovative renewable energy projects. There are three awards:

- Ashden Award for Sustainable Energy: For projects demonstrating excellence in at least one of the three following areas: electricity generation, heat generation or energy efficiency
- Ashden Energy Champion Award: For innovative and effective sustainable energy initiatives
- Ashden Award for Sustainable Energy in Schools: The award is for schools that have made sustainable energy a key, ongoing part of their practice and culture. This includes improving energy efficiency and using renewable energy within the school premises; integrating sustainable energy throughout the curriculum; and creating a sustainability ethos

We have missed out on the 2007 awards, but if we have a scheme in place we may be in a position to make an application at the end of 2007 for 2008.

It is anticipated that there will be at least two first prizes of £30,000 for the Ashden Award for Sustainable Energy, with second prizes of £10,000. The Ashden Energy Champions Award limit is £15,000. The Ashden Award for Sustainable Energy in Schools first prize is £15,000 with a second prize of £5,000.

Contact: Ashden Awards, Allington House, 150 Victoria Street, London SW1E 5AE, 020 7410 0330, email [info@ashdenawards.org](mailto:info@ashdenawards.org) web [www.ashdenawards.org](http://www.ashdenawards.org)

# CARBON SEQUESTRATION & FOSSIL FUEL REPLACEMENT

## Introduction

This section discusses funding to create woodlands. Funding appears to be divided into two streams: funding for biomass and grants for amenity woodland.

## Biomass For Fossil Fuel Replacement

### The Energy Crops Scheme (ECS)

The ECS is a DEFRA grant for establishing approved energy crops. The one-off payments are available to help cover the costs of buying, planting and maintaining crops during their first year.

Table 1: ECS Grants (2006)

Crop/land type	Grant (per hectare)
Short rotational coppice (SRC)	£1,000
Miscanthus	£920

The principal rules applicable to Bollington include:

- Crops must be located within a reasonable distance of the end-use (10 miles for small installations, 25 miles for large installations)
- At least 3 hectares must be cultivated

The scheme must meet environmental standards and an environmental assessment, including landscape implications, is part of the application process. Guidance on best practise and how to apply is available at [www.defra.gov.uk/erdp/schemes/energy/establishment.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/erdp/schemes/energy/establishment.htm)

DEFRA also provides grants for SRC growers support groups who work together to harvest their crops and supply them to one or more energy end-users. Under the scheme DEFRA provides up to 50% of the cost of setting up a producer group. Eligible expenditure includes, specialist machinery, staff, advice, office accommodation, publicity, travel and subsistence, storage and limited training.

Contact [Organic-energy@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Organic-energy@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

web [www.defra.gov.uk/erdp/schemes/energy/producer.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/erdp/schemes/energy/producer.htm)

### DEFRA Bio-energy Infrastructure Scheme

The scheme provides grants to farmers, foresters and businesses to help develop the supply chain required to harvest, store, process and supply energy crops and wood to energy end-users

Eligible biomass includes miscanthus, switch grass, reed canary grass, prairie cord grass, rye grass, straw and wood. Funding, up to a maximum of £200,000 per group, is available for:

- Legal and administrative costs in setting up the group (100% in Year 1 declining to 60% in Year 3)
- Capital items (up to 40%) and training (up to 50%)

- Purchase of storage and hard-standing

Contact: [www.defra.gov.uk/farm/crops/industrial/energy/infrastructure.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/farm/crops/industrial/energy/infrastructure.htm)

## Woodland Creation Grant

The WCGs are issued by the Forestry Commission and support new woodlands that meet national and regional priorities. The grant is not available for trees to be planted for biofuels. The aim of this grant is create woodlands:

- Near to where people live
- For access, recreation and sport
- Appropriately designed for wildlife
- Designed to enhance the landscape
- To restore former industrial land

This grant has three elements that can be applied for, depending on the eligibility of the site and the applicant:

- Woodland Creation Grant (WCG) - contributes to the costs of establishing new woodlands that deliver benefits to the public
- Additional Contributions (AC) - extra contribution towards the costs of creating new woodland in certain situations
- Farm Woodland Payments (FWP) - compensation for agricultural income lost when creating new woodland on agricultural land

Planting areas will normally be no less than 0.25ha and no narrower than 30m on average, with 15m as an absolute minimum width at any point. There are various other criteria which must be met and they are set out on the website.

WCG rates in 2006/07 are:

Table 2: WCG Grants (2006)

Woodland Creation Grant categories	Rate per hectare Broadleaves	Rate per hectare Conifers
Standard, Small Standard, Native, Community Woodland	£1,800	£1,200
Special Broadleaved Woodland	£700	n/a

Contact: [www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-6dcegu](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-6dcegu)

## National Lottery Breathing Places

Open to community organisations, schools, local health bodies, town councils, parish councils. Awards range from £300 to £10,000, to create and care for green spaces. Applications are turned around in six to eight weeks.

Contact: 0845 367 0610

[www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_breathingplaces.htm?regioncode=-uk&status=theProg](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_breathingplaces.htm?regioncode=-uk&status=theProg)

## **Woodland Tax Advantages**

Owning woodland confers certain tax advantages, which may be relevant if we wish to persuade landowners to become involved. Income from commercially managed forest is exempt from income tax, and capital gains tax is only paid on profit from the sale of the bare land. If the asset is owned for more than two years, the value of the forest will qualify for 100 per cent business property relief from inheritance tax.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Based upon this study we conclude that funding is potentially available for all of the initiatives that we are considering. Micro generation schemes in particular appear to be attracting significant funding at this time. A possible strategy could involve several phases of applications, which could overlap. An outline funding plan is set out below.

### **Phase 1 - Management, Benchmarking, Energy Efficiency**

1. Approach Macclesfield Borough and Cheshire County Councils to determine what financial or logistical support they will offer
2. Register with the providers of free consultancy – the Countryside Agency, the Carbon Trust and CAFÉ (the Energy Savings Trust)
3. Apply to the National Lottery Awards For All for funding to run benchmarking, education and energy efficiency schemes
4. Apply to DEFRA Climate Challenge Fund for education and communication funding
5. Approach our employers to determine what level of support they will be prepared to offer, for example, paid or unpaid leave
6. Contact the Esmée Fairburn Foundation and determine what schemes they may be willing to fund, for example benchmarking and communication
7. Contact EAGA, possibly with the assistance of the Countryside Agency, CAFÉ or the local authority, to identify the level of assistance that they could offer
8. Contact the organisations which provide funding under the Energy Efficiency Commitment and download literature for a fact sheet for Bollington residents
9. Download information on Warm Front Grants for a resident's fact sheet
10. Develop a benchmarking strategy which draws in residents and uses 'free' resources, including local schools and nearby universities

### **Phase 2 – Micro Generation**

1. Advise householders how to apply for Phase 1 LCBP funding and identify potential small projects, for example ground source heat pumps for the library, or solar thermal for a pub or restaurant
2. Apply to the LTCS for funding to run micro generation feasibility trials, with a view to drawing down more significant funding from LTCS if the trials prove successful

3. Identify the appropriate fund for a major micro generation project, likely to be one or more micro-hydro plants. LCBP only provide up to 50% of the funding. The remainder will have to come from either the recipient of the energy, match funding or a loan. Any infrastructure would have to be owned and managed. Therefore we would either need to form a generating company with help of our local authority, or have a suitable partner, for example the LEA, if the power was supplied to a school, or a Bollington business
4. Apply to the LTCS for match funding for the micro generation project
5. Apply to the Green Energy Trust and the GreenPlan Fund for funding for capital items
6. If the scheme is successful, apply to the Ashden Awards and use any award to fund future projects

### **Phase 3 – Carbon Sequestration**

Identify landowners who would be willing to participate. Once the purpose of the woodland has been established a community woodland, or a biomass energy crop, the funding streams are relatively clear: either, the Forestry Commission and the National Lottery for community woodland, or DEFRA for biomass. Other funding streams such as LTCS and the Esmee Fairburn Foundation may also be willing to assist in carbon sequestration.