Northumberland County Council
Energy Masterplanning

Background

North East England has one of the highest rates of fuel poverty in the UK. Local authorities can help to lift social housing tenants out of fuel poverty by providing more affordable energy solutions.

Northumberland County Council has also signed up to a Covenant of Mayors - an EU commitment to achieving a 20% reduction in CO_2 emissions by the year 2020. The County Council is actively looking to reduce energy costs and generate additional revenue streams from the deployment of low carbon technologies.

Project Outline

The project aims to install solar PV systems on 400 homes and 130 of its own Northumberland County Council buildings, managed by Homes for Northumberland. This will result in a carbon reduction of 23,000 T/co2 over the lifetime of the systems, to tackle fuel poverty and provide a revenue stream for the County Council to enable it to reinvest in other similar projects.

Narec has provided technical, procurement and project management advice. Financial and business modelling has also been undertaken to support the large scale roll out of the PV systems.

Narec has developed a delivery partnership with Northumberland County Council and is providing installer and specifier training to their installation partner, GB Renewables.

Blyth Estuary Low Carbon Energy Scheme (BELCES)

Narec is providing leadership, management support and technical oversight to assist the County Council to develop a low carbon energy solution for the Blyth Estuary area.

BELCES would provide affordable energy to residential commercial and public sector buildings in Blyth, utilising available and potential heat sources to power the network.

Narec has provided a number of elements to the study, including development of governance arrangements for the scheme and delivery ESCo, technical support on best available technology and procurement support for on going feasibility work

This work is informing the scoping and procurement of the detailed technical feasibility study to determine if the scheme will ultimately prove to be investable and can form the basis of a Northumberland ESCo.

Narec could be a significant provider of heat to the network by utilising waste heat from our large scale offshore wind and marine test facilities currently under construction.

Advancing Renewable Energy

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