

Press release

RWE's Future Bright Report 2023 highlights transformative impact of community investment

- For 20 years, RWE's community fund programs have fostered local development by contributing £38 million to UK communities through renewable energy projects
- In 2023, RWE's community funds provided £5 million to local communities
- RWE is leading by example, dedicated to empowering communities across the UK by putting them in the driving seat

Swindon, 23 April 2024

RWE, the UK's largest power generator and leading renewable energy company, unveils its 2023 Future Bright Report. This annual report showcases the powerful influence of RWE's community investment initiatives on local communities across the UK. Reflecting on the past year, RWE celebrates the remarkable transformations driven by community-driven projects, underscoring its commitment to empowering communities and fostering sustainability.

RWE's community fund programme has to date contributed over £38 million to communities across the UK, reinforcing the company's dedication to community development and resilience. Through targeted investments, the funds aim to create lasting legacies and to support the UK's transition to net zero.

In 2023, RWE's community funds provided £5 million to local communities, leveraging £3.8 million in match funding. Additionally, supported initiatives have helped to create 63 jobs, safeguarded 190 more, and offered 2,685 volunteering opportunities and 2,788 education or training opportunities.

Funding in Action:

- The Brighton Bike Hub, powered by volunteers and supported by **Rampion Offshore Wind Farm Fund**, transforms Brighton's streets into safer, greener, and healthier avenues for travel and living. Financial support from the fund covered staff expenses and facilitated the acquisition of essential resources.
- The Green Team Community Café & Garden, backed by **Goole Wind Farms Community Fund**, serves as a hub for community engagement and sustainability efforts. With the

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fund's support, the organisation expanded its operations, addressing logistical hurdles and ensuring future sustainability.

• The Education and Training Fund from **Bad á Cheò Wind Farm** in Caithness provides local residents with access to learning opportunities essential for securing jobs in key industries. Managed by Foundation Scotland, these funds empower individuals and ensure fair and effective distribution within the community.

"I am amazed at the transformative impact of community-driven initiatives in 2023. RWE's funding programmes offer local residents the power to shape and directly influence the development of their communities," says **Katy Woodington, RWE Senior Community Investment Manager (UK & Ireland).** "Ensuring that local voices remain at the helm of decision-making is a paramount priority for me."

"As RWE's renewable energy projects expand across the UK, we are excited about launching new projects in 2024, which means the introduction of additional community funds."

RWE's Future Bright Report 2023 exemplifies the company's unwavering commitment to community empowerment, sustainability, and positive change. In the coming years the company will continue to foster partnerships, driving innovation, and creating brighter futures for communities across the UK.

Tom Glover, RWE UK Country Chair said: "Supporting and working alongside the communities where we operate sits at the core of our business. This year, we're thrilled to announce the community contribution from the projects we operate has reached £38 million. This is a testament not just to our commitment, but more so to the local volunteers whose dedication, creativity, and effort breathe life into projects within their neighbourhoods."

Community funds set up by RWE are managed directly by local independent organisations. Funding decisions are made by panels of local representatives who understand their communities best with the process designed to be flexible and easily accessible, allowing communities to drive their own development initiatives.

Innovative projects are funded by RWE's community funds supporting a wide range of initiatives and activities that bring communities together, have a lasting impact on improving health, wellbeing, and environmental sustainability, and contribute to a brighter future for all. To learn more about RWE's community fund programmes and the impactful projects supported by Future Bright, visit <u>here</u>, to read the Future Bright annual report visit <u>here</u>.



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RWE

RWE is leading the way to a green energy world. With its investment and growth strategy Growing Green, RWE is contributing significantly to the success of the energy transition and the decarbonization of the energy system. Around 20,000 employees work for the company in almost 30 countries worldwide. RWE is already one of the leading companies in the field of renewable energy. Between 2024 and 2030, RWE will invest 55 billion euros worldwide in offshore and onshore wind, solar energy, batteries, flexible generation, and hydrogen projects. By the end of the decade, the company's green portfolio will grow to more than 65 gigawatts of generation capacity, which will be perfectly complemented by global energy trading. RWE is decarbonizing its business in line with the 1.5-degree reduction pathway and will phase out coal by 2030. RWE will be net-zero by 2040. Fully in line with the company's purpose - Our energy for a sustainable life.

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