

# COMMUNITY HEATING GETS CASH FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE



Greenwich Millennium Village - Connected to Community Heating

On January 24th the Environment Minister, Michael Meacher, launched the £50 million Community Energy programme to support the refurbishment of existing, and the installation of new, Community (District) Heating schemes.

The intention is that, according to the Minister, these schemes "will provide carbon savings; help to alleviate fuel poverty among householders, and reduce fuel costs for hospitals, universities and other community buildings".

The £50 million available for capital expenditure over the next two years is split into two tranches - £20m in 2002/03 and £30m in 2003/04. The money is targeted at Local Authorities, Registered Social Landlords, Hospitals, Universities and other public service organisations. The scheme is jointly managed by the Energy Saving Trust and the Carbon Trust.

The Government hope that this funding will help trigger further investment from a combination of other public and private sources and could include:

- Money allocated under Regeneration and Housing budgets ([www.regeneration.detr.gov.uk/hrp/tables.htm](http://www.regeneration.detr.gov.uk/hrp/tables.htm))
- Other incentives for energy efficiency funding including:
  - Energy Efficiency Commitments;
  - Affordable Warmth ([www.affordablewarmth.co.uk](http://www.affordablewarmth.co.uk)),
  - Fuel poverty programmes. In England and Wales these include Warm Front (previously known as new HEES), and Warm Zones
  - Enhanced Capital Allowances

- Incentives for renewable energy, including £33 million to support schemes generating electricity and/or heat from bio-fuels, announced under the New Opportunities Fund.
- In particular areas, schemes may be eligible for Coalfields Community Regeneration Funds. Others may use Landfill Tax credits.
- Private finance, e.g. from a bank or leasing company, or an Energy Services Company ([www.partnershipsuk.org.uk/puk/index.htm](http://www.partnershipsuk.org.uk/puk/index.htm)).

Onyx Sheffield Ltd is delighted to see this commitment from the Government, which clearly recognises the contribution of District Heating to energy efficiency and the environment. We hope that this will encourage businesses and institutions to come forward with ideas for creating new, or refurbishing their existing, District Heating systems.

The Government is particularly keen on creating large systems by joining together a number of smaller individual schemes, as the efficiency and economics improve with size and diversity. Our established scheme, in Sheffield, is a prime example of what the Government aims to achieve.

Onyx Sheffield would be happy to work closely with anybody who believes they may have a project, large or small, that may be eligible for this type of support. We have the expertise to advise on design, installation and operation as well as assisting you to make the grant application to the relevant bodies.

If you would like further details on how we could help please call Peter Mildenstein on **0114 272 4278**.

## Jump for Charity and for Joy – Can You Help?

All in the name of a good cause  
Peter Mildenstein, Manager  
of Energy Recovery,

will do a  
sponsored  
parachute  
jump to raise  
funds for  
The  
Children's  
Appeal,  
Sheffield  
Children's Hospital.



The jump takes place at the end of May of this year and will help to raise funds for a number of different purposes including helping the hospital to buy specialist medical equipment, assisting them to carry out pioneering medical research as well as to improve facilities and amenities.

Peter volunteered to do the jump after spotting the poster on the office noticeboard. "This is something I have always wanted to do but now there is the added incentive of raising funds for a worthwhile cause. I am still looking for more sponsors to make my jump a worthwhile one for all the children who are treated in the hospital every day."

Every penny counts so please pledge any amount you can to make the children and fundraisers at Sheffield Children's Hospital jump for joy when Peter's parachute jump is over.

If you would like to sponsor Peter please contact him on **0114 272 4278** or e-mail him on [pmildenstein@onyxgroup.co.uk](mailto:pmildenstein@onyxgroup.co.uk).