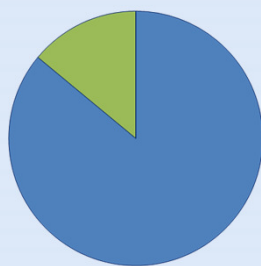


## How are Community Renewables faring in Scotland?

May 2012

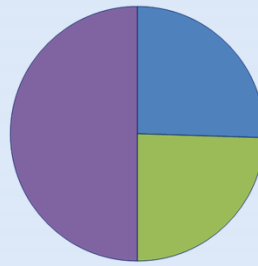
Scotland has the potential for a renewables revolution, similar to that seen in Germany and Denmark, in the production of energy. However, **without Scottish communities on board**, it's unlikely to happen. The Danes and Germans own about 86% and 50% of their renewable energy generation, respectively. In Scotland, which has better renewable resources, that figure is just over 3%.

*European local renewable energy ownership compared:*



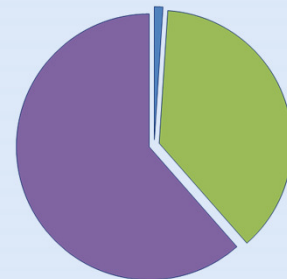
**Denmark**  
(3734 MW)

■ Locally owned



**Germany**  
(54430 MW)

■ Commercially owned



**Scotland**  
(6590 MW)

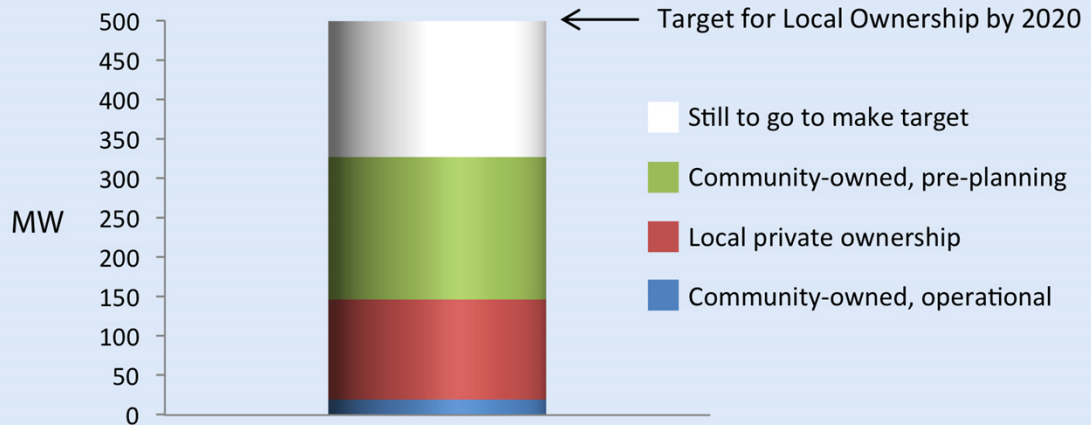
■ Estimated untapped potential

The Scottish Government's modest target of 500 MW of energy being locally owned by 2020 is to be welcomed. However, there are real concerns that, of the 147 MW currently designated as being owned by communities, only 20 MW – barely enough to power Musselburgh – is actually under community ownership. Most of the remaining 87% is in the private hands of farmers and other landowners.

It's **not too late** for Scottish communities to reap the full benefits that renewables are offering their Danish and German counterparts. In fact, we estimate that a massive 180 MW – enough to power Aberdeen - of true community renewable energy is currently queued up in various stages of the planning process. For this to get developed, communities will need to have access to finance, the support of local authorities, and leverage over grid-providers.

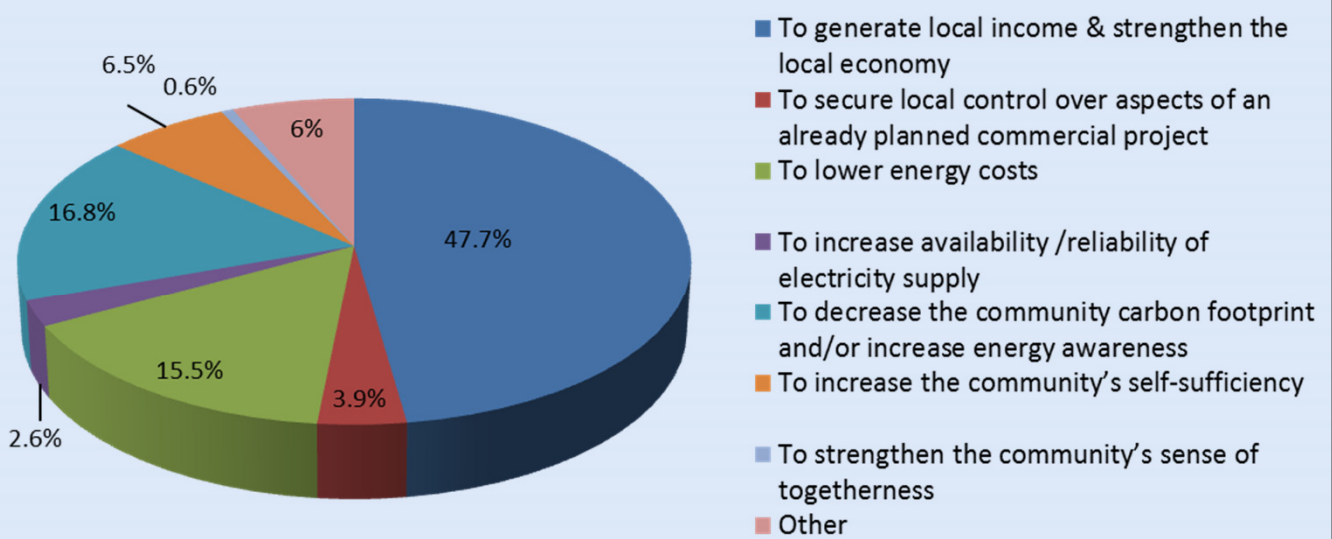
Ownership of energy is potentially more rewarding than the benefit payments that developers typically provide to affected communities. Fintry, a small village in Stirlingshire, is set to earn £400k annually from a single turbine. Three small turbines on the Isle of Gigha, meanwhile, earn more for the community than all the benefit payments in Argyll & Bute combined.

### The present state of Scottish community renewables:



Compared to many of their European counterparts, most **Scottish communities are still missing out** on the full benefits that renewable energy has to offer. In terms of onshore wind alone, about 4.5 GW remains undeveloped – or roughly 1 kW per Scottish inhabitant. Like the 180 MW of community projects currently awaiting financing and planning permission, the future of this world-class resource can go one of two ways. In one case, Scottish communities and businesses receive the space and support they need to work together effectively in bringing about a real renewable energy revolution that sees benefits flowing to both. In the second case, Scottish communities and businesses continue to lose out as profits keep flowing into only a handful of pockets - many of them overseas - while opposition to renewable development continues to grow at home. To learn more, or to get involved, visit us at: <http://scenetwork.co.uk/sceneconnect>

### Motivations for communities to engage in renewable energy:



[scenetwork.co.uk/sceneconnect](http://scenetwork.co.uk/sceneconnect)