

Strategy work



We have developed a strategy which sets out areas of work which will contribute to the achievement of local and national targets.

The authority aims to be Net Zero by 2032.

We will be working with partners to work to the Government aim of being Net Zero by 2050.

Endorsed by Cabinet in March 2022, action plan now being created.

Four high level objectives

Achieve net zero
greenhouse gas
emissions

Protect and enhance
the natural environment

Use all resources
efficiently and minimise
waste

Adapt to the impacts of
climate change

The challenge...

Council Plan 2021-2024: Key priority

Fighting inequality

Inequality is a challenge in the Borough. We have affluent areas alongside areas of deprivation. Nine of our 26 wards are in the 10% most deprived wards in the country and there is a gap of 21 years in average life expectancy amongst men between the most and least deprived wards. We're committed to fighting this discrepancy and making sure more people enjoy a healthy and happy life here.

Develop a new approach to tackling inequality in the Borough and to ensure that we deliver targeted support and help to those currently living in poverty to improve their outcomes, including around health inequalities and emotional health and wellbeing

2021-2024 Council Plan



Stockton-on-Tees
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Debunking the terminology

Heat pumps

There are two main types of heat pump – ground source and air source

They work by absorbing heat from a source and transferring it to a fluid, which is compressed to increase the temperature further. The heat is typically transferred from the fluid into water, which is then used to provide heating and hot water to your home.

Solar water heating

Solar water heating systems use solar panels, called collectors, fitted to your roof. These collect heat from the sun and use it to heat up water that's stored in a hot water cylinder.

Solar PV

Solar electricity panels, also known as photovoltaics (PV), capture the sun's energy and convert it into electricity that you can use in your home.

Biomass

Biomass systems burn wood pellets, chips or logs to heat a single room, or to power central heating and hot water boilers. While burning the wood does emit carbon dioxide, it's at a lower level than coal or oil provided the fuel is sourced locally. Biomass is considered a sustainable option as long as new plants and trees continue to grow in place of those used for fuel.

Context

Latest Government estimates that there are 3.2million fuel poor households according to the Low Income High Cost Definition.....i.e. 13.2% down from 13.4% in 2019.

The 2020 estimate for Stockton-on-Tees was 12.9% (10,816 households) The Estimate for North England was 14.4%

In the Tees Valley the estimates are:

Darlington - 13.4%

Hartlepool - 14.6%

Middlesbrough 16.6%

Redcar & Cleveland 14.3%

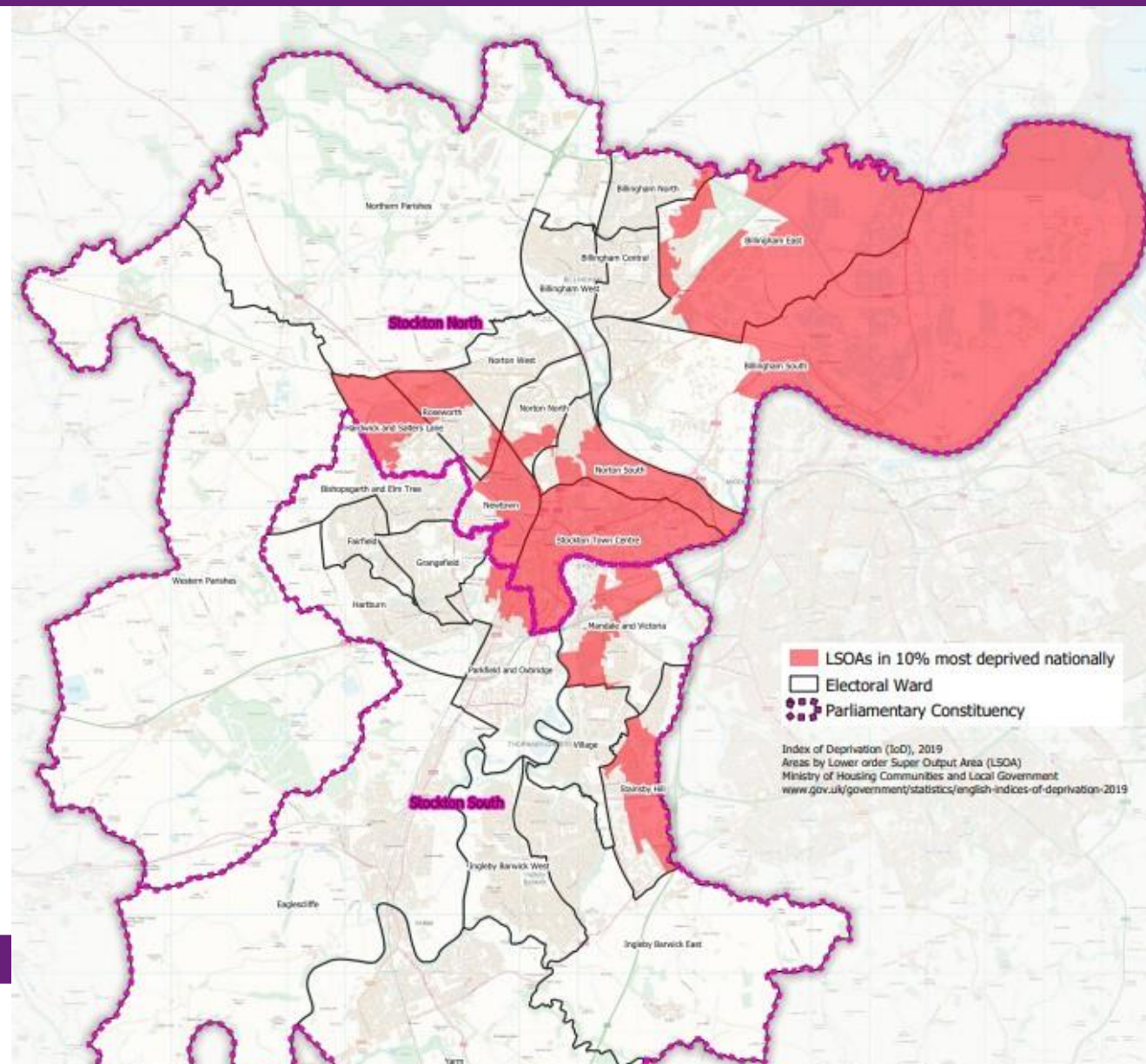
Stockton 12.9%



Context

Stockton-on-Tees

Within Stockton fuel poor households range from 30.5% in an LSOA (12C) in Mandale & Victoria down to 3.4% in an Ingleby Barwick LSOA (23E)



Why is energy efficiency important?

- Improving the energy efficiency of UK buildings is the quickest way we can support families and businesses, to respond to rising energy prices.
- Over 90% of our homes are heated by fossil fuels, accounting for a third of UK total gas use. The price spikes in the gas market mean households are particularly exposed to these changes and facing energy bills upwards of £2,000.
- Improving the efficiency of our homes could reduce our heating bills by around 20% and reduce our dependency on foreign gas.

What has been delivered

ECO (Energy Company Obligations)

Previous rounds of Energy Company Obligation (ECO) funding saw the large-scale cladding of solid wall properties in Stockton Town Centre, Parkfield, Oxbridge, Newtown and Mandale & Victoria. Streets of traditional terraced housing were clad in phases from 2012 to 2016.

Year	Boiler installations	Loft and cavity wall insulations	External Wall insulations	Total No of households improved 4999
2012/13	310	154	1205	
2013/14	563	300	1300	
2014/15	-	196	575	
2015/16	308	-	88	
TOTAL	1181	650	3168	

What has been delivered



The Warm Homes Fund

- Actively delivering across the **Tees Valley** from November 2020 to March 2022.
The Tees Valley Warm Homes Fund delivered 301 measures, specifically 235 first time Gas Central Heating Systems and 66 Air Source Heat Pumps.
- 234 interventions were in the top 25% of the Index of Multiple Deprivation
- 33 Households were in receipt of qualifying benefits
- 13 households were determined as Fuel Poor having checked their circumstances using a recognised FPC calculator.
- 67 interventions were delivered within the Borough of Stockton-on-Tees.

What has been delivered

Local Area Development (LAD2)

Managed by The Environment Team and due for completion in Stockton-on-Tees in September 2022 LAD2 has delivered at no cost to the householder across the borough of Stockton-on-Tees.

147 energy efficiency measures including:

- External wall insulation to 6 homes
- Solar PV to 89 homes
- Air source heat pumps to 11 homes
- New energy efficient windows to 14 homes
- Loft insulation to 17 homes.



What is currently available

Warm Homes Healthy People (WHHP)

The WHHP programme is an award-winning collaboration of partner organisations, managed by Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (SBC) that support affordable warmth and contribute to reducing fuel poverty. These assistance measures are targeted at the most vulnerable households.

WHHP was first delivered as a pilot programme in the winter of 2011/12 and has evolved into a well-recognised, reputable and valuable partnership project. The initiative is funded by SBC's Public Health.

There have been a range of significant outcomes relating to the health and wellbeing and financial circumstances of individuals and households.

£576,092 of previously unclaimed benefits have been identified by WHHP11

This takes the combined total since 2012 to **£4,184,542**

Outputs	No of households supported	No. of specific interventions delivered
WHHP5	335	595
WHHP6	452	861
WHHP7	287	623
WHHP8	300	1230
WHHP9	225	1411
WHHP10	206	831
WHHP 11	365	1,005

What is currently available



Boiler Upgrade Scheme (BUS)

This scheme is open to domestic and small non-domestic properties in England & Wales from 2022 to 2025.

BUS aims to encourage property owners to install low carbon heating systems such as heat pumps, actively encouraging the replacement of gas boilers with:

- £5,000 towards the cost of an ASHP
- £5,000 towards the cost of a biomass boiler
- £6,000 towards the cost of a Ground Source Heat Pump

There are no income or benefit criteria to qualify for BUS, private landlords and second homeowners are also able to apply for BUS.

What is currently available



Home Upgrade Grant (HUG) is part of the current offer specifically for homes not connected to the gas network. HUG can contribute towards:

- Loft Insulation & Draft Proofing
- Cavity Wall Insulation
- Attic Room Insulation
- PV Solar Panels
- Air Source Heat Pumps

Households with a combined income of £30,000 or less are eligible to apply provided the property has an EPC rating of D to G. HUG is managed by the TVCA Energy Hub.

What is on the horizon

ECO4 is an obligation placed on the largest energy suppliers in Great Britain and is focused on the least energy efficient homes occupied by low income and vulnerable households • Households may be eligible through receiving means-tested benefits, living in the least energy efficient social housing or through ECO4 Flexible Eligibility

The scheme is worth £1bn per annum and will run from 2022 – 2026

Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council can and will once ECO4 is fully operational have an influence on ECO Flex across our Borough.

Under the Eco Flex guidelines up to 50% of an energy supplier's "obligation" can be legitimately met. By drafting and publishing a Statement of Intent (SOI) a local authority can influence the eligibility criteria under ECO Flex to prioritise vulnerable residents who are NOT in receipt of benefits.



Requirements for Private Landlords

The Energy Efficiency (Private Rented Property) (England and Wales) Regulations 2015

- Stipulate a minimum energy efficiency standard for private rented properties of a Band E on an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC)
- Impose a prohibition on renting out a 'sub-standard property' (one which has an EPC banding of F or G)
- Certain Exemptions (6 exemption types and must be registered by a landlord)



Requirements for Registered Social Landlords

- The minimum standards do not apply in the social housing sector. (the exclusion of social rented property is defined in the Energy Act 2011, section 42(2)) –
- *A property will be excluded if the landlord is a body registered as a social landlord under Chapter 1 of Part 1 of the Housing Act 1996.*



Challenges

- Authority control
- Lack of influence
- Marketing/promotion
- Capital investment
- Revenue funding



Challenges

- Hydrogen
- Fossil fuel companies influence
- Public opinion
- Costs
- Skills
- Availability



A photograph of a white, two-story house with a dark grey shingled roof. The roof is covered with several large, rectangular solar panels. The house has white horizontal siding and several windows. The sky is a clear, bright blue. A large, semi-transparent white circle is overlaid on the left side of the image, partially covering the house and the sky. Inside this circle, there is a purple rectangular box containing the word "Questions?".

Questions?

The cheapest energy is the energy we don't consume