

## Mark Lancaster MP welcomes greater say for local communities over wind farms

City MP Mark Lancaster has welcomed changes introduced by the government to give local people a greater say over the building of wind farms in their community.

The announcement today will see a shift in the balance of power to local communities in deciding whether to agree to onshore wind proposals. Communities that do agree to their being built will see households receive a generous reduction in their energy bills.

Where local councils have identified areas suitable for wind farm projects they will not be obliged to give planning permission if they think the impact on the local area will be unacceptable.

With three wind farm proposals in the pipeline within Milton Keynes at the moment, Mark, who has been campaigning for over 5 years for wind farms to be built in the right places and not at the detriment of local communities, was delighted with the news.

Mark said, "Renewable energy is essential for a sustainable future but it shouldn't be at the detriment of our local communities. I have long been an advocate on this issue and am pleased the government has finally recognised this."