**Branch Draft Motion**

‘[insert Co-operative Branch name] notes the ongoing energy crisis which has impacted communities across the UK since Autumn 2021 and which has left many unable to pay their energy bills, with households being forced to choose between heating their homes and eating.

Agrees that with prices reaching record highs and more people every year impacted by the crisis, there has never been a more important moment to invest in cheap, clean renewable energy produced and owned locally.

This Co-operative Branch believes that community energy offers an important opportunity to empower communities, give local people a fairer deal on energy and tackle the climate crisis.

Therefore this Branch commends the Co-operative Party for it’s ‘Local Power for Local People’ campaign and recognises that there are already a number of community energy schemes locally\* [insert examples here]/recognises that at present there are no community energy schemes in our area and resolves to promote these initiatives locally and write to the leader of [insert local authority] asking to support the expansion of community energy schemes.

\*You can use the Co-operative Party’s ‘Local Power Locator’ tool to find these, the tool also enables you to contact your local MP to ask them to support the expansion of community energy schemes. (England only at present)

\*If you are in other parts of the UK, the UK Co-operatives directory allows you to see what is going in your area. <https://www.uk.coop/directory> simply select your region and co-op type.