

Gloucestershire Wood fuels (2006-9)

Project to establish a wood fuel supply in Gloucestershire. The scheme is establishing a new co-operative with members from organisations that grow biomass (or manage woodlands). The co-operative will manage wood fuel supply and market wood fuel in the area. SWEA will co-ordinate the development of the co-operative which will then become an independent organisation.

Funding: DEFRA Bio-energy Infrastructure Grants Scheme

PROEFFICIENCY (2006-9)

Project aimed at increasing the awareness and take up of energy efficiency cold appliances and lighting with a range of local market actors.

The scheme will involve developing "pilot promoters" and "pilot consumers" projects. SWEA will be working in partnership with agencies from Spain, Austria, Germany, Poland and Romania.

Funding: European Commission Intelligent Energy Europe

BIONETT (2006-8)

Project to develop a framework for encouraging the growth of local market for biofuels as a low carbon fuel for local authorities. In partnership with agencies in London, Spain, Latvia, Bulgaria, Sweden, Poland and Italy.

Funding: European Commission Intelligent Energy Europe; Gloucestershire County Council

SErENADE: Sharing Expertise in Energy Advice Across Europe (2006-8)

A study of energy advice provision across Europe, developing a toolkit and web-based resource for new and existing advice providers. Coordinated by SWEA, and carried out in partnership with agencies in Italy, Sweden, Bulgaria, Austria, France, and Slovenia.

Funding: European Commission Intelligent Energy Europe

SHARE: Social Housing Action to Reduce Energy consumption (2006-8)

A programme of work to raise awareness of the potential for sustainable energy retrofit of social housing, including local social housing energy forums, training, awareness and advice. Coordinated by SWEA, and in partnership with agencies and consultancies in Ireland, Sweden, Bulgaria, Germany, France, Slovenia and Estonia. Major local partners are Forest of Dean Housing, Cheltenham Borough Homes, Fosseyway Housing, Gloucester City Homes and the Gloucestershire Affordable Warmth Partnership. Several other local social housing providers are also participating.

Funding: European Commission Intelligent Energy Europe,

Domestic Energy Management in Action (2005-8)

A pilot project to set up four communities of about 500 homes each in the London Boroughs of Southwark, Redbridge, Tower Hamlets and in Herefordshire, within which householders have an energy survey of their home carried out and a personalised carbon reduction action plan produced.

Through a local Environmental Services Company, members will have the opportunity to sign up to an ESCO fuel supplier and earn reward points, which can be 'cashed in' for energy efficiency measures to help them move towards the targets set out in its carbon reduction action plan.

Led by Neighbourhood Energy Action, in partnership with the Greater London Energy Efficiency Network (GLEEN) and Sustainable Energy Action (SEA).

Funding: Environmental Action Fund

Prisons Energy Project Implementation (2005-7)

Holistic energy project in prisons, to include:

- energy efficiency advice and awareness for prisoners, prison families and prison staff,
- energy surveys of prison buildings
- energy efficiency training for prison staff
- development of certificated training programme for prisoners

The project will focus initially on 9 prisons in Wales and the South West.

Funding: Energy Saving Trust, Her Majesty's Prison Service, Cardiff City Council, Gloucestershire County Council

Affordable Warmth Strategy – Cardiff

Consultancy support in partnership with NEA to Cardiff City Council to develop an affordable warmth strategy

Funding: National Assembly of Wales

Affordable Warmth Strategy – Caerphilly

Consultancy support in partnership with NEA to Caerphilly Borough Council to develop an affordable warmth strategy

Funding: National Assembly of Wales

South West Regional Development Officer

The SWEA Director was nominated to represent the South West EEACs as their Regional Development Officer during the next phase of development of a regional approach to sustainable energy.

Funding: Energy Saving Trust

South West Energy Efficiency Strategy (2005-6)

Services in support of development of South West regional energy efficiency strategy: development of survey of advice provision.

Social Housing Energy Advice Services (2005-8)

To complement the work of the EEAC, awareness and advice services have been designed to meet the needs of tenants and landlords. Agreements to deliver these services have so far been established with four housing associations.

Funding: Forest of Dean Housing, Fosseyway Housing, Cheltenham Borough Homes, Gloucester City Homes.

Force Energetique pour les enfants par l'education (FEEDU) (2005-7) (UK title: The Power to Change)

Project to deliver a sustainable energy education programme in Gloucestershire and 11 other areas in 9 countries. Focusing on 10-12 year olds, teachers and families, and working with a minimum of 10 schools in each area.

Funding: European Commission Intelligent Energy Europe, Gloucestershire County Council.

Biomass Partnerships (2005-7)

A European partnership project to develop a partnership approach to stimulating the bioenergy market: it will develop networks to help bridge the gap between potential suppliers of biomass and potential end users.

Funding: European Commission Intelligent Energy Europe

Biorreg Floresta (2004-6)

European partnership project with partners in Spain, Portugal and Ireland, to develop the local bio-energy industry, supporting the establishment of fuel supply from forestry residues and installation of small to medium biomass heating plant.

Funding: European Commission INTERREG Programme and CRI

Local Authority Support Programme (2002-6)

Support to local authorities in Gloucestershire to assist them to improve domestic energy efficiency and reduce fuel poverty in their area, aiming to enhance effectiveness of delivery of HECA (Home Energy Conservation Act) strategies, and sustainable energy within community planning, Best Value and other strategic development.

Funding: Energy Saving Trust

Current projects

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Community Renewables Initiative (2002-7)

Local Support Team:

Provision of advice and training on all aspects of renewable energy to help communities in Gloucestershire, South Gloucestershire and Wiltshire to devise and develop their own ideas for renewable energy. Part of a partnership covering 10 areas of England.

National Coordination:

SWEA currently manages the national coordination of this programme, coordinating the work of the ten local support teams, and liaising with government bodies.

Funding: DTI (initially through Countryside Agency)

Warm and Well (2001 – ongoing)

Promotion, advice and grants for energy efficiency to households in Gloucestershire vulnerable to health problems from cold or damp homes.

Run in cooperation with health and social care professionals, as well as housing and voluntary agencies. Launched in September 2001. Extended to include South Gloucestershire in October 2002. Pilot phase very successful and thereafter extended on annual basis. Solar thermal added to measures provided in 2004.

The scheme has grown to deliver over £1m of measures per year, and has been highlighted as a Managenergy Best Practice Case study. In 2006 it was awarded a first prize in the Ashden Awards for sustainable energy.

Funding: (DETR/EST) HECAAction, consortium of 6 Gloucestershire local authorities plus South Gloucestershire, led by Cheltenham Borough Council. Supported also by Primary Care Trust and Scottish Power.

Gloucestershire Energy Advice Centre (2001 - ongoing)

Provision of an energy efficiency advice service for households in Gloucestershire, as part of the network of EEACS supported by the UK government through the Energy Saving Trust. Includes distribution of low energy lights to low income homes.

Funding (in kind or cash): Energy Saving Trust, Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Forest of Dean District Council, Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council, Tewkesbury Borough Council, Npower

Delivery of NEA City and Guilds Energy Awareness courses in the region (ongoing)

Open access courses for the Midlands region, as well as a number of in house courses in the South West and West Midlands. On behalf of NEA.

Funding: various

Completed projects

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Manage Your (MY) Energy – Feasibility (2006)

A feasibility study that will develop a holistic approach to energy efficiency at work and in the home. This project is engaging with Local Authorities to promote behavioural energy efficiency awareness in the workplace – through energy champions - and also encourage increased home energy efficiency. (In partnership with Gloucestershire County Council and Gloucester City Council)

Funding: EST Innovation Programme – Replication, Gloucestershire County and Gloucester City

School Energy Diaries (2006)

Project aimed at providing increased awareness of the need to monitor and record energy consumption. This involved the development of electronic energy diaries that provided data and graphs on consumption, emissions and cost. This was based on a school entering regular meter readings. It also included the provision of school thermometer cards and a series of awareness raising posters. Delivered to approximately 150 schools throughout Gloucestershire.

Funding: EST – through the Local Energy Support Programme

Parish Power Feasibility (2005-6)

Feasibility study into development of Parish level energy/climate change planning. The project is developing a parish energy strategy/action plan process, coupled with an implementation support package. (In partnership with Stroud and Cotswold Districts and GRCC)

Funding: EST Innovation Programme – Replication, Stroud District and Cotswold District

Littlecombe Study (2005)

Scoping study on renewable energy technologies available for integration into a major new mixed-use development. The Littlecombe development has a target to deliver 30% of energy from on-site renewable energy sources. SWEA has carried out a scoping study to help the developers provide guidance to builders on how this should be achieved.

Funding: Contract from St.Modwens, developers

Forest Heat (2005-6)

Development of replicable model for a wood heating business, and of viability of wood heating business in Forest of Dean.

Funding: Forest of Dean District Council – match funded with Biorreg-Floresta

Completed projects

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Warm Farms feasibility study (2005)

A feasibility study to investigate the potential for a project to help the farming community to address rural fuel poverty and promote energy efficiency. Key aims are:

To develop partnerships and techniques to promote energy efficiency and low carbon living in rural areas.

To engage farms and other stakeholders within the agricultural sector with the low carbon agenda.

In partnership with Gloucestershire County Council, Stroud District Council and the NFU.

Funding: Energy Saving Trust

Gloucestershire Climate Change strategy scoping study (2005)

Scoping study to identify relevant activities and scope for development of climate change strategy for Gloucestershire.

Funding: Gloucestershire County Council

Bioscope (2005)

This project aims to identify potential new biomass heating and CHP projects and deliver scoping studies to two sites per county. This project is a partnership initiative across the South West with SWEA delivering the project in Gloucestershire and Wiltshire.

Funding: DTI

Lydney Social Enterprise Study (2005)

Feasibility study into structures for a social enterprise suitable for Lydney renewable energy schemes.

Funding: Alliance for Communities in Enterprise

Study of activities of European Energy Agencies (2004-5)

Study of activities and future perspectives of the European local and regional energy agencies, carried out by SWEA Director as one of team of four experts from 4 countries, led by Italian consultancy Ecuba.

Funding: European Commission DGTREN (call for tender)

Prisons Energy Project feasibility study (2004-5)

Study into potential for holistic energy project in prisons, including energy efficiency advice and awareness for prisoners and prison families, advice on home energy efficiency to prison staff, input to educational programmes for prisoners, and sustainable energy in prison buildings. Implementation project applied for July 2005.

Funding: Energy Saving Trust

Completed projects

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Tewkesbury Climate Change Strategy (2004)

Assistance in the development of a climate change strategy for Tewkesbury Borough Council

Funding: Tewkesbury Borough Council, Energy Saving Trust (Local Authority Support Programme)

Forest of Dean Climate Change Strategy (2004)

Assistance in the development of a climate change section for the Forest of Dean District Council's Sustainable Environment Strategy.

Funding: Forest of Dean District Council, Energy Saving Trust (Local Authority Support Programme)

SHECANE Fuel Poverty Study (2004)

Assistance to Southern Home Energy Conservation and Action Network (SHECANE) in developing/updating fuel poverty strategies for three local authorities in their area within the framework of the UK Fuel Poverty Strategy.

Funding: Energy Saving Trust (Local Authority Support Programme)

Renewable Energy Action Plans: Gloucestershire and Wiltshire (2003-4)

Facilitation of county forums in order to establish a Renewable Energy Action Plan for each County, to support Revision 2010 and with a view to adoption as, or informing the development of Supplementary Planning Guidance.

Funding: Government Office for the South West

Rent Warm Rent Well (2003-4)

Additional strand to the Warm and Well scheme, targeting private landlords and providing advice to tenants and subsidies for energy efficiency measures.

Funding: NEA (Midlands Energy Efficiency Projects)

Build it Greener (2003-6)

Feasibility study for a scheme to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy within home improvement through DIY retail outlets, media and relevant local authority departments. Implementation of project approved and commenced in October 2004.

Funding: Innovation Fund (Energy Saving Trust)

Completed projects

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Active Warm and Well (2003-5)

Development and delivery of information materials and training sessions to health and social care staff about energy efficiency, health and condensation damp.

Funding: Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Primary Care Trust (on behalf of Health Promotion Gloucestershire)

WISE Homes (2003-5)

Feasibility study (and subsequent implementation) to develop an effective approach to delivering energy efficiency advice and measures to 'hard to treat' homes such as those with solid walls and/or not on the mains gas network. In partnership with Stroud and Cotswold District Councils, and the local Home Improvement Agencies.

Funding: Innovation Fund (Energy Saving Trust)

Wye Local Power (2001-5)

Programme of work to raise awareness of potential for renewable energy with residents of lower Wye Valley, including development of local solar club and feasibility studies for small hydro at six sites.

Funding: Wye Valley AONB (Herefordshire/Monmouthshire)

Lydney Local Power (2000-2004)

A study into the feasibility of renewable energy at Lydney Docks, leading into a public consultation process, and implementation of community sustainable energy project.

Funding: Feasibility study funded by Environment Agency, Rural Development Programme (FODDC), Gloucestershire County Council. Implementation 2002-4 funded by Innovation Fund (Energy Saving Trust.)

RES in schools (2001-2)

A project to stimulate and support the development of flagship renewables projects in schools in Gloucestershire. Partners: ESV (Upper Austria), OFE (Norway), EREN (Leon, Spain)

Funding: Altener II programme (European Commission)

The Green Key Scheme (2000-2002)

A project to stimulate investment in energy efficiency measures by people who are moving home in rural Gloucestershire.

Funding: (DETR/EST) HECAAction, consortium of Gloucestershire local authorities led by Forest of Dean District Council, Scottish Power.

Completed projects

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Affordable Warmth Strategy Development (2000-1)

Development of affordable warmth strategies for the counties of Gloucestershire and Wiltshire, through a participative process involving District and County Councils, Health Authority, voluntary agencies and private sector interests.

Funding: District Councils – Housing

Energy efficiency in core skills education (1999-2000)

Publication of two manuals about home energy efficiency, for use in adult core skills education. One is for numeracy work, and the other for language (literacy and English as a Second Language). Trialled in Birmingham and distributed nationally through Avanti Books.

Funding: Eaga Charitable Trust

Daventry health pack (1999)

Advice pack on energy efficiency for people working with hospital leavers in Daventry. In association with Alan Pither, energy consultant.

Funding: Daventry District Council

Wolverhampton affordable warmth (1999 –2000)

Training for health and social services staff, partnership between local authority and health trust. Assistance in development of further projects to roll out affordable warmth strategy.

Funding: Wolverhampton Metropolitan Borough Council and Wolverhampton Health Authority

Gloucestershire Energy Roadshow (1999)

A series of business energy efficiency seminars around Gloucestershire run from the DETR mobile seminar room

Funding: a partnership project run through Gloucestershire Environmental Business Forum funded by DETR, corporate and Local Authority sponsorship.

A pilot ESCO for SME's in the Tourism Sector (1999)

Research and development of a business plan for an energy services company (ESCO) aimed at help local SME's finance energy efficiency improvements.

Funding: Energy Savings Trust (EST)

Completed projects

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Warm-hearted homes (1999–2001)

Training for health and community workers working with families in Wiltshire, linking to Wiltshire Local Agenda 21.

Funding: HECAAction, consortium of Wiltshire local authorities, led by Swindon.

Energy Champions (1999-2001)

Training and support for a team of volunteer community energy advisers in Stroud and Forest of Dean Districts.

Funding: NEA (Midlands Electricity Standards of Performance)

Study of the potential market for refined biomass in UK (1999-2000)

A partnership with agencies in Sweden, Austria, Belgium, France and Italy, this study compared the markets for refined biomass (wood pellets and briquettes) in different countries, and the opportunities for the development of a UK market

Funding: Altener programme, European Commission

Energy for Sustainable Tourism (1998-1999)

A programme of energy surveys and capital grants for energy efficiency improvements aimed at tourist accommodation businesses in and around the Wye Valley.

Funding: Midlands Electricity Standards of Performance

Focus on Families (1998 –2000)

Final stage of project to raise awareness of energy efficiency and associated health issues amongst families with children under five years old in Gloucestershire.

Funding: (DETR/EST) HECAAction, consortium of Gloucestershire local authorities, led by Stroud District Council

Energy Plan for Forest of Dean District (1998)

An energy plan incorporating an appraisal of the renewable energy sources available in the area in addition to a review of current energy use trends and opportunities for energy efficiency.

Funding: Carried out under the SAVE II programme

Save II programme (Forest of Dean) (1997 – 2000)

This programme included strategic work with planning and economic development officers to seek ways to encourage the use of renewable energy sources.

Funding: Save II (European Commission), Forest of Dean District Council, Rural Development Commission.

Completed projects

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