

APSE Energy Research Update

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Council-owned solar farm survey

APSE Energy conducted a survey to understand the experience of local authorities that have invested in or are planning to invest in a council-owned solar farm

47
responses

17
Operational
solar farms

100%
Recommend
investing



Key findings from the survey

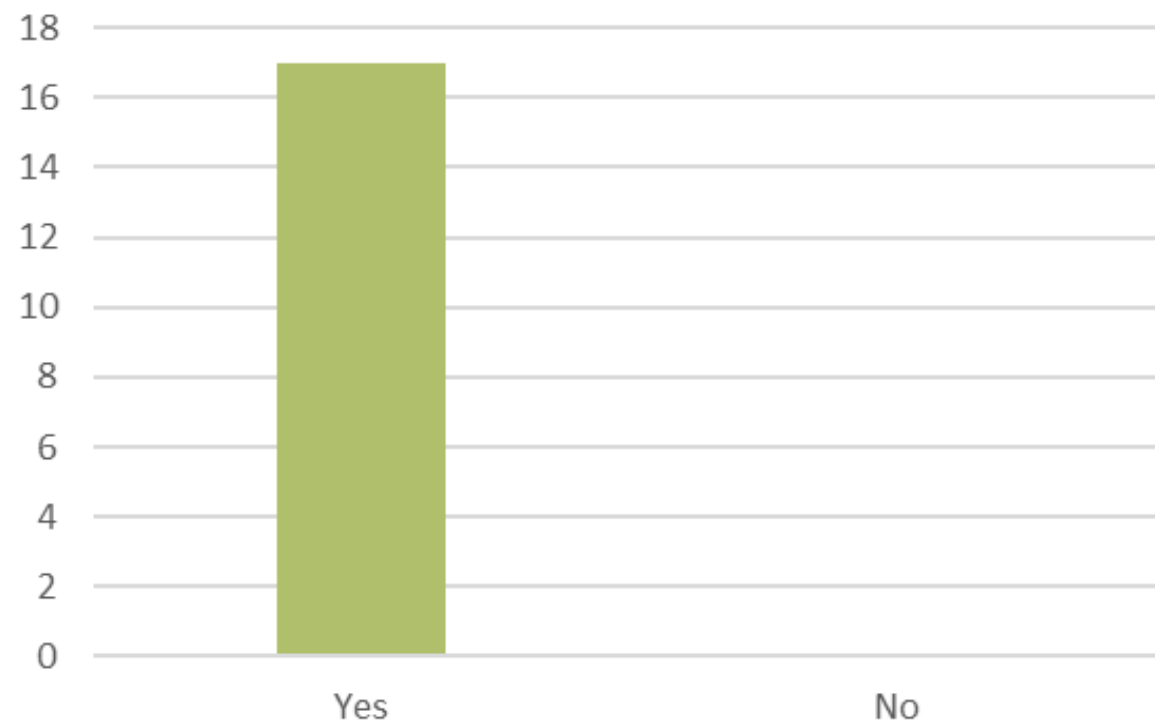
100% of authorities that have invested in a council-owned solar farm think that the project has been worthwhile.

14 out of 17 have plans to own and operate more solar farms.

Common reasons include:

- Financial returns and long-term income streams
- Carbon reduction, supporting progress towards net zero targets
- Showcasing climate action & leadership

Overall, do you think it was worth the council investing in this project?



Utility use and management survey

Energy and water management should be high on the list of priorities for all councils, APSE Energy conducted a survey to better understand the levels of control that authority's have over energy usage.

52
responses

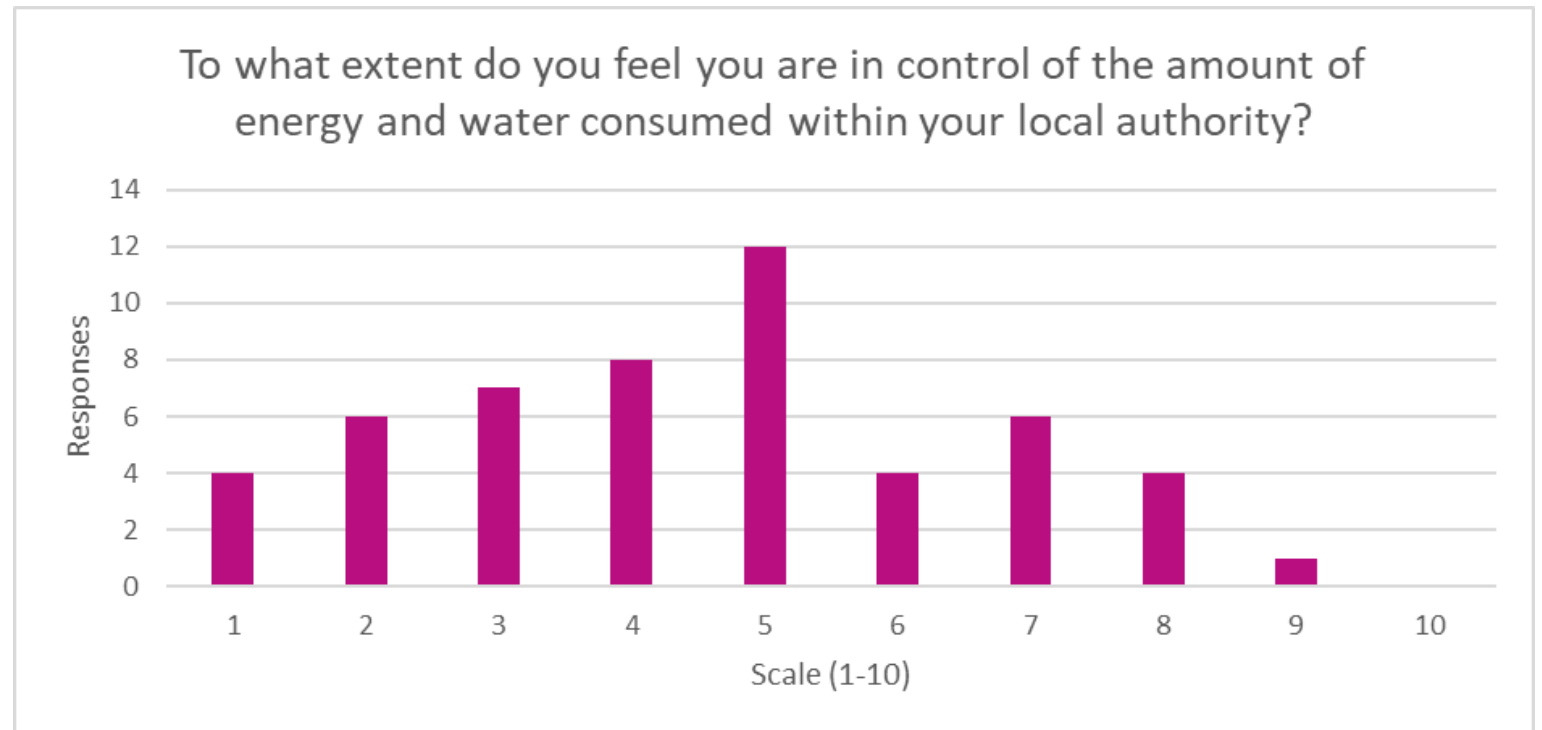
82%
Believe they
need more
control

All
authorities
are at a
different
stage of the
journey



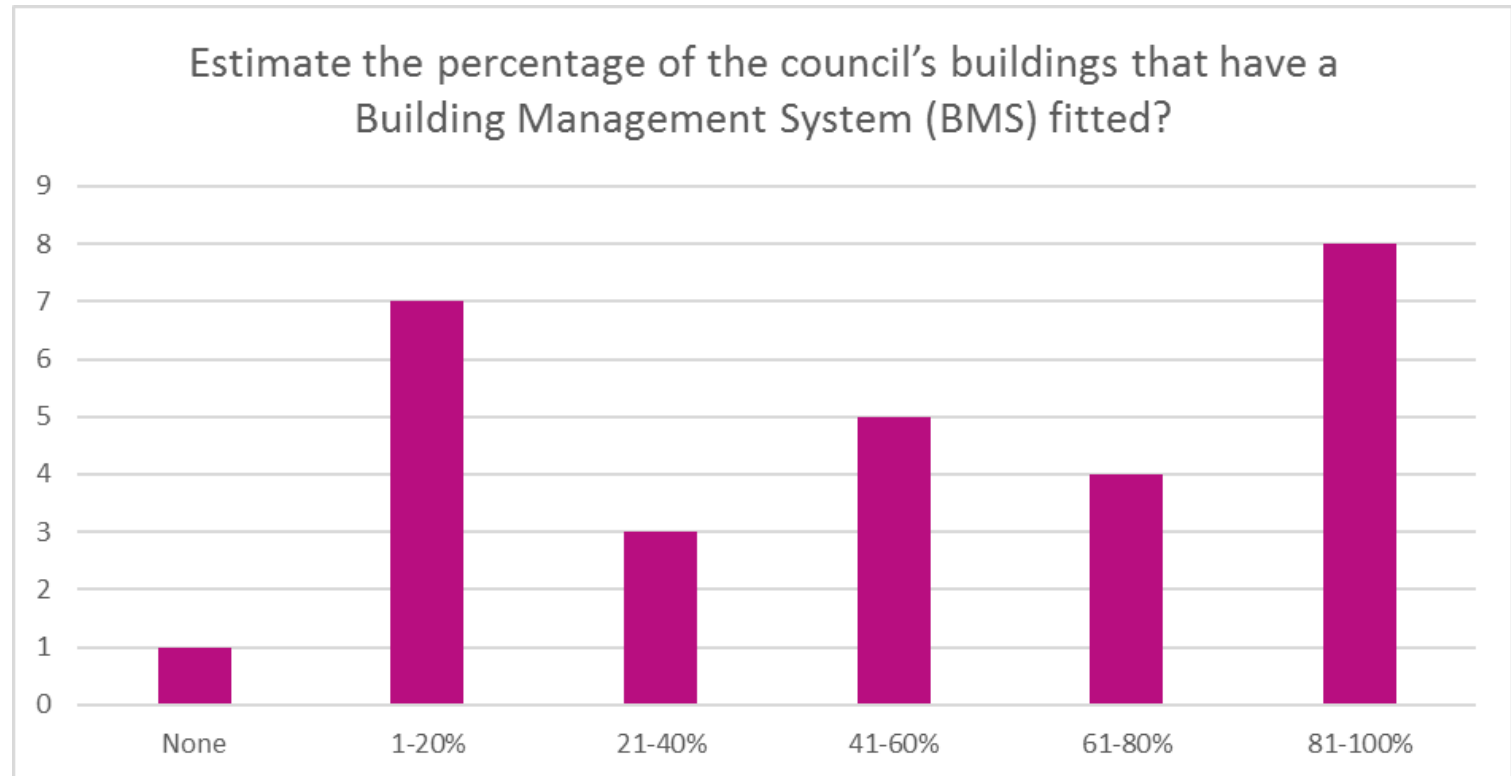
Levels of control over energy and water consumption

- 51 responses received
- Vast majority rate their level of control at 5 or below
- Authorities should have an effective plan in place to control energy and water consumption
- 82% of respondents stated that they need more control over consumption



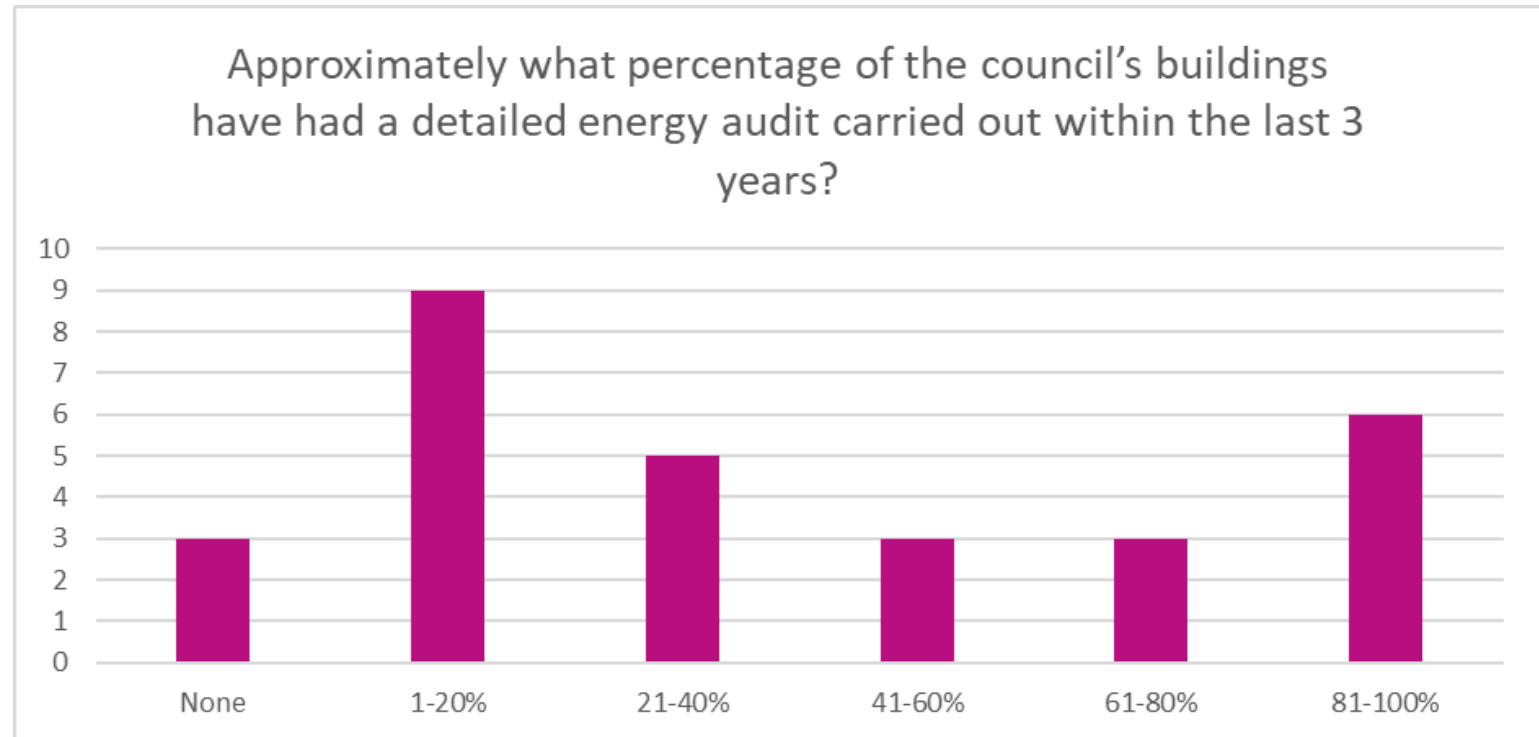
Building Management Systems

- More encouraging outlook, with the most common response being 81-100%
- However, the range of different responses show no common approach across local authorities
- We encourage the use of BMS, but there needs to be the skills in place to update and monitor it



Energy audits and how APSE Energy can help

- A significant number of respondents stated that under 40% buildings have had a detailed energy audit conducted in the past 3 years



APSE Energy approach to energy audits

- Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning - assess HVAC plant, distribution systems and controls to identify efficiencies. May mean replacing aging plant with low/zero carbon technologies, upgrading control strategies and installing variable speed drives on pumps and fans;
- Lighting - record each luminaire type, operating hours/control systems and recommend LED replacements and suitable controls, bespoke to each building and business use;
- Building fabric - surveying the makeup and condition of walls, roofs and glazing to determine the suitability for insulation, upgraded glazing and improving air tightness;
- Electrical equipment - providing a summary of on-site electrical equipment, power rating, condition and age and providing recommendations of replacement, upgrade or better control. This could be through simple measures and behaviour change such as turning equipment off when not in use

APSE Energy approach to energy audits

- Renewable technology - feasibility assessment for the suitability of different renewable technologies bespoke to each site. The assessment will only recommend technologies where there is a clear financial and carbon benefit. Renewable technologies can be expensive and it is important to specify systems that provide proportionate carbon and cost savings;
- Energy measurement and verification - requesting energy invoices, Half Hourly (HH) and Automatic Meter Reader (AMR) data to calculate the carbon baseline. We can request a signed Letter of Authority for permission for on-going data to be accessed directly from the supplier to track energy reduction measures and verify that savings have been achieved.

Upcoming APSE Energy events

APSE Energy's Terrific Tuesday Tutorials – 'Decarbonisation of Heritage Buildings'

Tuesday 24 June 2025, 10:00 – 11:30

Venue – MS Teams

APSE Energy Webinar – 'Pathways to net zero'

Thursday 3 July 2025, 10:00 – 2:00

Venue – MS Teams

APSE Energy Summit – 'Energy and net zero – policies, projects, perceptions and progress'

Tuesday 21 and Wednesday 22 October 2025

Venue – Marriott Hotel, Glasgow

APSE Energy Prospectus

Energising Local Government



Introduction to Waste Collection and Street Cleansing

Upcoming Training Courses

Please find below a list of upcoming Training courses in date order. To book please click the link to the right of your desired course.
You can find more courses on the [All Courses Page](#).

Course	Day of Event	Type	Booking
Health & Safety in Waste and Environmental Services (Pinsent Masons)	Tuesday, 3 June 2025	Masterclass	Underway at 09:00
Social Media and Digital Communications for UK Councils	Tuesday, 3 June 2025	Training	Underway at 09:00
Construction Design and Management Regulations Refresher	Tuesday, 3 June 2025	Masterclass	Underway at 13:00
Health & Safety - Working on Highways and Verges (CPD)	Thursday, 5 June 2025	Masterclass	Book Now!
Principles of Contract Management (CPD) Masterclass	Thursday, 5 June 2025	Masterclass	Book Now!
The Bereavement Journey (ICCM)	Thursday, 5 June 2025	Training	Book Now!
Train The Trainer	Wednesday, 11 June 2025	Masterclass	Book Now!
Developing and Delivering a Commercial Strategy (CPD)	Tuesday, 17 June 2025	Masterclass	Book Now!
Advanced Contract Management (CPD)	Wednesday, 18 June 2025	Masterclass	Book Now!
Project Management in Local Government (CPD)	Thursday, 19 June 2025	Training	Book Now!
Working with Volunteers & the Voluntary Sector	Thursday, 19 June 2025	Training	Book Now!
Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016	Tuesday, 24 June 2025	Masterclass	Book Now!
Carbon Literacy for Local Authorities	Tuesday, 24 June 2025	Training	Book Now!
Wildflower Meadows and Grasslands Management for Local Authorities	Tuesday, 1 July 2025	Training	Book Now!
Health & Safety - Working on Highways and Verges (CPD)	Wednesday, 2 July 2025	Masterclass	Book Now!



Carbon Literacy for Leaders and Managers

NEW DATE PENDING

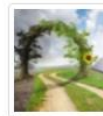
REGISTER YOUR INTEREST



Carbon Literacy for Local Authorities

TUE 24/06/25

09:00 - 16:30 [ONE FULL DAY]



Carbon Literacy for Elected Members

NEW DATE PENDING

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST



Carbon Literacy Trainer

THU 17/07/25 + FRI 18/07/25

10:00 - 16:00 [TWO FULL DAYS]

