



FACT SHEET | REPOWERED COMMUNITY NEWHAM

BUILDING THE UK'S FIRST REPOWERED COMMUNITY

SUPPORTED BY



For more than a decade Repowering London has been empowering people to take control of their energy future. Now, with £1.5m in support from the National Lottery Community Fund (NLCF) we will be showing and sharing how to build a 'Repowered Community' that runs on locally generated, low-carbon energy - beginning in the London Borough of Newham.

The Repowered Community is Repowering London's clean energy neighbourhood model. It strengthens communities by delivering clean energy hand in hand with long-term local services and benefits. These benefits range from skills training to lower energy bills and funds for local investment.

NLCF research has shown that genuinely democratic governance models for energy infrastructure will help build a more just transition. The Repowered Community offers a demonstrable model for locally owned energy with the scale and resilience required to tackle the Climate Emergency effectively.

Photo: Ashden/Jon Spaul

Key benefits



The project is being co-created, working hand in hand with the wider community



We will use the best technology to suit the task - whether solar generation, low-carbon heat or energy-efficient retrofit



By making homes healthier and less expensive to heat we can reduce fuel poverty and tackle urban health deficits



People are prepared for a rewarding and resilient future with employability support, energy efficiency tools and advice

How a Repowered Community helps

The UK energy system is not working. Two-fifths of UK households are struggling with energy bills*, our houses are some of the worst-performing in Western Europe when it comes to energy-efficiency, and there is little evidence that current national Government retrofit schemes work for our poorest households. Meanwhile, privately owned energy companies are extracting greater levels of income from our communities to generate ever-growing profits, fuelling increasing levels of inequality. At the same time, they are delivering a declining service to customers, reducing trust in the energy sector. Newham is well aware of the effect of this system. It is the third-most-deprived Local Authority in London, has

*Source: End Fuel Poverty Coalition, August 2025



London's highest fuel poverty rate and is one of the London boroughs most exposed to the flood and overheating risks that come with climate change. Our project is directly aligned with the borough's Just Transition Plan, and recognises that a just transition to net zero – bringing with it a decentralised energy system – is an opportunity to address these problems.

What the Repowered Community project will deliver in Newham



- A **scalable structure** for people-led change that brings together Councils and communities
- A **long-term finance model** for large-scale urban community energy projects
- A holistic business model that creates **paid employment** for local people
- A model that can be repeated **across the UK**
- A community share offer **raising £200k** of investment
- Reduced energy costs for up to **750 households**, including:
 - Retrofit support for **200 homes**
 - Community-owned heat generation assets for **50 homes**
 - Local electricity supply to **500 homes**

Creating a movement

With the support of our expert partners (see right) we are developing a toolkit to let every urban community in the UK to become a Repowered Community using our model. This will let them generate low-carbon, affordable energy that is locally used and owned. The toolkit will be free to download from the Repowering London website, the websites of Community Energy England, Wales and Scotland, and from other partners.

Project partners

Community Energy Newham is supporting community engagement, co-design, and will test the toolkit.

Borough of Newham is providing access to sites, input to business models and supporting outreach to residents.

Dark Matter Labs is leading on design of a governance structure for locally led, low-carbon infrastructure projects.

London South Bank University is leading development of the community heat project and providing technical input.

Glasgow Community Energy will pilot the toolkit before it is rolled out nationwide.