



Sustainable Energy Support for Housing Providers

CEN recognises the challenges faced by housing providers in implementing sustainable energy systems to meet sustainable development commitments and the increasing demands of local and regional policy.

CEN provides a range of impartial advice and consulting support to enable organisations to meet these commitments and implement sustainable energy projects. CEN would be keen to discuss the support available, much of which is part funded through project grants, and how this can be tailored to meet your requirements. Examples of projects we have supported are included below.

Site strategy development

CEN was commissioned by a large housing provider to research the sustainable energy planning requirements stipulated in a local authority area and to develop the sustainable energy strategy for the site accordingly. This involved the review of existing planning policy and research into future policy developments. Specific policy reviewed included:

- The Local Plan and the Local Development Scheme (included the Kent Design Guide SPG)
- Development Briefs for the site
- The Kent and Medway Structure Plan
- The South East Plan

The results of CEN's work allowed the client to complete a feasibility study into the cost of complying with the authority's policy. **Project Value - £750**

Raising the standards of existing stock

Stock Wide Assessment Procedure (SWAP)

CEN delivers an innovative method for assessing energy saving and generation options for entire housing stocks, informing development strategies for years to come. CEN Recently conducted a SWAP of 6,000 dwellings for a Social Housing Provider, enabling them to identify the most cost effective and innovative options and include them in planned maintenance programmes. This strategic approach allowed the Social Housing Provider to proactively meet their targets and the regulations in relation to energy. **Project Value - £5,000**

CHP site assessments

CEN conducted detailed appraisals of mini combined heat and power (CHP) for a housing association's multiple sheltered housing sites. The appraisal provided the housing association with information on the viability of CHP for each of the sites and analysed cash flow and carbon benefits. This enabled the prioritisation of the sites for incorporation of mini CHP. **Project Value - £700**

Designing the sustainable energy solution for new developments

Meeting 10% renewable energy planning requirements

CEN was commissioned by the design and M&E team of four new care schemes, to assess the renewable energy potential for the sites. CEN made recommendations for meeting the local planning requirements, which require a 10% renewable energy contribution and worked with the M&E team to design the most effective renewable energy and CHP solution. This included supporting the team in presenting the proposal to the bid assessment board. **Project Value - £1,500**

Managing the installation process

Supporting housing associations with installer selection

CEN supported a housing association to implement their renewable energy solution, which was designed to comply with a local authority's building integrated renewable energy policy. This included coordinating system design for integration with building services and drawing up technical specifications for the tender process. CEN is currently supporting the client with review of the tender responses in order that the 'best value' solution is identified. **Project Value - £1,750**

The YHA Rotherhithe and St Pancras

Committed to sustainable energy, the YHA approached CEN for support in improving the energy performance of 2 of London's youth hostels. CEN carried out an energy audit of the sites and a feasibility study for renewable energy technologies. The project team was successful in securing £25,000 to fund 100% of the project, to install 2 photovoltaic systems and a solar thermal system. To mark the launch of the panels, CEN organised an event at YHA Rotherhithe attended by the Deputy Mayor of London. **Project Value - £1,500**

The Wildwood Trust

CEN secured £25,000 for the Wildwood Trust to fully fund the installation of solar thermal, photovoltaics and wood heating at their new education centre. CEN assessed the feasibility of all renewable energy technologies, managed installers, accessed grants and coordinated the installation. CEN issued press releases, organised a launch event and nominated the project for the South East Renewable Energy Awards. The Wildwood Trust was successful and was awarded 'top prize' by the regional partnership (SEEDA & GOSE) **Project Value - £1,750**

Accessing funding

CEN has worked with over 30 organisations to apply for grant funding for sustainable energy services and installations. These organisations include housing associations, local authorities, schools and community groups. Specific funding streams applied for include:

- EU grants
- Regional Agency funds
- The Housing Corporation Innovation and Best Practice Programme
- EST Innovation Programme (Feasibility, Implementation and Replication)
- Green Trust funds
- DTI capital grant funds (PV MDP and Clear Skies)
- The Big Lottery Fund
- The Ashden Awards

Dissemination and publicity activities

Post the installation of renewable energy technologies on housing association properties, CEN worked with the housing association to run open days for visiting high school children. CEN provided materials for displays and coordinated workshop activities. Working with the client, CEN prepared and issued press releases for the project.

CEN was also commissioned to develop information packs on sustainable energy in the home for distribution to housing association tenants. **Project Value - £4,500**

Training

CEN has provided training to a number of housing associations, developers and architect firms on UK and local energy policy, climate change, sustainable energy opportunities and how renewable energy and energy efficient technologies can be integrated into new and existing buildings. Bespoke training sessions are delivered at the client's premises. **Project Value - £350**

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