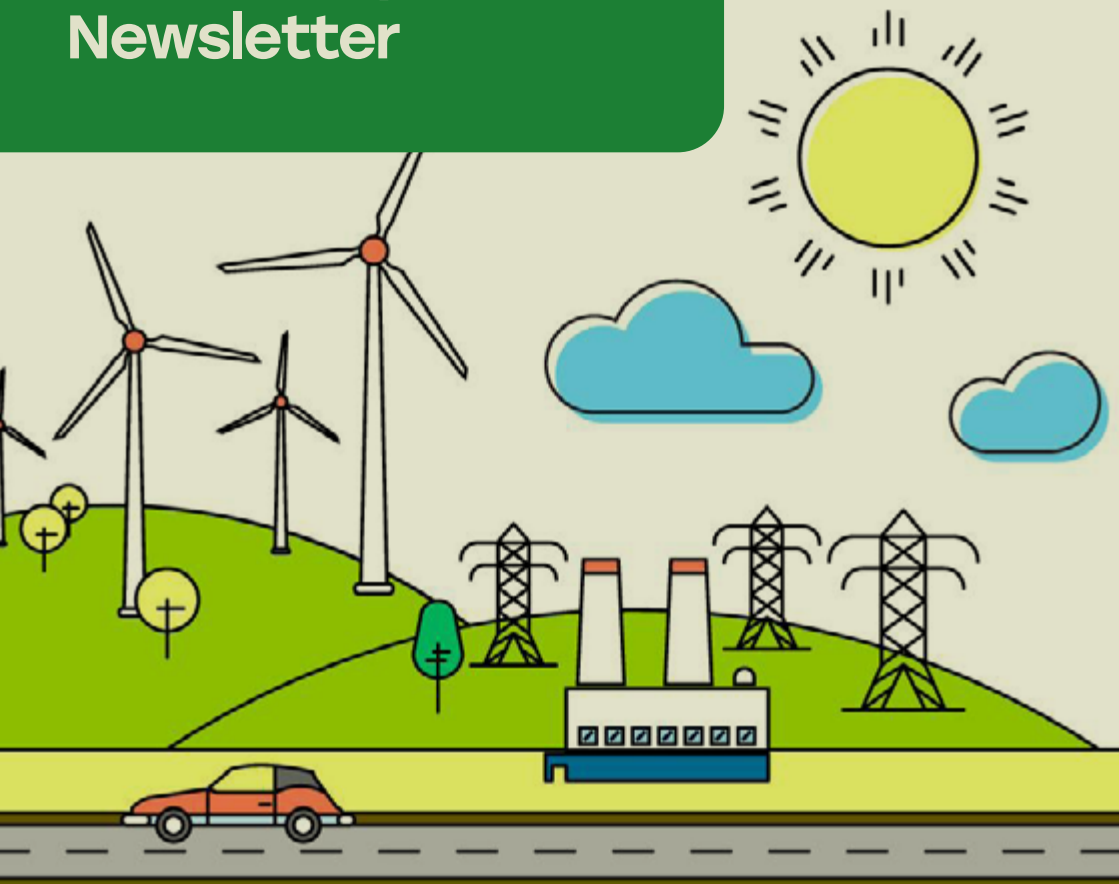


East Lammermuir Energy Projects Partnership Newsletter



September 2026

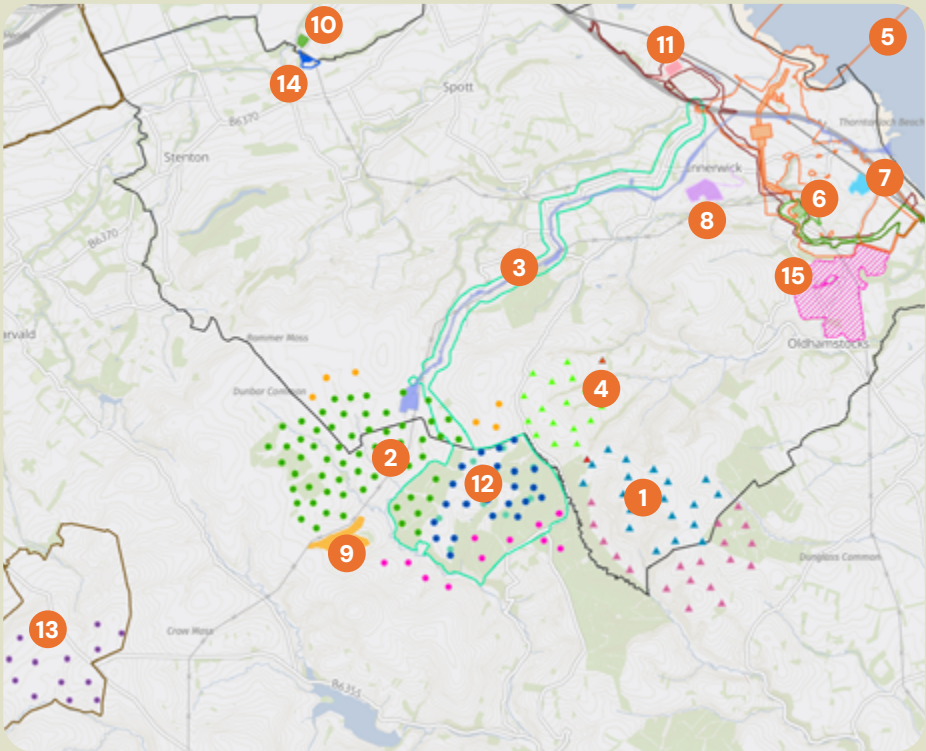
Welcome to the Energy Projects Partnership quarterly newsletter

In these pages you will find updates from some of the energy projects under construction or due to start construction in 2026 / 2027; where to find out information, regular updates and how to report any issues relating to their construction; and about community benefits and delivery of the Local Place Plan.

Our newsletter is issued digitally every quarter; with one edition each year being posted to all households in the East Lammermuir Community Council area.

This edition contains the following information and updates:

Energy Developments map	3
Energy Projects Partnership news.....	4
Community Traffic and Travel Forum.....	5
Crystal Rig IV Wind Farm.....	6
Eastern Green Link 1.....	7
Branxton Substation.....	8
Berwick Bank Wind Farm	9
Dunbar BESS	10
Branxton BESS	10
Taking forward our community ambitions	12
Community Benefits	13
Warm Homes Project.....	14
Innerwick Village Hall update.....	15



CONSTRUCTED		CONSENTED	PLANNING
1.	Aikengall wind farms	4.	Aikengall BESS
2.	Crystal Rig wind farms	5.	Berwick Bank Wind Farm onshore works
3.	NnG Offshore Wind Farm cable route	6.	Branxton Substation
		7.	Branxton BESS
		8.	Brax BESS
		9.	Crystal Rig Solar
		10.	Dunbar BESS
		11.	Eastern Green Link 1 onshore works
		12.	Crystal Rig I repower
		13.	Newlands Hill Wind Energy Hub
		14.	Pitcox BESS
		15.	Springfield Solar

Explore the map online here:

Energy Projects Partnership News

The East Lammermuir Energy Projects Partnership is a collaboration between the Community Council, renewable energy developers, electricity transmission owners and East Lothian Council. We are working together to make sure the area is a better place as a result of the energy infrastructure developments, with the Local Place Plan as the blueprint for this vision.

We know that the construction process for the energy projects can cause disruption for local residents and so have established some joint communication tools to complement information and reporting processes for each project.

1. **Reporting Portal** – an online form where you can report any issues relating to the construction of the energy developments, such as impacts on roads, access or disturbance to you as residents. Scan the QR code or search for the East Lammermuir Developments website and go to the “Report an issue” section.
2. **Email bulletins** – a collation of updates relating to the energy projects, on topics such as road closures, diversions, opportunities to respond to planning applications or attend engagement events. Scan the QR code or visit the East Lammermuir Community Council Website and go to the “Energy Developments” section.

Our next public Energy Developments meeting will be held on **Wednesday 23rd September, 6:30–9pm** in Innerwick Outdoor Centre bringing energy project representatives, East Lothian Council and community members together. The focus will be on the Principles of Community Engagement (you can find these on the East Lammermuir Developments website) – we will be getting our heads together to consider how these are going in practice and how to improve community engagement. **Spaces are limited so please contact beth@elep.scot to register.**



Bulletin QR code



Reporting portal QR code



East Lammermuir

Active travel is a priority from the Local Place Plan

COMMUNITY TRAFFIC AND TRAVEL FORUM

Getting involved with this local group of residents is a great way to propose and influence positive solutions to minimise the construction impacts of energy projects on traffic and travel, whether by car, bike, horse riding, walking or wheeling.



INITIATIVES WE'VE BEEN INVOLVED IN:

- ✓ Reporting Portal
- ✓ Energy Projects A1 signage
- ✓ HGV vehicle signage and speed limits
- ✓ Horse laybys
- ✓ Access to National Cycle Route
- ✓ Advocating for repairs to windfarm access roads

JOIN US!

have a say in your community

Our next public event is a drop-in
Tuesday 20 October
Innerwick Outdoor Centre / Old School
3-7pm

Find out more via ELCC website

Contact Us
beth@elep.scot



Crystal Rig IV (Fred.Olsen Renewables)

Crystal Rig IV is now fully operational and generating renewable electricity for homes and businesses across the UK. On 3rd September, **Minister for Energy Stephen Gethins**, officially inaugurated the wind farm, marking the project's completion and the start of full operations.

Speaking at the inauguration, **Stephen Gethins said:**

"Crystal Rig IV stands as another example of what can be achieved when government, industry and communities work together towards a common goal. It was a pleasure to see years of work from Fred. Olsen Renewables come to fruition, with 102 turbines now generating power for people across Scotland."

"Scotland can and must see the benefit of our ample natural resources. Onshore wind is one of the cheapest forms of new energy generation we can build and projects like this are vital to our just transition."

The project represents a significant investment in the southeast of Scotland and our renewable energy infrastructure. Throughout construction,

Crystal Rig IV supported employment opportunities, local businesses, and the wider supply chain, with local contractors, suppliers, and service providers contributing to the project's delivery and adding £5m in economic activity in this region alone. As the wind farm enters its operational phase, it will continue to support economic activity through long-term operations, maintenance and associated services, while contributing clean, home-grown energy to the UK's electricity network.

At the end of August, Fred. Olsen Renewables completed a programme of pothole repair works as part of our close-out activities. In agreement with East Lothian Council, landowners, and other stakeholders, Local contractors undertook pothole repairs and carriageway maintenance between Innerwick and the site entrance, which were affected by construction traffic.

The team at Fred. Olsen Renewables sincerely thanks local residents for their patience, support, and constructive engagement throughout the construction period. As Crystal Rig IV begins long-term operation, we reaffirm our commitment to maintaining an open dialogue and supporting the East Lammermuir community through our community benefit funds and ongoing friendship. Thank you.

For further information, please contact communities@fredolsen.com

Eastern Green Link 1 (SP Energy Networks)

Construction of the Eastern Green Link 1 (EGL1) project continues to make good progress, with significant milestones achieved both at the converter station site and along the cable route.

At the converter station site at Oxwellmains, major civil engineering works are progressing well. Piling works, which create the foundations for the converter station buildings, are expected to be completed shortly. In a positive sustainability initiative, all steel tubes used for the piling works have been repurposed from decommissioned North Sea pipeline projects. Other activities underway include reinforced concrete foundations, concrete slab construction and the development of the new permanent access road.

The converter station project was recently awarded an 'Excellent' rating by the Considerate Constructors Scheme, recognising the team's commitment to supporting the workforce, protecting the environment and engaging positively with local communities.

Along the cable route, Prysmian has completed all open-cut road crossings and three horizontal directional drilling (HDD) locations, comprising 24 individual drills. Work has also begun on land-to-sea drilling activities, which will prepare for the installation of the subsea cable connection.

To minimise disruption, all remaining road crossings will be installed using trenchless drilling techniques beneath roads, reducing the impact on road users and local communities. The A1 to Skateraw path remains open, with dedicated traffic management measures in place to ensure public safety during construction activities.

The project continues to support local communities through a range of social value initiatives. Recent examples include funding for programmes at Dunbar Grammar School, support for the European Land Art Festival and contributions to community events such as the RNLI Gala Day.

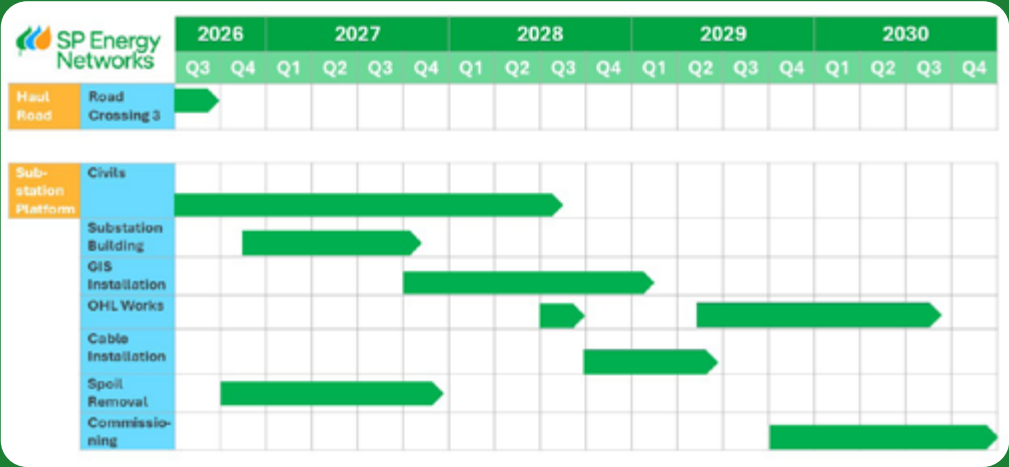
Project contact: contact@easterngreenlink1.co.uk



Branxton Substation (SP Energy Networks)

The Branxton Substation project is an important investment in the local electricity network. As work moves forward, a number of activities will be taking place across the site, including construction of the substation, installation of electrical equipment, cable works and testing before the new infrastructure is brought into service.

The timeline below shows the main stages of the project and when they are expected to take place. Please be aware that some of these activities may change as the project progresses. SPEN are committed to keeping the community updated throughout the delivery of these works and will continue to share information as key milestones are reached.



Project contact: project.communications@spenergynetworks.co.uk

Berwick Bank Wind Farm (SSE Renewables)

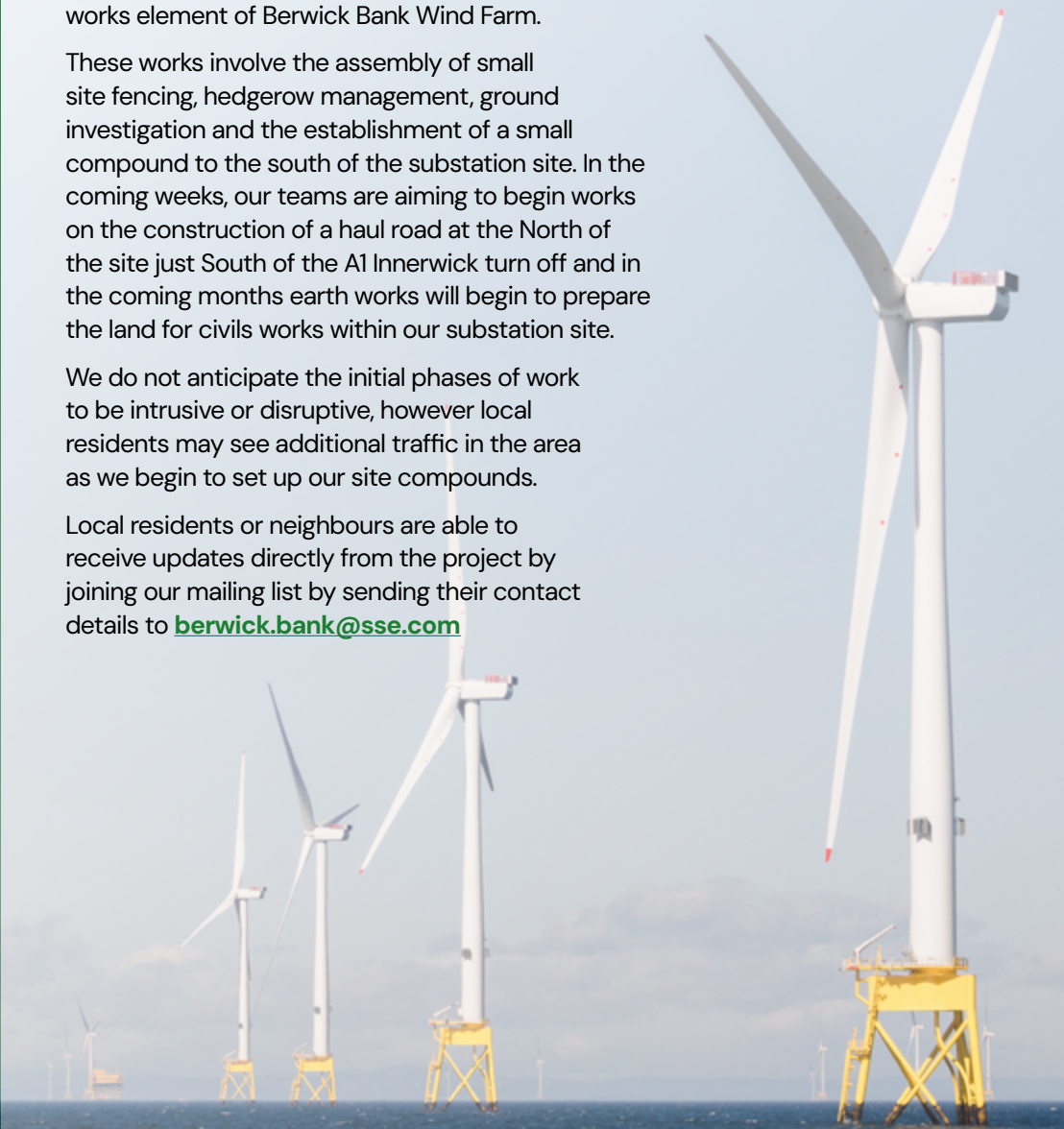


Further to our July 2026 Public Information Event, our team has begun minor preparation ahead of starting the main onshore enabling works element of Berwick Bank Wind Farm.

These works involve the assembly of small site fencing, hedgerow management, ground investigation and the establishment of a small compound to the south of the substation site. In the coming weeks, our teams are aiming to begin works on the construction of a haul road at the North of the site just South of the A1 Innerwick turn off and in the coming months earth works will begin to prepare the land for civils works within our substation site.

We do not anticipate the initial phases of work to be intrusive or disruptive, however local residents may see additional traffic in the area as we begin to set up our site compounds.

Local residents or neighbours are able to receive updates directly from the project by joining our mailing list by sending their contact details to berwick.bank@sse.com



Dunbar BESS (FRV Powertek)

We anticipate that construction of the Dunbar Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) will commence in June 2027, ready for energisation in March 2028.

The Site is located adjacent to the existing Dunbar Substation (see page 3). All deliveries of construction components will arrive from the trunk road network and approach from the A1 to the north of the site, before heading south on the B6370. After 1.3km on the B6370, vehicles will arrive at the Site.

A Construction Traffic Management Plan

(CTMP) providing further details will be submitted to, and approved by, the Local Planning Authority prior to construction (as required by planning condition).

FRV Powertek will keep the community updated via the Energy Projects Partnership email bulletin and liaise with the Community Traffic and Travel Forum on the development of the CTMP, prior to its submission to East Lothian Council.

Project contact: mike.clements@frvpowertek.com

East Lammermuir is already home to several energy developments and clear information, transparency and meaningful opportunities for participation are important. As part of its commitment to good practice, Zenobē has signed up to the East Lammermuir Principles of Community Engagement and will work through existing local forums and networks wherever possible.

Over the coming months, public consultation events and community engagement forums will allow residents and stakeholders to learn

more about the proposed haul road and share views before the planning application is submitted.

Once confirmed, consultation activities and events will be shared through local community channels and made available on a project webpage. Zenobē looks forward to meeting local residents and hearing their feedback.

Project contact:

Viki.McCormick@zenobe.com

ZENOBE

Branxton BESS (introducing Zenobē)

Zenobē develops, finances, builds and operates battery storage projects that support the UK electricity network and help maximise the use of renewable energy.

Zenobē recently acquired the consented Branxton Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project and is preparing to submit a planning application for a proposed haul road and long-term access arrangements associated with the development.

The currently consented access arrangements include the movement of construction traffic on local roads, including abnormal loads through Birnieknowes which would require road upgrades and HGV movements beneath the railway bridge on the U219. Zenobē recognises that this presents several challenges and is a key concern

for local communities. An alternative haul road is therefore being explored to provide direct access from the A1 during construction and operation, with the aim of reducing impacts on local roads and nearby residents.

The project will require a connection to Branxton Substation. The current expectation is that the grid connection would be within the red line boundary of the existing planning application and, therefore, no further planning application is expected to be required for the cable route, although the approach will be confirmed as the detailed design progresses.

Construction is estimated to start late 2027/ early 2028 with connection 2029/30 (depending on the completion of Branxton Substation).



Taking forward our community ambitions

INTRODUCING SUE GUY – LOCAL PLACE PLAN DELIVERY OFFICER



I'm delighted to have joined East Lammermuir as the new Local Place Plan Delivery Officer, focusing on helping turn the East Lammermuir Local Place Plan into action.

My role is to work alongside East Lammermuir Community Council, local groups, residents and partners to help progress the four ambitions identified through the Local Place Plan: community transport, active travel, warm homes (formerly referred to as energy efficiency) and biodiversity.

A big part of the job will be connecting people and existing projects, helping develop ideas into practical activity, supporting access to funding and resources, and ensuring that the priorities identified by communities continue to guide what happens next.

I've worked in community development, sustainability and place-based projects for many years, including here in East Lothian, so I'm very pleased to be getting back out into communities and supporting this next stage of delivery.

I'm looking forward to meeting more people across East Lammermuir over the coming weeks and hearing about the work already happening, the ideas people have, and where I can help.

Best,
SUE

Email: sue.guy@elcc.scot

Crystal Rig Community Benefits Fred. Olsen Renewables Administrator ELCC/East Lammermuir Community Benefit Fund Ltd Funds CR1 CR2 CR3 CR4 Local, Large, Small Lengths of funds between 15 and 35 years Amount £185,000/y*	NnG Community Fund EDF power solutions UK and ESB Administrator Foundation Scotland Funds NnG Linked to 4 Ambitions Length of fund initially 3 years Amount £183,600/y	EGL1 Community Benefit Fund SP Energy Networks Administrator Foundation Scotland Funds Strategic (4 ambitions) and Wider One off fund Amount £4,000,000
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* for the next few years

Community Benefits News

East Lammermuir currently has access to community benefit funding from Crystal Rig onshore and Nearth na Gaoithe (NnG) offshore windfarms. The next to come onstream will be from SP Energy Networks for their Eastern Green Link 1 (EGL1) project.

80% of the EGL1 community benefits will be for strategic delivery of the 4 community ambitions taken from the Local Place Plan (community transport, active travel, warm homes and biodiversity), alongside the NnG Community Fund. We are delighted to have Sue Guy in post as our new Local Place Plan Delivery Officer to coordinate this work.

20% of the EGL1 community benefits will be distributed across a wider area, including Cockburnspath and Cove,

Dunbar and West Barns as well as East Lammermuir, with the priorities for this fund being aligned with the community priorities identified through SPEN's recent household survey.

The graphic summary gives an overview of the funds, further details can be found via the East Lammermuir Community Council website, including information about what projects they have funded so far. The community also benefits from CWP Energy (Aikengall Wind Farm) funded projects, such as the rebuild of Oldhamstocks Village Hall. Check out pages 13 and 14 for more community benefit funded project news.

Warm Homes Project

East Lammermuir has a unique opportunity to move away from old, inefficient and expensive heating systems and fuels such as oil and LPG, by taking a collective approach so as many residents as possible can benefit. We are looking at tackling this by using Community Benefit funding, alongside other funding sources such as Home Energy Scotland's Grant and Loan for homeowners, to help make this a reality. We hope that by tackling the problem of heating homes by using a collective approach with individualised support, we will be able to provide East Lammermuir with energy security, a long-term heating solution for every home and warmer, more comfortable homes. We intend to reduce costs for everyone through adopting this collective approach, sharing learning along the way.

We have listened to residents, and we are aware that for many people, keeping the heat in your home is also a fundamental concern. Therefore, we are also working on how we enable residents to reduce preventable heat loss, such as insulation and draught-proofing, with a view to getting homes ready for heating system change. We are exploring how we can make best use of any Community Benefit funding which may support this and how to deliver a fair outcome for all residents so that no home is cold, and no heat is wasted.

Homes within the 1km zone of energy development will receive priority at this stage due to the impact of the energy



developments. If you live in the Innerwick area, Woodhall, Skateraw, Crowhill, the Pinkertons, Birnieknowes, Thorntonloch or their immediate surrounding areas, including Hunter Steading or near the Thurston Holiday park. We are currently working on how to provide the individualised support and advice each home needs, which considers both measures to prevent heat loss and heating system change. This follows best practice and will help set out a roadmap for homes as the project develops. We know finding the right advice can be difficult, and we're working to ensure residents get tailored, high-quality and professional advice for their unique home. We are engaging with the right people who can help us deliver this now and hope to have an update shortly.

For anyone who would like to learn more or find out if your home is within the 1km priority area, please contact Ellen at ellen.abbi@lothianheat.org or visit lothianheat.org/warm-homes-east-lammermuir/ to sign up directly using the online form.



Innerwick Hall Update

If you made it to the Innerwick Flower show, you will have seen signs of progress on the refurbishment project in Innerwick Village Hall (started in January) and the scaffolding going up for external work on cladding certainly makes it feel like things are now moving at pace.

The stripping out of the internal walls and ceiling have uncovered some wonderful historical features, fast forward a few months most of internal framing is complete and the insulation has been packed in by our main contractors The Ridge Foundation on some rather warm

days in the rafters, and the decoration is being discussed in more detail.

The Innerwick Parish Welfare Association are very grateful to Fred. Olsen Renewables for funding the vast majority of the project, and to Be Green for their contribution to insulation / heating as well.

PV Panels, Storage Batteries, and other improvements still to come!



EAST LAMMERMUIR
COMMUNITY COUNCIL