

Officer Decisions

Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment - Dave Black

Summary of Matter or Issue Requiring Decision

Devon County Council (DCC) officer response to the Department of Energy and Climate Change 'Consultation on a Review of the Feed-in Tariffs Scheme'.

Decision Taken

An officer response has been submitted to the Department of Energy and Climate Change stating that it is believed the proposed, immediate cuts to the FiT tariff rates are too steep. Instead a shallower trajectory of degression from 2016 with a more rapid degression towards 2019 would enable the industry to adapt and prepare for a subsidy-free industry while achieving the same outcomes for consumers' bills and the Levy Control Framework. Furthermore, community-owned schemes should receive more favourable FiT rates to encourage this fledgling sector that has significant scope to strengthen local economies and provide income for further local projects.

Summary of Reason(s) for Decision Taken

Summary of Alternatives or Options considered and rejected

The alternative is to support DECC's proposed rapid reduction of FiT rates from January 2016, which for the reasons explained above would be detrimental to the sector.

Details of any conflict of interest and dispensation granted to the Officer taking the decision or by any Member of the Council in delegating responsibility for any specific express delegation

The consultation response was prepared on behalf of the Head of Planning, Transportation and Environment by the Principal Environmental Policy Officer who regularly volunteers with Exeter Community Energy.

Contact for enquiries/further information

Doug Eltham

A copy of this decision and any supporting documentation considered by the Officer taking this decision may also be made available or inspection by the public at the Council's Offices or posted upon payment of any copying and postage charges. Any member of the public wishing to take up either of these options is asked to please ring 01392 382888 or email: members.services@devon.gov.uk