

## LOCAL ENERGY CHALLENGE FUND INFO SHEET

**Funding Type: Feasibility (£24,000)**

**Location: Scottish Borders**

Energise Galashiels Trust is a community group set up with the aim of encouraging regeneration and development within Galashiels. The group has developed a Zero-Carbon Strategy in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders. The Energise Galashiels Local Energy Challenge Fund project is part of this zero carbon vision.

Energise Galashiels project aims to unlock the potential of the energy held in the waterways in the Borders. The aim to revive the cauld and mill lades of the Gala Water as an energy source for Galashiels. A key challenge is that the energy potential of rivers throughout the area can be difficult to capture; they have relatively low water head heights and there is a lack of suitable technology to use in these circumstances.

The Trust will use the funding to assess the feasibility of using an innovative hydro generation technology 'the Water Engine' as a solution to this challenge. The project could provide a demonstrator that, if successful, may be applicable to many other waterways in the town, across the Borders and in other areas of Scotland.



*'The Gala Water and its mill lades were the reason why Galashiels developed in the first place, providing the power for industry. We are confident that power can be harnessed again to generate hydro-electricity, and contribute towards making Galashiels a more sustainable and resilient community.'*

**W.Ranald Boydell- Energise Galashiels Trust**

A wheelpit on the town lade.

Visit [www.localenergyscotland.org/challenge](http://www.localenergyscotland.org/challenge) to find out more about the innovative local energy projects supported through the Scottish Government's Local Energy Challenge Fund