

South Tyneside Council make use of flooded mines to provide heat to South Shields



Project overview

As part of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, South Tyneside Council has been awarded £4.7m to support the first stages of delivering the Holborn Renewable Energy Network, part of which will use heat from abandoned flooded former coal mines, connecting them to a district heat network to serve buildings within South Shields.

The initial phase of works, funded by the grant, will construct two 280 metre deep boreholes to facilitate the extraction of heat from the mines.

The next phase of the works will see the development of an energy centre and pipe distribution network to connect public buildings in the area.

The network will be a highly innovative use of multiple renewable technologies and is projected to cost over £20m to set up. The network is estimated to save 2,436 tonnes of carbon each year and reduce overall carbon emissions by 22%. It is also expected to save South Tyneside Council over £800,000 per year. The Holborn Renewable Energy Network looks to complete all works by 2025.

Estimated savings for South Tyneside Council

Annual savings:



£800,000

Total Grant Value:



£4.77m

Annual carbon savings:



2,436 tCO₂e*

*Calculated using Green Book emissions factors for electricity published by the government.

For more information...

Please contact us on **020 4542 6439**
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South Tyneside Council

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"Increasing our capacity to generate renewable energy and low carbon heat, as well as making our buildings and facilities more efficient, helps us move towards our goal of a cleaner, greener future. This funding has allowed us to deliver a whole range of carbon-cutting projects across the borough, which will make a significant contribution in our drive to carbon neutrality by 2030."

Councillor Ernest Gibson

How does it work?

Water source heat pumps will extract the heat from abandoned flooded mines, converting this into energy in the form of hot water. This hot water will be used to heat buildings through a network of insulated pipes. Additional technologies, such as solar panels floating on the River Tyne, and mounted on an energy centre, will support the electricity needed to power the water sourced heat pumps.

Gas produced from wood and green waste will also be converted into 100% renewable fuel for the energy centre.

Project completion: It is expected that the overall project will be completed in 2024/2025 (subject to funding and planning).



Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS)

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) funds the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme which was delivered by Salix Finance.

The Grant Scheme provided £1bn of grant funding which aligns with BEIS' priorities: fighting coronavirus, backing business, unleashing innovation and tackling climate change. The scheme also encourages green investment, supporting the Government's net-zero and clean growth goals.

The scheme aims to:

1. Deliver stimulus to the energy efficiency and heat decarbonisation sectors, supporting jobs.
2. Provide significant carbon savings within the public sector.

Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme grants finance up to 100% of the costs of capital energy-saving projects which meet scheme criteria. Information about the PSDS and future schemes can be found on the Salix website.

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