

Rt Hon Claire Perry MP  
Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth  
Dept for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy  
1 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0ET  
United Kingdom

28 February 2019

Dear Minister

### **Community Energy**

We are writing on behalf of the undersigned foundations and charities to draw your attention to the attached 'Manifesto for Community Energy', endorsed by organisations representative of the UK community energy sector.

As the UK government consults on the design of the future energy system, to determine new rules and regulations around how we buy, sell and manage our energy. It is vital that the voices of community energy groups are heard and that the value they can bring is fully considered in these plans.

We are grant makers or impact investors in community energy. We do this because of the significant environmental, social and local economic value it brings, and believe community energy has an important role to play as part of a 'just transition' to a decarbonised and more decentralised energy system.

We welcome the minister's recent statement that "community energy is a key cornerstone of government ambition for transition to a low-carbon, smart energy system" but note that community energy groups are currently struggling to develop viable projects.

We hope the attached can assist the minister in bringing about a regulatory environment that supports community energy to survive and thrive, and would welcome the opportunity to discuss further should that be of interest.

Yours sincerely,

Danielle Walker-Palmour, Director, Friends Provident Foundation

Nick Perks, Trust Secretary, Joseph Roundtree Charitable trust

Caroline Mason, Chief Executive, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation

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