On Saturday, 15 February 2014, 8:57, Jennifer Ramsay <jennifer@localenergyscotland.org> wrote:

Good afternoon,

**Introducing Local Energy Scotland**

Local Energy Scotland is a free and impartial service through which you can access the Scottish Government’s Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES).  CARES provides grant and loan funding  to help community groups become involved in renewables, whether taking forward a community owned scheme or engaging in a large-scale commercial project.

**Find out more**

We have recently launched a new website at [www.localenergyscotland.org](http://www.localenergyscotland.org/), with the resources and information you need to get the most out of Scotland’s renewable energy resource. Here you can find advice on generating your own income from a renewable energy project and on maximising the local impact from commercial community benefits.   This site includes the Scottish Government Community Benefit Register which shows community benefit payments from renewable energy developments across Scotland.  You can browse this at[www.localenergyscotland.org/register](http://www.localenergyscotland.org/register) and if your Community Council receives community benefit you can share details of your project.

**Opportunities on National Forest Estate**

Community organisations should be aware that there is a new opportunity to investigate the potential for renewable energy generation on the National Forest Estate. Interest must be registered by 14th March; find out more at [www.localenergyscotland.org/forestry](http://www.localenergyscotland.org/forestry) .

**Contact us**

Our website has information about CARES and [events](http://www.localenergyscotland.org/conference) that are happening in your area. If you would rather speak to us, we have a network of local development officers based throughout Scotland who can give you practical advice and talk you through your ideas or issues. Call us FREE on 0808 808 2288 to progress your renewable energy plans, or simply to find out more.

Kind regards,

Jennifer

**Jennifer Ramsay**

**Community Benefits Officer**

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