

Dear Sir/Madame,

I welcome the opportunity to input into this call for evidence. As a recipient of SP Energy Networks (SPEN) Green Economy Fund; I can categorically say for community-led organisations there had not been a fund like it.

Not only did it address green issues but it also gave the community an opportunity to take ideas from a grassroots level and catalyse these into being, creating green-jobs, reducing emissions and supporting some of the most vulnerable people in society.

Indeed, our Revolutionize project, green collection and delivery service using e-cargo bikes, with SPENs support is now looking at being part of the framework of smarter, more sustainable, cities of tomorrow.

The proposed Net Zero Fund, in SPENs RIIO-ED2 business plan - CHAPTER 4 / PART B

I welcome this fund whole heartedly as a transition from the Green Economy Fund. I cannot emphasize, with over 22 years experience in financial services and sourcing funds for community based projects how important and unique this fund will be.

It gets to the heart of the climate crisis and the support that comes from SPEN along with the networking and frameworks that can be accessed by a community based project is a vital reason for this fund to exist.

Innovation, empowerment, and resilience are all words we use that carry so much weight; through this fund these words form a reality and with some of the best ideas hidden away amongst grassroots initiatives this will again allow the wisdom of the community to be given a portal to fast track solutions for the climate crisis and for us all to reach our mutual goals.

I personally would be happy to give further evidence via a video or phone call.

If you require further information or indeed wish to speak please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,

Rashid Khaliq