



# Community Council for Somerset

Supporting Action in Your Community

Dear Sir/Madam

We are making contact with you to make you aware of an exciting new venture from the Community Council for Somerset (CCS) that could bring significant benefit to you and other people in your community - the Somerset Community Oil Scheme!

## **WHAT IS THE SCHEME?**

We are using the model of a local buying syndicate for domestic heating oil and rolling it out across the county of Somerset. We believe there is great strength in harnessing the purchasing power of the many rural communities who are without mains gas so that together, oil-buyers are able to make significant savings. Experience has already shown that it's possible to make a saving of up to £40 on a single order. And since the scheme is only in its infancy, we see no reason why we can't improve on that. There are other benefits too – reduced carbon footprint (less oil tankers on our roads), a move towards renewable energy sources and a contribution to funds to support both CCS and local community environmental projects.

## **WHY IS CCS DOING THIS?**

As a publicly funded charity, we know that there will be difficult times ahead and we want to safeguard our future and our ability to advise and support rural communities across Somerset. In order to do this we are working with a partner organisation called Community Buying unLtd. Our aim is that not only will we be able to help households to save money, but we will also be able to generate some income for CCS. And you can be entirely confident that this is not a scam – it's simply about bulk-buying.

## **WHAT WE ARE ASKING OF YOU?**

We are an organisation that supports action in local communities, and we want to run the scheme in a way that reflects this philosophy. So we are looking for local people to play a small part in getting things off the ground and helping it to grow. Your local networks will be important! A poster and leaflet about the scheme are attached for your information.

## **INTERESTED? NOT INTERESTED?**

We would very much like to talk to you to explain in more detail about the scheme – but please be assured that if you tell us you aren't interested, we won't contact you. If you aren't especially interested yourself but can think of someone who might be, we'd love you to pass this on to them.

If you don't tell us not to contact you, we will follow this note up with a phone call or e-mail. We look forward to telling you more about it!

You can e-mail us on [oil@somersetccc.org.uk](mailto:oil@somersetccc.org.uk), call us on 01823 331222, or check out more information at [www.somersetccc.org.uk/oil](http://www.somersetccc.org.uk/oil)

Yours sincerely

Katherine Armstrong  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**



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