



## COMMUNITY INITIATIVES DIRECTOR

**Are you the person** to lead a new initiative to enable local communities to thrive through the improved distribution of community funds generated by wind farms?

A significant proportion of the income generated by Blue Energy's onshore wind farms is ring-fenced for distribution for the benefit of the community. Blue Energy Sustainable Communities Initiative (BESCI) is recruiting an **Initiatives Director** to encourage and support excellent applications to our fund, to ensure that the money generated by Blue Energy wind farms is spent in the ways that make the most positive difference.

The BESCI fund will have an initial budget of just under £1M to distribute annually, in allotted pots, in five host communities, four of which are in rural **Scotland**. As a generator of clean renewable electricity, we will encourage applications to our fund that reflect sustainable values and help generate more sustainable communities. BESCI will be supported in this by award-winning social enterprise Cooler Projects, and the Initiatives Director will also have responsibility for supporting higher levels of Carbon Literacy in England and Scotland.

Mainly working (and very likely to based) in Scotland, you will be an **excellent communicator, self-motivated and organised**, probably with experience in **community development, social or commercial enterprise and initiative or project management**. An average of probably three days out of five will be spent out of the office, meeting and working directly with applicant communities, and extensive travelling albeit in some of the most beautiful landscapes in the UK. This is a role for a "doer" who wants to make a real difference.

This role will require you to **get under the surface of the communities, organisations and businesses that BESCI works with** – to understand their needs and concerns, their ambitions and challenges, and most of all how BESCI funding and Carbon Literacy can help them **thrive in the long term**. This will never mean imposing imported 'wisdom' but it could well mean **bringing new elements or resources to current thinking** so that ideas and projects can take flight. We are seeking projects and applications that act as catalysts, and BESCI is not averse to supporting appropriate **commercial enterprise**.

You will be **passionate about the task**.

You will be equally at home talking with a major land owner as much as a school leaver with a bright idea for a local business, and know how to **get on with people**.

You will know how to **support people and organisations, manage a project, balance the needs of many stake-holders** and have a very good understanding of the way real sustainable development can be a catalyst for positive change in local communities.

This job will also require you to **understand why climate change is such a pressing issue and how best to deal with it** at a local level.

We **have no preconceptions** about the background of the suitable candidate and **salary will be dependent on experience, qualification, and training required**, but we have **budgeted for a salary circa £40k pa** with excellent benefits and 25 days a year paid holiday.

The right candidate will be able to demonstrate their enthusiasm and suitability for what is a highly innovative and exceptional role.

There is a full **Job Description** below, and more about BESCI at [www.besci.org.uk](http://www.besci.org.uk).

To apply, email a **covering letter and c.v.** to [info@besci.org.uk](mailto:info@besci.org.uk) by midnight **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April**. We intend interviewing shortlisted candidates, in Manchester, in the week commencing 1<sup>st</sup> May 2017.

BESCI is an equal opportunities employer.

## Director BESCO

**Title:** Director Blue Energy Sustainable Community Initiatives Limited

### Role Description:

Blue Energy is a highly experienced developer of renewable energy projects and has developed and constructed circa 500MW of onshore wind and solar assets in the UK since 2010.

A subsidiary of Blue Energy, Blue Energy Sustainable Community Initiatives Limited (“**BESCO**”) has been established to manage the significant community benefit funds associated with these projects. This innovative entity will ensure that the communities in and around projects realise the benefit from the revenue streams generated by these community assets on a sustainable basis. It will be a key criterion for approval of projects selected for community benefit funding that these projects materially contribute to the on-going economic, environmental and community well-being of their areas and wherever possible will act as catalysts for securing further benefits, funding and investment.

BESCO is seeking to hire a highly motivated and engaging Director to oversee and support the selection and successful delivery of projects and initiatives in the local communities surrounding our wind farms. The Director will be responsible for, amongst other things:

- stimulating, developing and supporting appropriate funding applications;
- the administration and delivery of a fair and transparent project selection process;
- raising awareness of the availability of other sources of funding and, where possible, supporting applications to these funds and seeking to match and additionally fund supported projects;
- oversight of projects in progress; and
- managing communications and publicity for BESCO’s activities and successes;

The appointee is likely to be based in Scotland, where the majority of Blue Energy’s existing projects are located. The role will involve a significant amount of travel to each of the local communities on a regular basis, but flexible working arrangements may be accommodated for the preferred candidate.

The role will also incorporate a complementary task advocating for and supporting the development of Carbon Literacy (CL) in Scotland. The Carbon Literacy Project is a ground-breaking initiative that already has a foothold in the country across a variety of sectors. This part of the role will involve the Director working with the Project to identify and approach key sectors and organisation to support the take up of Carbon Literacy.

The remuneration package is commensurate with the level of responsibility and experience the role requires. The salary is up to £45,000 (subject to the candidate's experience) with a 5% employer's pension contribution, 25 days paid holiday, travel expenses and other benefits.

**Key personal attributes:**

- Excellent inter-personal communication skills;
- The ability to work with a wide range of partners with both authority and empathy;
- Knowledge of/ability to gain knowledge of the key principles of sustainable community development in rural settings;
- Knowledge of/ability to gain knowledge of the partner communities;
- Knowledge of/ability to gain knowledge of existing community funding streams and opportunities to leverage additional funding in support of projects;
- The ability to work across a number of geographically diverse locations, mainly in Scotland, approximately three days a week;
- Excellent organisational skills;
- Financial literacy and numeracy;
- Self-managing, motivated, and emotionally resilient;
- The ability to be an effective mediator and negotiator on behalf of BESCO;
- The ability to be creative, innovative and entrepreneurial in identifying and nurturing opportunities for the company and its partner communities;
- The ability to represent the best interests of both BESCO and the partner communities with the overarching aim of delivering the mission of the company; and
- The ability to advocate for the development of a low carbon culture through the medium of Carbon Literacy.

**Desirable experience and qualifications:**

The successful candidate may have experience of:

- Working in community settings;
- Handling funding and funding processes;
- Business and entrepreneurship (including in social enterprise);
- Delivering community, environmental and sustainability focussed projects;
- Working with (assessing, applying for, administering, successfully delivering to/with) community funds, particularly in Scotland;
- Delivery of community benefit funds from other renewable energy projects; and
- Leveraging additional funding to support projects.

**It is likely to be advantageous if the successful candidate:**

- Is a university graduate
- Is Carbon Literate
- Has experience of working in rural Scotland.