

# Powering Dorset Together

## Growing your own community energy

Dorchester, 29 June 2017



# Regen



Projects

Membership

Events

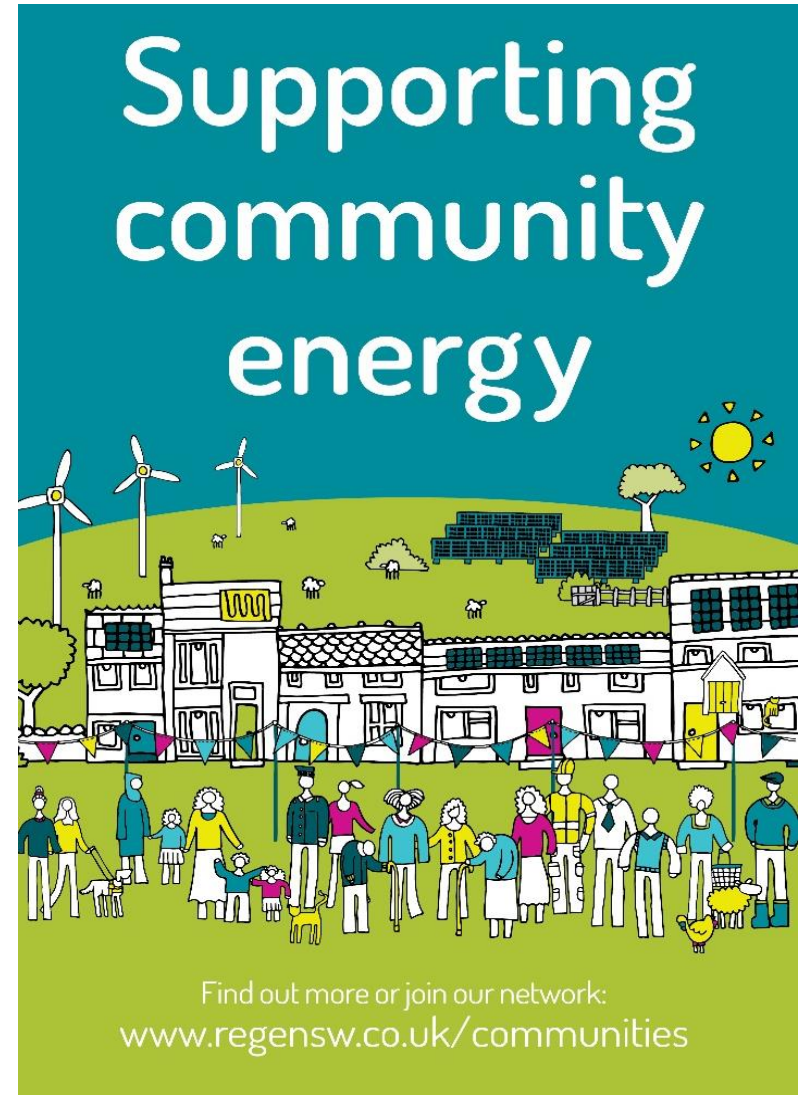


# Community energy network



Over **200** community energy groups in Regen network

- Events
- Updates
- Tailored support
- Policy

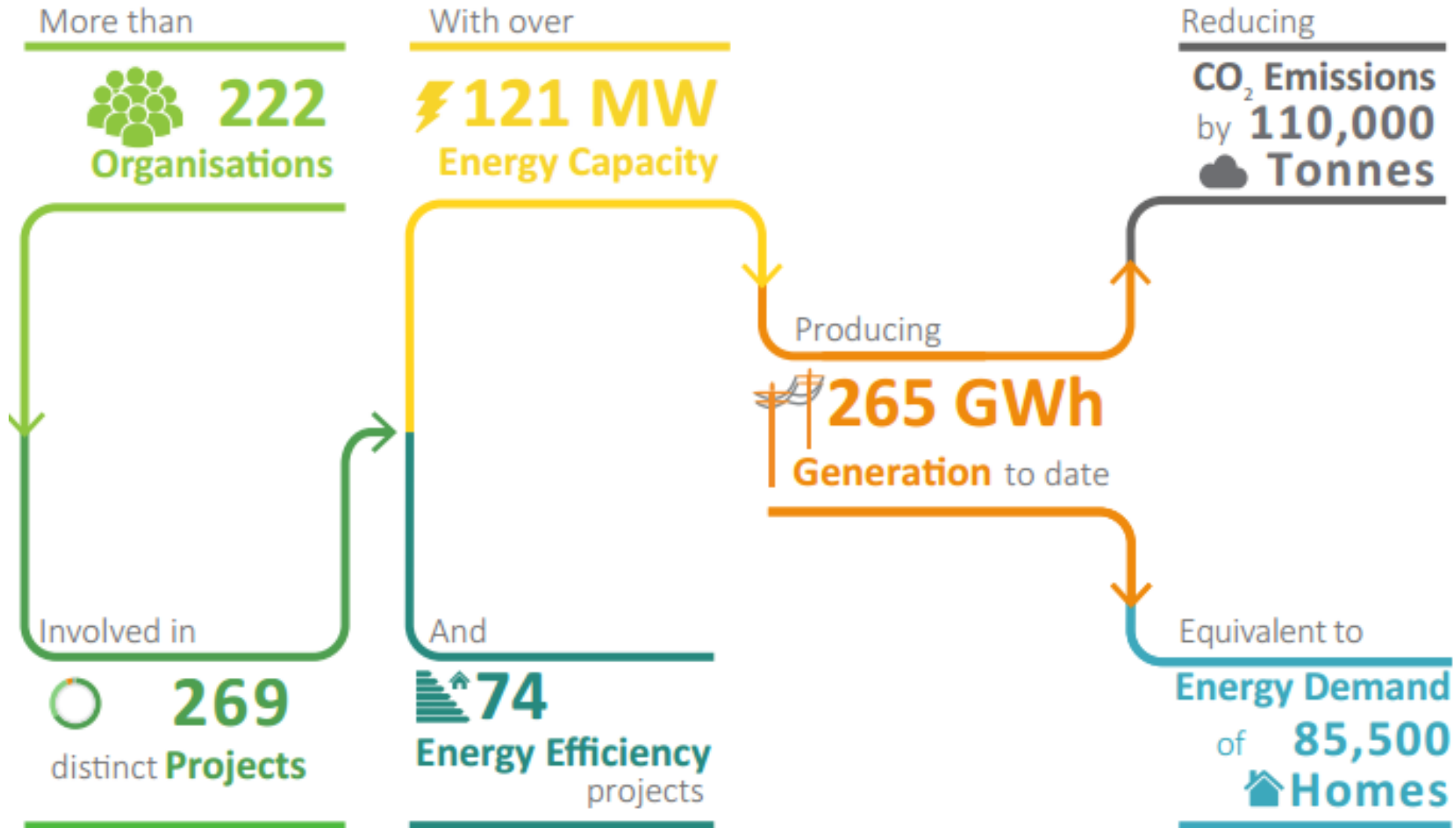


Find out more or join our network:  
[www.regen.co.uk/communities](http://www.regen.co.uk/communities)

# Why renewables ...



# Community energy is awesome



Source: Community Energy England [The State of the Sector Report](#).

# Community energy is awesome

Supported by

Early Stage Funding  
 **£1.9M**

Leveraging

 **£190M**  
further Investment

 **269**  
distinct Projects

Through

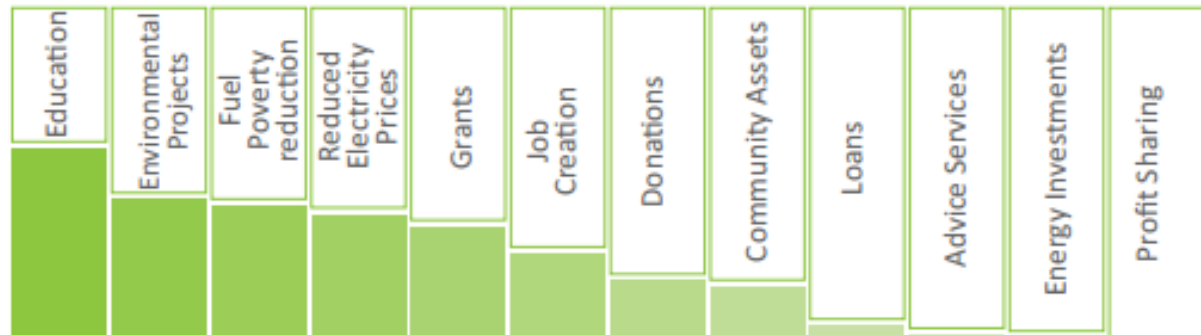


Delivering over

**£620K** last year in  
community benefits

 **127**  
full time Staff

Helping to fund



Source: Community Energy England [The State of the Sector Report](#).

# Community energy is awesome



# How much renewable energy is there in Dorset ...

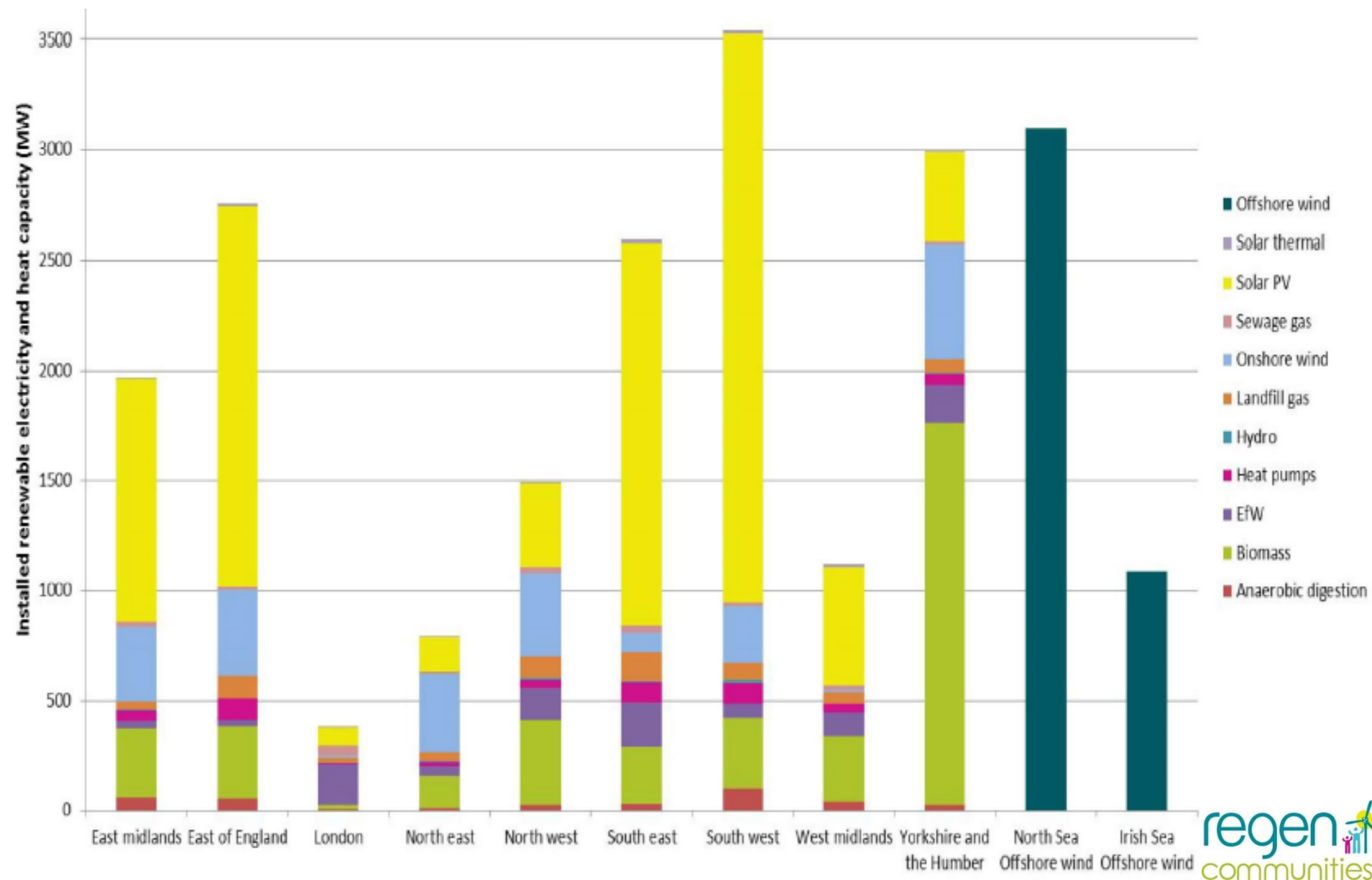


Figures taken from Regen's 2016 progress report for England

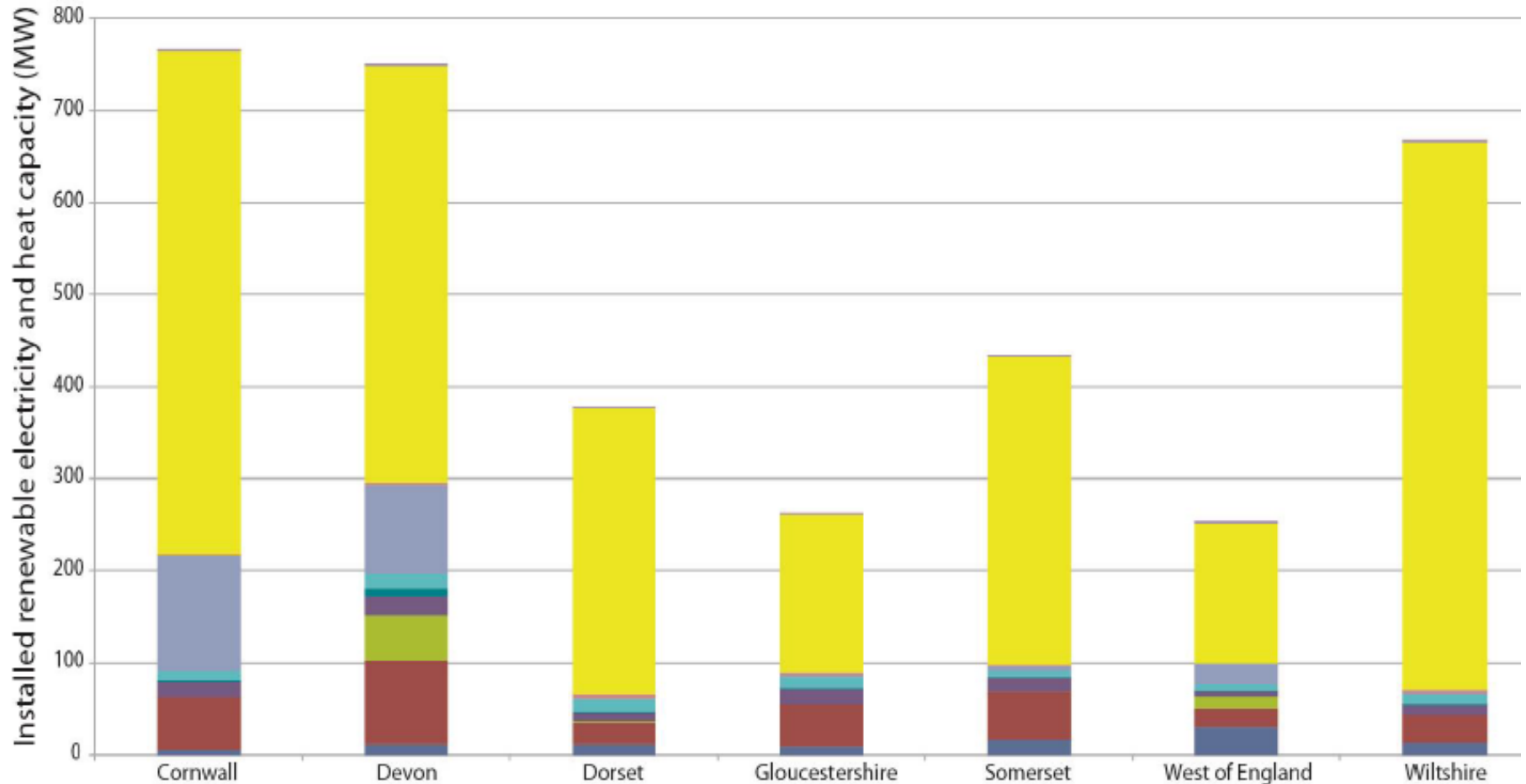
Method involves using national datasets and collecting, cleansing, cross-referencing and analysing the data



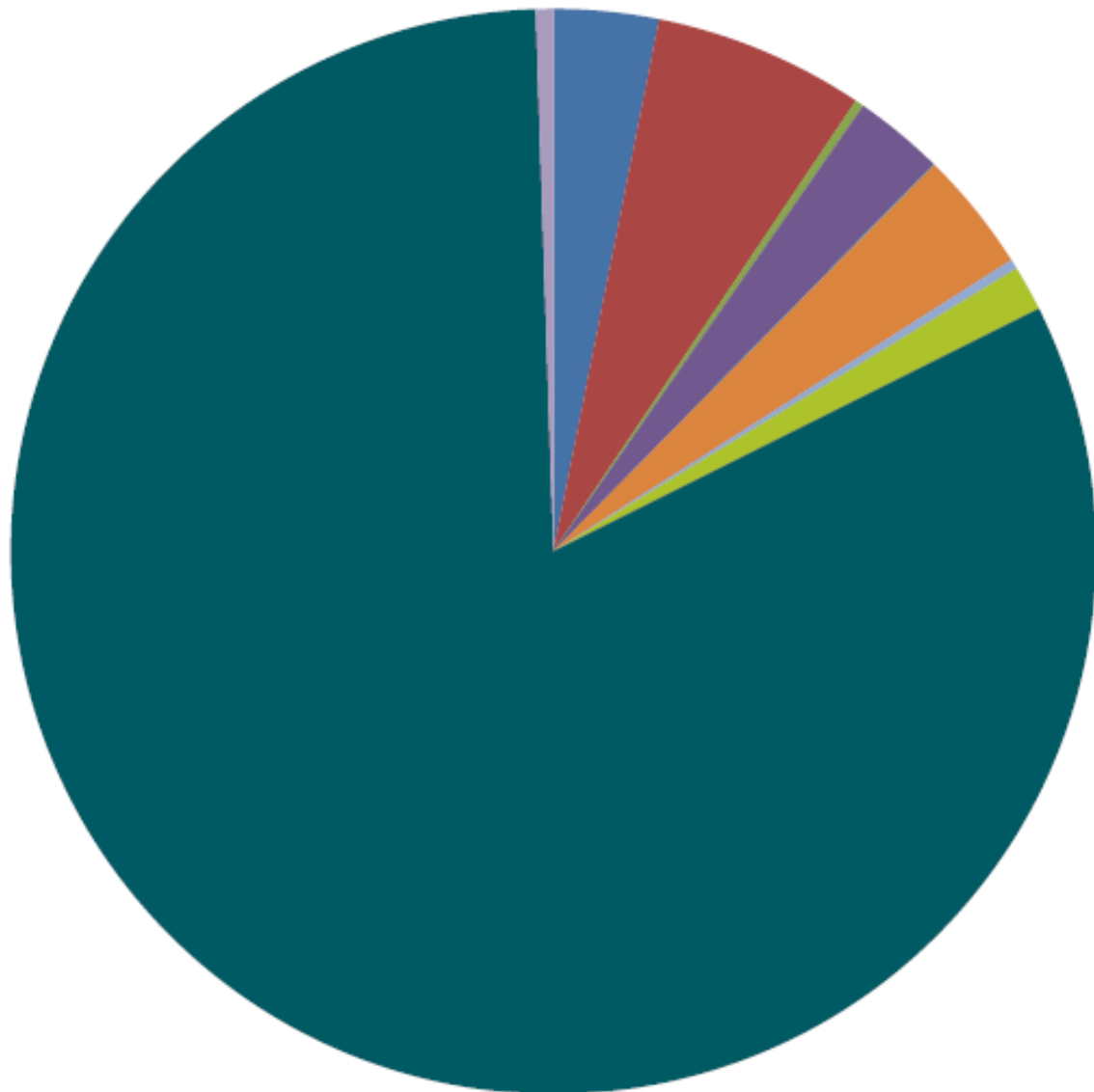
# Installed capacity comparison by English region



# Installed capacity in SW by county

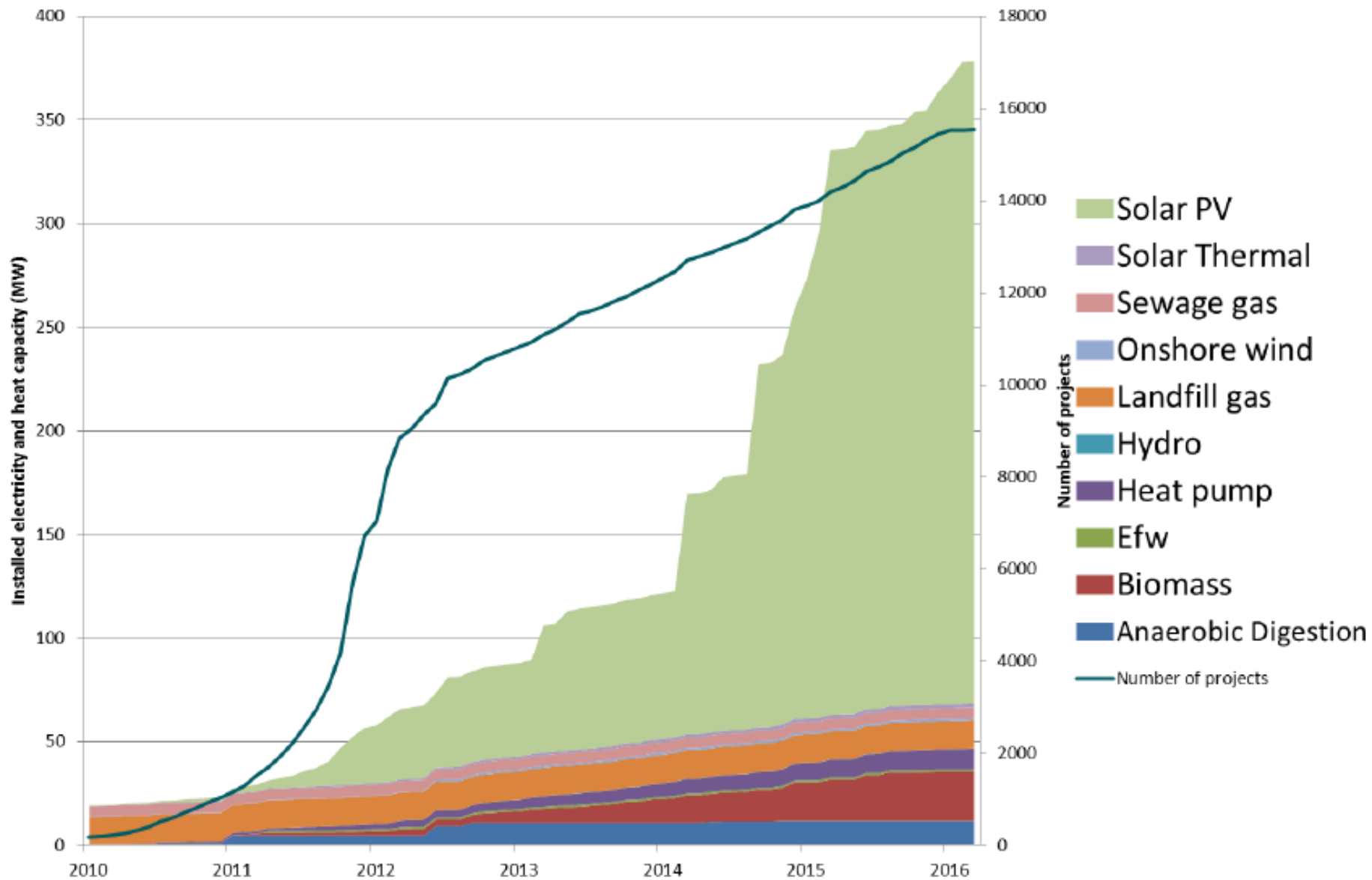


# Installed capacity (MW) by technology for Dorset Bournemouth and Poole

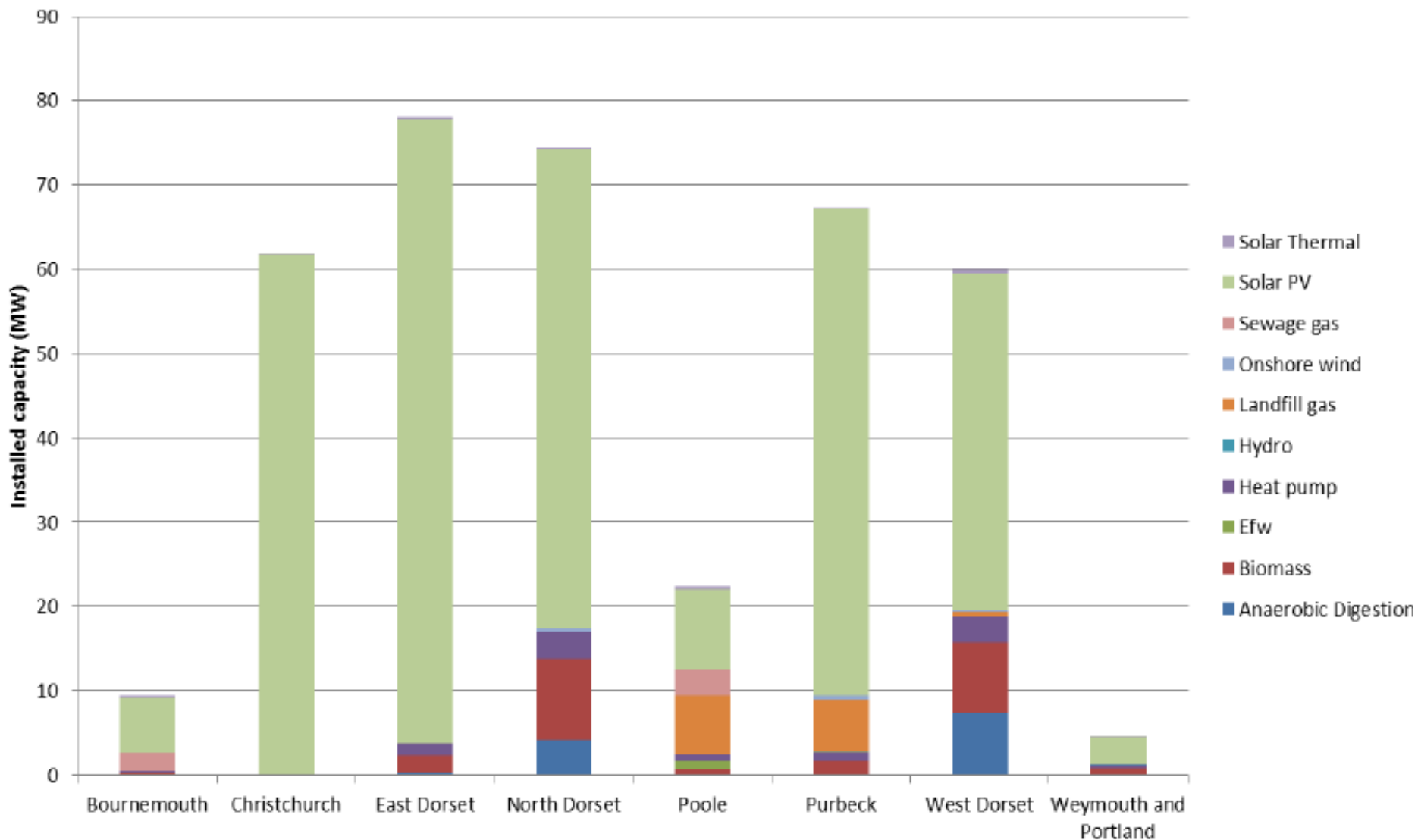


- Anaerobic Digestion
- Biomass
- Efw
- Heat pump
- Hydro
- Landfill gas
- Onshore wind
- Sewage gas
- Solar PV
- Solar Thermal

# Growth of renewables in Dorset Bournemouth and Poole



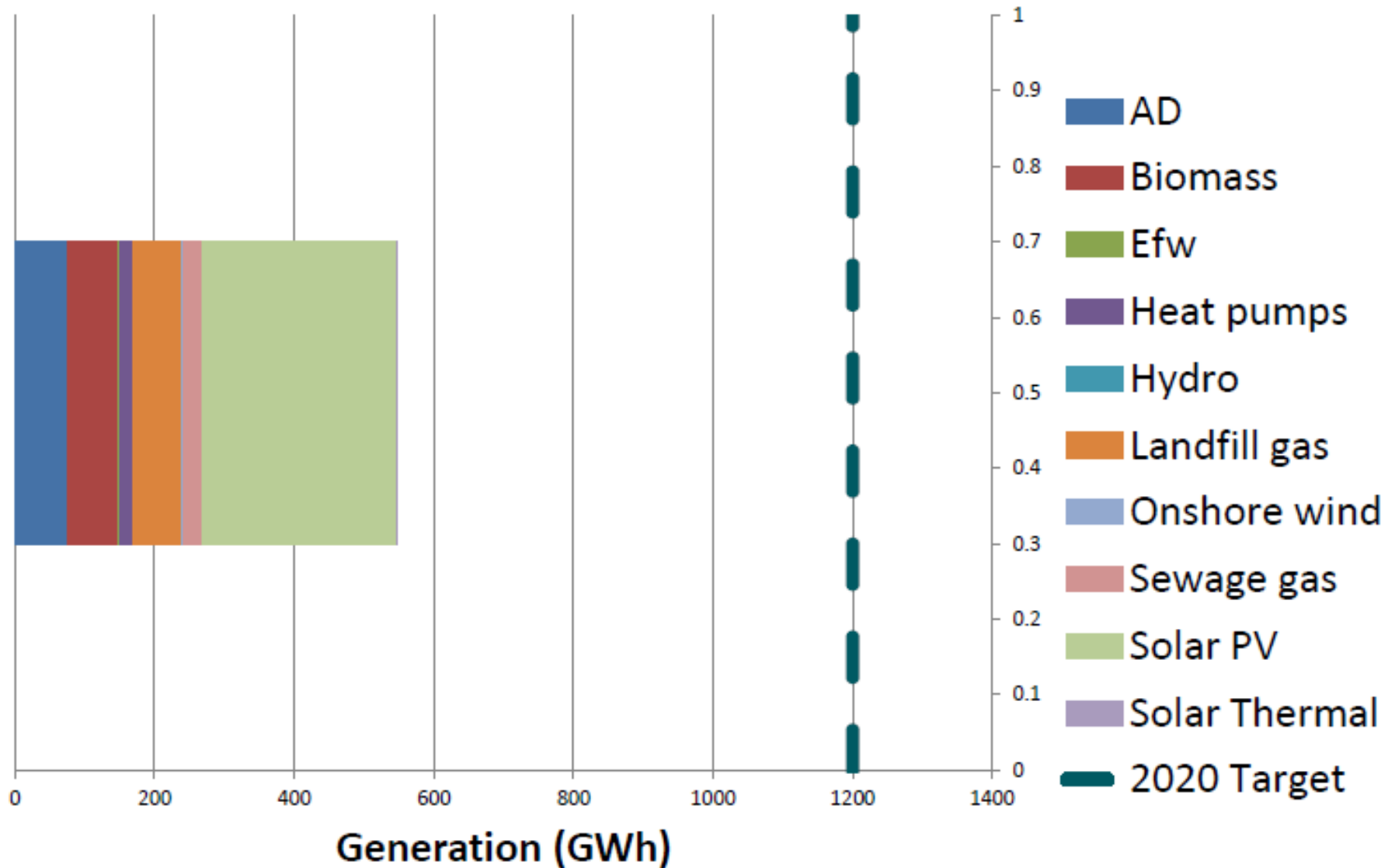
# Total installed capacity Dorset Bournemouth and Poole



# Homes with PV in Dorset Bournemouth and Poole

Area	Percentage of homes with PV	No of PV installations
West Dorset	4.8	2472
Poole	4.7	3212
North Dorset	4.5	1421
Purbeck	4.4	1002
East Dorset	4.1	1591
Weymouth and Portland	2.9	905
Christchurch	2.6	603
Bournemouth	2.3	2061

# Progress against 2020 targets in Dorset



## Comparison of generation figures

<b>LA</b>	<b>Electricity consumption met by renewable generation</b>	<b>Domestic heat consumption met from renewable heat</b>
Bournemouth	1%	1%
Christchurch	25%	0%
East Dorset	22%	2%
North Dorset	22%	9%
Poole	8%	2%
Purbeck	20%	3%
West Dorset	14%	6%
Weymouth and Portland	1%	1%
<b>Dorset, Bournemouth &amp; Poole</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>3%</b>



# Who is taking collective action ...



**DORSET  
COMMUNITY  
ENERGY**



**Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan**



**SUSTAINABLE  
DORSET**



**THE SCHOOLS' ENERGY  
CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED**

**LET'S GET  
ENERGIZED**

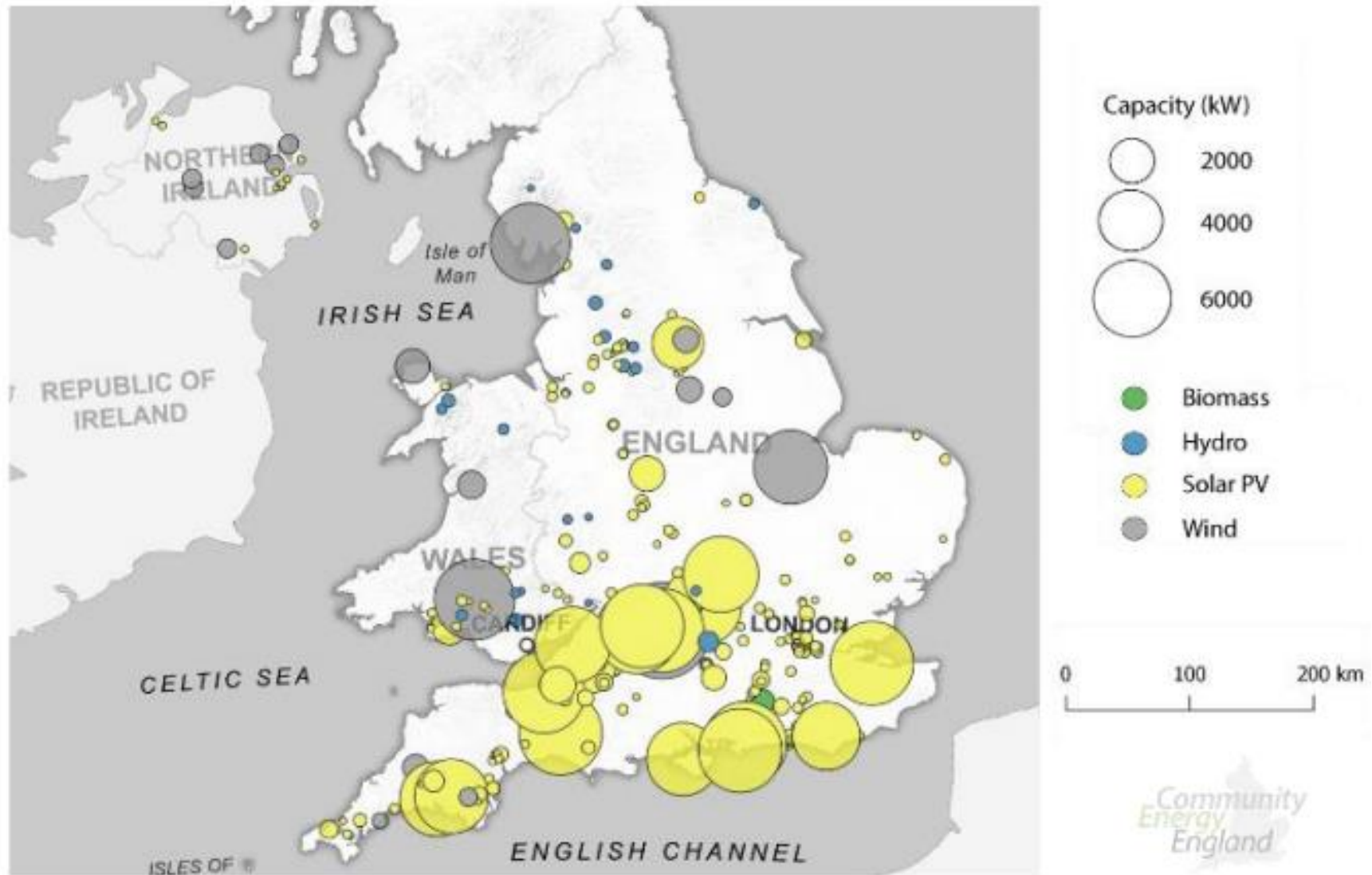
**HELPING YOU SAVE ENERGY AND MONEY**



# Rural Community Energy Fund grants



# Community energy in England and Wales ...



# ▶ Growing your own community energy now ...

The policy changes and reduction in Feed in Tariff mean it's not easy ... but there are still some opportunities:

- Funding from RCEF - £20k grants for feasibility
- Heat, solar and hydro projects
- Buy existing renewable energy assets
- Energy efficiency
- Neighbourhood Planning
- New models – local supply, storage, smart grids
- Build your network, engagement is key



# Peer Power in Dorset ... what's it all about?

- support existing groups in Dorset and Devon
- establish a local community energy peer network
- inspire the setup of 8 new community energy groups
- to enable more community energy projects to happen

- increase number of projects, MW of renewable energy installed, and £s of investment raised by groups

- December 2016 - April 2018

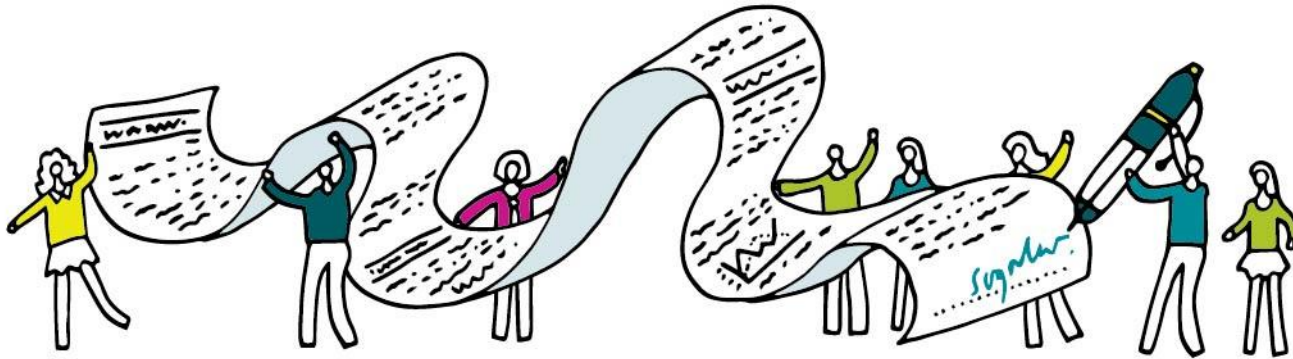


# Peer Power in Dorset ... the programme

- ✓ Dorset Renewables Grand Tour March 2017
- ✓ Smart Energy Marketplace – April 2017
- ★ Powering Dorset Together – TODAY
- ★ Dorset community energy feast – 28 Sep 2017
- ★ EWIRE – 4 Oct 2017
- ★ Arts and energy event – 9 Nov 2017
- ★ Establish local peer-to-peer network - Spring 2018

# Peer Power in Dorset ... what else is available?

- Ongoing expert support offered to community energy groups
- Travel bursaries available to enable community groups to participate in national conferences
- Free spaces for community women at EWIRE and other specified Regen events



# Powering Dorset Together

## Energy in Neighbourhood Planning

Dorchester, 29 June 2017



regen  
communities

power to  
change

LOTTERY FUNDED



# Background to local energy and neighbourhood plan pilot

Spring 2016 Regen pilot commissioned by Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC):

- Researched current inclusion of energy in NPs
- Drafted ambitious energy policies
- Worked with local neighbourhood planning and energy groups to map resource, consult and test draft policies
- Reviewed policies with expert and local authority stakeholders

# Neighbourhood planning growing

Neighbourhood Planning is spreading across the country

**1700+**

areas have started  
neighbourhood  
planning

**8 million**

people living in a  
neighbourhood  
planning area

**330+**

draft plans prepared  
by communities



successful referendums



average  
**33%**

voter  
turnout

on average  
**9 in 10**  
vote

**'YES'**

# Localism and community energy: ideologically akin

## Planning Practice Guidance: Renewable and low carbon energy

- Local and neighbourhood plans are the key to delivering development that has the backing of local communities.
- Neighbourhood plans are an opportunity for communities to plan for community led renewable energy developments.
- Neighbourhood Development Orders and Community Right to Build Orders can be used to grant planning permission for renewable energy development.

<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/renewable-and-low-carbon-energy/developing-a-strategy-for-renewable-and-low-carbon-energy/>



# Basic conditions for neighbourhood plans to meet

The "basic conditions" outlined in the Regulations are:

1. Having regard to national policies and advice contained in guidance issued by the Secretary of State, it is appropriate to make the neighbourhood development plan;
2. The making of the neighbourhood development plan contributes to the achievement of sustainable development;
3. The making of the neighbourhood development plan is in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area;
4. The making of the neighbourhood development plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations

# Options for Neighbourhood (Development) Planning

## Mini Local Plan

- Comprehensive coverage of policy issues.
- Allocate development sites for wide range of uses

## Neighbourhood Development Order (Minor development )

- Residential – minor development (e.g. house extensions, windows)
- Town centre - change of use / minor changes signage
- Business park / industrial estate minor development

## Policy and Allocation Plans

- Neighbourhood plans covering a narrower range of issues.
  - Often theme specific
- Allocate development sites for narrow range of uses.

## Single Policy Document

- Neighbourhood Plan covering a single policy issue (e.g. protection of green space)

## Neighbourhood Development Order (Site specific)

- Development of a particular site (e.g. small housing scheme under CRtB)

## Policy Plans

- Neighbourhood plans covering a broad range of policy issues.
  - No site allocations.
  - Similar to Parish Plans.
  - Augment Local Plan policy

# Why should a neighbourhood plan address energy

- **Taking control of the energy agenda in your area – proactive not reactive**
- **A more resilient local energy economy** – at present 92% of spending on electricity in the south west immediately leaves the south west economy.
- **Local ownership of energy generation**
- **Energy security** – bills are going up
- **Affordability of living in the community** – once local supply is possible
- **Tackling fuel poverty** – CIL funding etc. targeted at tackling fuel poverty
- **Job creation** – The renewable energy industry in the south west currently supports 10,000 jobs and attracted £740 million in investment in 2013/14

# How can a neighbourhood plan address energy?

1. Sustainability or resilience as a key crossing-cutting theme/driver/principle or setting a target for energy
2. Sustainable design policies
  - a. Policy on energy standards in new housing developments
  - b. Policy specifying higher non-domestic building standards
  - c. Policy requiring district heating networks to be constructed or connections made where feasible

# How can a neighbourhood plan address energy?

3. Retrofit policies
  - a. Policy to promote retrofitting of historic and listed buildings
  - b. Policy to require consequential improvements to the energy efficiency of homes and/or non-domestic buildings where extensions or other changes requiring planning permission are made.
4. Renewable energy policies
  - a. Policy supporting renewable energy, or specifying types supported or specifying criteria for support
  - b. Policy identifying potential renewable energy sites
  - c. Policy supporting local ownership
5. Non-planning role: Setting out actions that support the delivery of sustainable energy and/or projects that could be funded with CIL funding – e.g. Establishing a local renewable energy company , actions to support the roll out of smart meters or trials



# Contact us

We're always keen to hear from you. Call us, email or pop in for a cup of tea...



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delivering sustainable energy