**Branch/Council Leader letter**

Dear [insert council leader]

We are writing to you about supporting the expansion of community energy projects in [local authority].

**If you have community energy schemes in your area**: I recently found out there are only [insert number of community energy schemes]\* community energy schemes in our local area. While every single scheme makes a difference,

**If there are currently no community energy schemes in your area**: I recently found out there are no community energy schemes in our constituency, which is disappointing as community energy has the potential to transform who owns and benefits from energy production in the UK, I believe we need to rapidly expand the number of community energy projects in [council area] and across the UK.

We believe that there is a huge opportunity for local authorities to work with community energy organisations to tackle the crisis’ that we face today, for examples the increasing cost of living and the environmental challenges that climate change has presented us with.

Supporting the establishment and growth of community energy initiatives can have benefits to our area including local wealth building, creating net zero jobs, community behaviour change and added value to local authority investment.

The Co-operative Party’s campaign ‘Local Power for Local People’ is asking those at all levels of government to do their bit in working to make community energy more accessible by supporting the expansion of schemes.

As the leader of [insert local authority] I ask that you support the aims of the Co-operative Party’s campaign and do all you can to see the establishment of more community energy schemes in our area.