

## **TWITTER - Cambridgeshire Mobilising Local Energy Investment Project (MLEI)**

### **MOBALISING LOCAL ENERGY INVESTMENT**

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### **Project summary**

The Cambridgeshire Mobilising Local Energy Investment Project (MLEI) was set up to drive investment into energy efficiency and renewable energy infrastructure projects across Cambridgeshire by putting in place structures, delivery mechanisms and build capacity to bring forward and deliver successful energy projects. The rationale for the project is Cambridgeshire's significant growth and the challenge to build modern, efficient new homes, buildings and communities that can endure a changing climate, bring greater resource efficiency and manage energy costs. The aspiration is to move to greater energy self-sufficiency for Cambridgeshire communities through better local management of energy demand and supply.

### **Aim and Objectives of the Project**

The aim of the Cambridgeshire project was to set up a strategic framework to coordinate and support the variety of stakeholders working on energy projects across Cambridgeshire and provide investors the confidence to invest in Cambridgeshire energy projects. The strategic framework provides structures to support, develop and aggregate energy projects, standardise contracts, procure delivery partners and realise projects on the ground.

The project objectives include:

- Establish an Investment Fund
- Identify and set up appropriate delivery mechanisms
- Develop a replicable model for scaling up energy retrofits of public buildings and
- Contract an investment programme of at least £17,030,000 through the Fund by August 2015

The total facilitating budget for the project was £1,082,501 across the partnership for 36 months, August 2012-2015.

### **Key Project Successes**

- 1.** A Local Authority Fund has been operational since March 2014 and a Fund Development Strategy agreed (see page 8 for further details).
- 2.** The project has contracted a total of £18.05 million of energy projects including a 12 MW Solar Park plus energy performance contracting for five secondary academy schools, nine maintained schools and seven public buildings.
- 3.** Political support for the project has resulted in further finance committed into the Investment Fund beyond the initial £15 million and a portion of the Fund profits earmarked by Cambridgeshire County Council for the purposes of funding an Energy Investment Unit to continue the work on energy performance contracting for schools and public buildings; to bring forward larger scale projects for investment and to scope a Cambridgeshire Energy Company as part of the forward strategy for the Fund.
- 4.** A multidisciplinary team with the skills, knowledge and capacity is now in place to support project development and investment into energy projects across Cambridgeshire comprising technical (engineering skills primarily), financial, legal, procurement and project management.
- 5.** Contracted projects by August 2015 = 14 Renewable Energy Capacity installed = 13,597 KW  
Greenhouse gas emissions reduction = 6511 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>