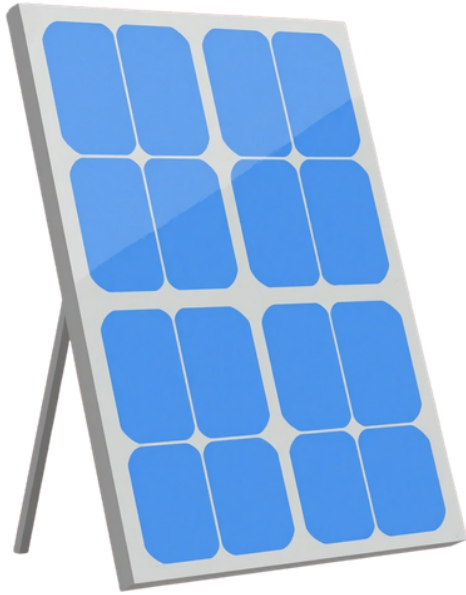


COMMUNITY ENERGY

What It Means:

Energy projects led by, or benefiting, local people.



In Simple Terms

Local people own, manage, or benefit from energy projects in their area.

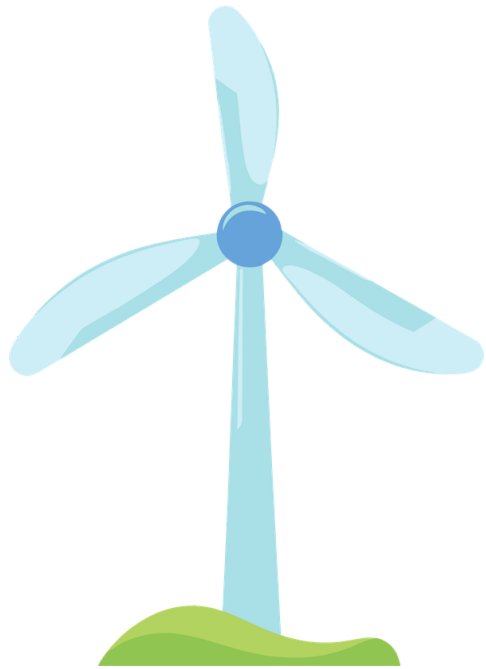
Why It Matters

- Keeps money local
- Keeps decision-making local, focused and relevant to specific communities

RENEWABLE ENERGY

What It Means:

Energy from sources that won't run out.



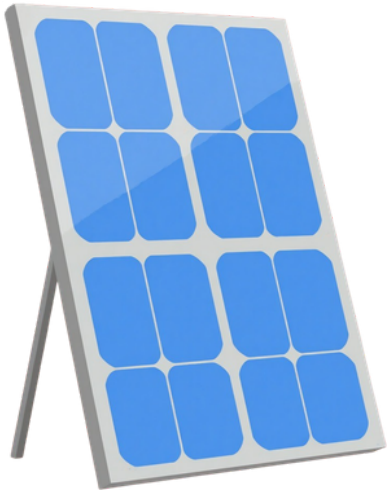
In Simple Terms

Energy that comes from natural sources like sun, wind, or water.

Why It Matters

- Reduces pollution
- Will continue to power our communities, unlike finite resources e.g. fossil fuels

SOLAR PV (Solar Photovoltaic)



What It Means:

Technology that turns sunlight into electricity.

In Simple Terms

Solar panels use sunlight to make electricity for homes, buildings or the grid. They can be put on residential and business roofs, on canopies over car parks, or on low-grade areas of land.

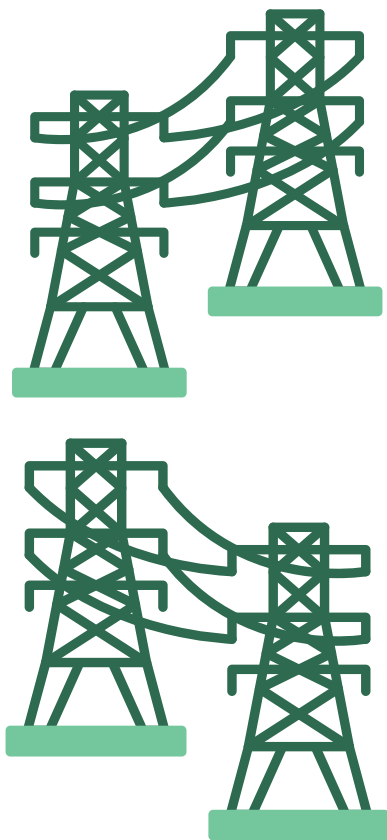
Why It Matters

- Clean & Renewable
- Low running costs once installed

GRID

What It Means:

The network that delivers electricity.



In Simple Terms

The grid is the system of wires and cables that carries electricity to homes and businesses.

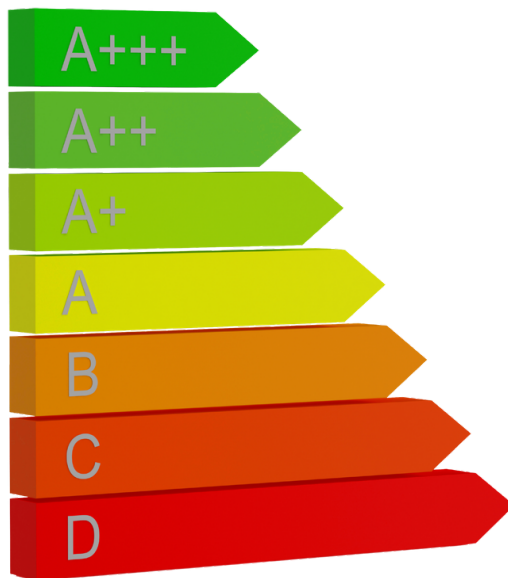
Why It Matters

- Connects energy generators and users

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

What It Means:

Using less energy to do the same job.



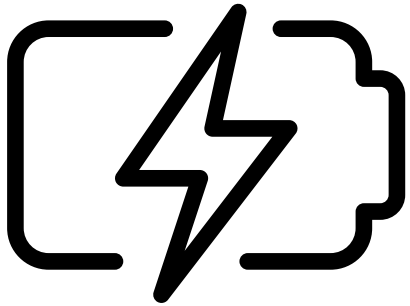
In Simple Terms

Better insulation, lighting, and appliances mean less energy is wasted.

Why It Matters

- Lowers bills
- Makes homes & community spaces more comfortable

BATTERY STORAGE



What It Means:

Technology that stores electricity for later use.

In Simple Terms

Batteries save extra electricity and release it when it's needed.

For example, setting up a battery to charge at cheaper, greener, “off-peak” rates overnight and to discharge energy during the day. This then reduces overall electricity bills and demand on the grid at peak times.

Why It Matters

- Makes renewable energy more reliable
- Makes the most of renewable energy produced e.g. solar that would otherwise be “lost” to the grid
- Allows cheaper, greener “off-peak” electricity to be used

POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENT (PPA)



What It Means:

A long-term contract to buy electricity.

In Simple Terms

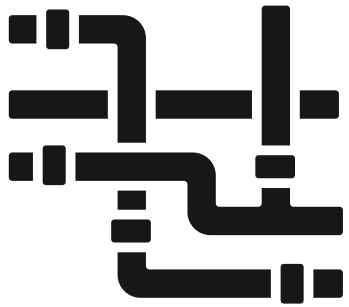
An agreement to buy electricity at a fixed or agreed price from a specific energy project, often renewable.

For example, the community invests in a solar array on a leisure centre with the agreement that the energy generated is sold to the leisure centre.

Why It Matters

- Gives stable prices
- Helps fund new clean energy projects

HEAT NETWORK



What It Means:

A shared heating system for multiple buildings.

In Simple Terms

One central heat source supplies heating and hot water through pipes to many buildings.

For example, one big heat pump supplies hot water to multiple nearby buildings.

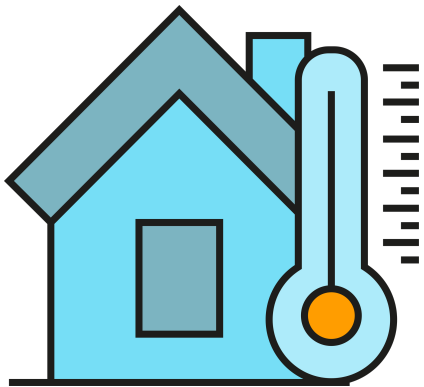
Why It Matters

- More efficient
- Can use low-carbon heat

FUEL POVERTY

What It Means:

When households struggle to afford energy. Typically when 10% or more of household income is spent on energy costs.



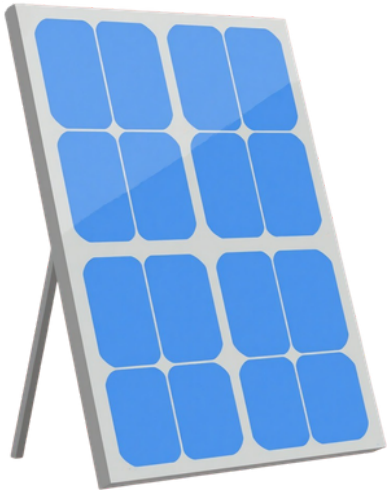
In Simple Terms

People can't heat their home properly or pay their energy bills.

Why It Matters

- Affects health and wellbeing
- Community energy can help reduce it

LOW-CARBON ENERGY



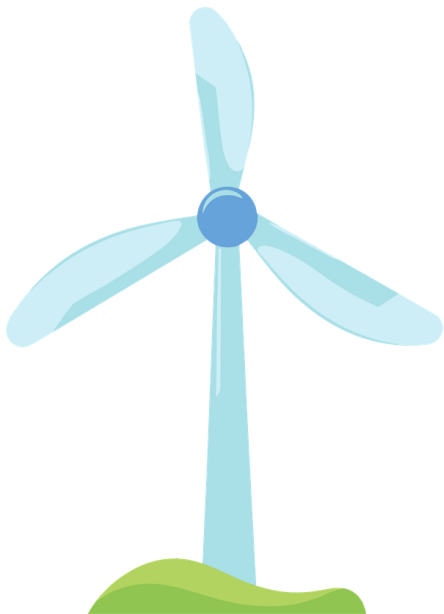
What It Means:

Energy that creates little or no carbon emissions.

In Simple Terms

Energy that does not add much carbon to the atmosphere.

For example, solar, wind, hydropower or nuclear



Why It Matters

- Reduces climate impact