

Network Get Together: District Heating & Biomass Energy Centre - Member Visit



What started off as a grey and damp day in Cambuslang soon warmed up for Network members who visited West Whitlawburn Housing Co-operative to hear more about the biomass district heating system from Co-operative Director, Grant Clayton.

During the morning a small group of colleagues heard from Grant about the district heating project, from the funding, through its development and how the system has benefited tenants and reduced their heating bills.

The system was installed in 2014/15 to replace the electric storage and panel heating, which was expensive, inefficient and nearing the end of its life.

We also heard about the specific compliance tasks and maintenance requirements of the biomass energy centre building and how it is managed 24/7, 365 days of the year to ensure that it continues to operate and supplies domestic heating and hot water to all flats in the multi-storey blocks as well as a number of properties in the surrounding lower rise blocks.



The Energy Centre heats water through a biomass (wood chip) fuelled 740kW (685kW continuous output) boiler which is then pumped around the district heating network providing heat and hot water. The boiler operates in conjunction with a 50,000 litre thermal store and there are three gas boilers providing top-up heat for times of peak demand and resilience to the system.

We were delighted to round off the morning with a guided tour of the centre to see the system in operation; we heard that the system makes a significant contribution to carbon emission reduction targets and is forecast to provide lifetime carbon savings of 48,600 tonnes of CO₂ that count towards the ECO Carbon Savings Communities Obligation.

We'd like to take this opportunity to extend our sincere thanks to Grant for his time in delivering the talk and visit, and supporting colleagues from network member organisations, for what was a very informative 'Get Together', where attendees were able to ask lots of questions.



**Would you like to host a Network 'Get Together' for members?
If so please contact Vicki for an informal chat: 07974 578103**