

MEDIA RELEASE



**For immediate release
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Numbers add up for power scheme

Cardinia Shire residents and business operators are being encouraged to join a community-led scheme to save on energy bills.

Council is supporting Beaconsfield Progress Association's 'Power in numbers' bid to get substantial discounts on electricity and gas bills via a bulk purchasing agreement.

The BPA has signed off on a community group buying scheme for households and businesses with energy retailer AGL and its subsidiary Power Direct.

About 800 people have already registered their interest in joining the scheme which organisers say has been developed to suit every home and business in Cardinia and Casey.

BPA spokesperson Angleo D'Amelio said it was still not too late to register interest in the scheme.

Mr D'Amelio said information sessions would be held at the Cardinia Cultural Centre, Lakeside Boulevard, Pakenham from 9am–3pm on January 27 and 28 and February 3 and 4 to enable residents to find out more.

"Alternatively, people can now call the dedicated number 1300 767 949 with a copy of their latest energy bill and quote 'the BPA Power Group Deal' to discuss the scheme and/or sign up over the phone or visit www.powergrouppurchasing.com.au/bpa," Mr D'Amelio said.

Mayor Cr Ed Chatwin said Council had agreed to support the scheme on the basis of helping residents get the best possible price from electricity and gas retailers.

"Hopefully the result will be very positive for residents of Cardinia Shire," Cr Chatwin said.

Event: Power buying scheme information sessions
Venue: Cardinia Cultural Centre, Lakeside Boulevard, Pakenham
When: 27, 28 January; 3, 4 February 2012 from 9am–3pm

Ends

Media enquiries or more information contact Paul Dunlop on 5945 4388 or Andrea Bortolin on 5945 4277.