

Hello

By way of introduction, my name is Lynn Joy and I am currently working full time in Local Government, whilst studying part time at De Montfort University, studying BSc in Construction Management.

As part of my final year of studies, I have produced this questionnaire to provide quantitative and qualitative primary research, from professionals in the public sector, to feed into my final dissertation topic of:

What are the Barriers to Decarbonising Existing Social Housing?

An analysis of the perception of Local Authority Landlords within England's Social Housing Sector

The questionnaire has a total of 17 questions and should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete. All responses will remain anonymous, strictly confidential and the results used only for the purpose of this research.

Please note the questionnaire relates to existing housing stock only and not any provision for new build properties.

Thank you in advance for your time.

Section A – Housing Stock

1. How many properties are there within your own housing stock?

- a) > 1,000
- b) 2,000 to 5,000
- c) 5,000 to 10,000
- d) 10,000 to 15,000
- e) 15,000+
- f) None – our Council does not own any housing stock

Section B – Demographic Information

2. What region of England is your Local Authority based?

- a) North East
- b) North West
- a) Yorkshire and the Humber
- b) East Midlands
- c) West Midlands
- d) East
- e) South East
- f) South West
- g) London

3. What is your position within the organisation?

- a) Director
- b) Managerial
- c) Administration
- d) Councillor
- e) Other – please specify

Section C – Heating and Hot Water Provision

4. Do you feel an immediate shift is necessary to move away from using fossil fuels? Please explain your reasons.

The FOI legislation does not require us to provide an opinion just recorded facts, therefore we are unable to answer this question.

5. The UK Government is aiming to phase out gas boilers in homes by 2035. Do you think this gives Local Authorities adequate time to implement suitable alternatives within their existing housing stock?

- a) Yes
- b) No

6. Please explain the reasons behind your response.

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7. How is heating and hot water currently provided to your properties (please tick all that apply)

- a) Gas Boilers
- b) Electric Storage Heaters
- c) Air Source Heat Pumps
- d) Ground Source Heat Pumps
- e) District Heating System
- f) Biomass Boilers
- g) Hydrogen Ready Boilers
- h) Oil Fired Boilers
- i) Other (please specify) **Local heat network to three blocks of flats**

8. If the Government imposes an enforced change of moving away from fossil fuels how will you provide heating and hot water to your existing housing stock?

- a) Electric Storage Heaters
- b) Air Source Heat Pumps
- c) Ground Source Heat Pumps
- d) District Heating System
- e) Biomass Boilers
- f) Hydrogen Ready Boilers
- g) Solar Thermal
- h) No current plans to move away from fossil fuels for heating and hot water provision
- i) Other sources (please specify)

Section D – Retrofit Strategy

9. Have you developed a retrofit strategy to improve the energy efficiency of your existing properties?

- a) Yes
- b) No

10. Please explain which measures you have already or are intending to implement through a retrofit strategy.

The council have implemented a number of retrofit project to maintain and improve the housing assets, however replacing existing system with renewable system must be done in combination with fabric measures.

The council doesn't currently have a fully costs study and associated costing to retrofit all homes and to be able to move away from fossil fuels.

11. Do you receive any funding in relation to your retrofit strategy?

- a) Yes
- b) No

12. Please provide examples of the funding you receive.

ECO funding and Social Housing Decarbonisation funding

13. What measures have you taken to improve the fabric of your existing properties?

- a) External Wall Insulation
- b) Loft Insulation
- c) Cavity Wall Insulation
- d) Floor Insulation
- e) Upgrade of windows and doors
- f) Upgrade of roofs
- g) Rectifying Thermal Bridging
- h) Other (please specify)

14. How many of your properties are rated with an EPC rating of C or above?

- a) > 1,000
- b) 2,000 to 5,000
- c) 5,000 to 10,000
- d) 10,000 to 15,000
- e) 15,000+

Section E – Barriers to Decarbonising Existing Properties

15. In your opinion which of the following factors are barriers to decarbonising existing properties?

- a) Lack of in-house skills and knowledge
- b) Lack of external skills and knowledge
- c) Budgetary constraints
- d) Access to funding
- e) Government guidance
- f) Tenant resistance
- Other

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16. Has completing this questionnaire prompted you to think differently about decarbonising your housing stock?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Don't know

17. Please explain why

Thank you for your completing this questionnaire. Your input is appreciated.

Thurrock Council
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