

Energy Saving Projects in Marlborough

The following are examples of energy projects in Marlborough. The Carbon Management Plan has enabled investment across the county in a range of projects on the council's own buildings and estate. As part of this large programme the following 'invest to save' projects have been implemented.

Invest to save projects

Marlborough Leisure Centre lighting upgrades

A series of lighting upgrades have been implemented at Marlborough Leisure Centre. These have replaced lighting in the pool and sports halls with modern and more energy efficient equivalents. The new lights have the benefit of reducing glare when playing sports and provide a brighter environment with reduced energy consumption.

In the sports hall and storage areas, occupancy sensor controls have also been installed throughout to ensure that lights are not left on in unoccupied spaces.

Combined heat and power (CHP)

This project installed technology to generate both electrical power and heat for the leisure centre. The CHP unit has dramatically reduced the cost of running the leisure centre by generating electricity for use on site, instead of drawing it from the National Grid. Heat is a side product of this process and is used to heat the pool water. These and other heating upgrades have saved approximately £86,000 over the past three years of operation. This is significant when compared to a current total annual energy bill of approximately £110,000.

Project	Annual saving (£)	Annual CO₂ saving	Year completed	*Total savings to date (£)
Marlborough Leisure Centre - boiler replacement and CHP	£28,733	155 tonnes	2011	£86,199
Marlborough Leisure Centre – main hall lighting upgrade	£4,278	23 tonnes	2011	£17,112
Marlborough Leisure Centre – improving pool pump efficiency	£1,056	9 tonnes	2011	£4,224
Marlborough Leisure Centre – small hall lighting upgrade	£959	5 tonnes	2011	£3,387
Marlborough Leisure Centre – general lighting and occupancy sensors	£1,435	8 tonnes	2011	£5,742
Marlborough Leisure Centre – pool hall lighting upgrade	£2,607	14 tonnes	2012	£7,821
Marlborough Leisure Centre – building management system upgrade	£3,059	18 tonnes	2012	£9,177

Marlborough Leisure Centre - thermal wheel heat recovery	£1,000	5 tonnes	2014	
Oxenwood Outdoor Education Centre – biomass boiler	£11,804	43 tonnes	2013	£11,804

*Represent estimated full year savings since completion

Biomass boiler installation programme

Between 2013 and 2014 the council has invested in an ambitious programme of biomass boiler installations. These have predominantly taken place in schools which were previously heated by oil. In total thirteen buildings have been converted.

Oxenwood Outdoor Education centre was one of the first facilities to benefit. The new boiler runs on wood fuel pellets. This fuel is sustainably sourced in the UK, thereby contributing to local energy resilience and carbon reduction.

The installation is also generating income through the government's 'Renewable Heat Incentive' which pays a tariff back to the council for the next 20 years of operation.

Other projects

SEACS programme

Through the EU funded SEACS (sustainable energy across the common space) programme specific support was provided to community groups to develop a local response to issues such as fuel poverty.

Transition Marlborough developed a number of affordable warmth initiatives, including a pilot project to demonstrate simple draught proofing measures in vulnerable households. Since then the group has moved on to investigate solutions that could improve energy efficiency in some of the harder to treat properties in the area and provide guidance to tenants and landlords.

The group also have a number of sustainable transport and permaculture projects, further details are available through their website www.transitionmarlborough.org

Other local initiatives

Kennet Community Energy

Kennet Community Energy Limited (KCEL) is a Community Benefit Society which developed from the energy working group of Transition Marlborough. KCEL are engaged in developing renewable energy for the benefit of the communities in north and east Wiltshire. Members of the organisation invest to fund a growing portfolio of projects, initially focusing upon solar PV and biomass technologies. Their first solar PV projects, Wadworth Brewery Visitor Centre and Devizes School, are now up and running.

www.kennetenergy.org.uk