

# APSE Building and Housing Advisory Group

24 April 2015

# Briefings

- 15-01 Scottish House Conditions Survey 2013
- 15-02 The Lyons Housing Review
- 15-03 Scotland's Youth Employment Strategy
- 15-04 Evaluating free school meal provision for P1 to P3 in Scotland and how local authorities can get involved
- 15-08 Progress Report on the Scottish Fuel Poverty Statement 2002
- 15-09 The Elphicke-House Report from Statutory Provider to Housing Delivery Enabler
- 15-14 Public Procurement: A Consultation on Changes to the Public Procurement Rules in Scotland
- 15-17 An overview of local government in Scotland 2015 (Accounts Commission report)
- 15-?? Equality Evidence Toolkit for Public Authorities (Scotland)
- 15-?? SEPA's Flood Risk Management Planning Consultation

# Research

[www.apse.org.uk](http://www.apse.org.uk)

## ENSURING HEALTH AND WELLBEING



A self-assessment tool for health and wellbeing boards



## Local Water



The challenge and the prize for the ensuring council as a steward of water



apse research briefing

## Ensuring Collaboration:

One way ahead for public-private partnerships



## Ensuring change:

Building capacity in local government



## Better business:

Councils shaping markets for public value



## The future of elected members in Scotland



## Retail energy policies in Britain: Towards 2020



## What is ECO and Green Deal?

A simple guide for Local Authorities



# Latest Research (1)

## Retail energy policies in Britain: Towards 2020 – Free Report

The policy issue of retail domestic energy in the UK has taken on a very high media profile over the past few years. A number of separate, but related issues have coalesced into making domestic energy bills a front line political agenda item. The legislative needs of agreed CO2 emission reductions, when combined with domestic housing stock conditions has meant keeping homes warm is not a cheap option. Yet whilst domestic energy usage has fallen by over 6% average dual fuel domestic energy bills have risen by over 70% in under a decade. This free to download publication explores the political, policy and practical implications of retail energy pricing.

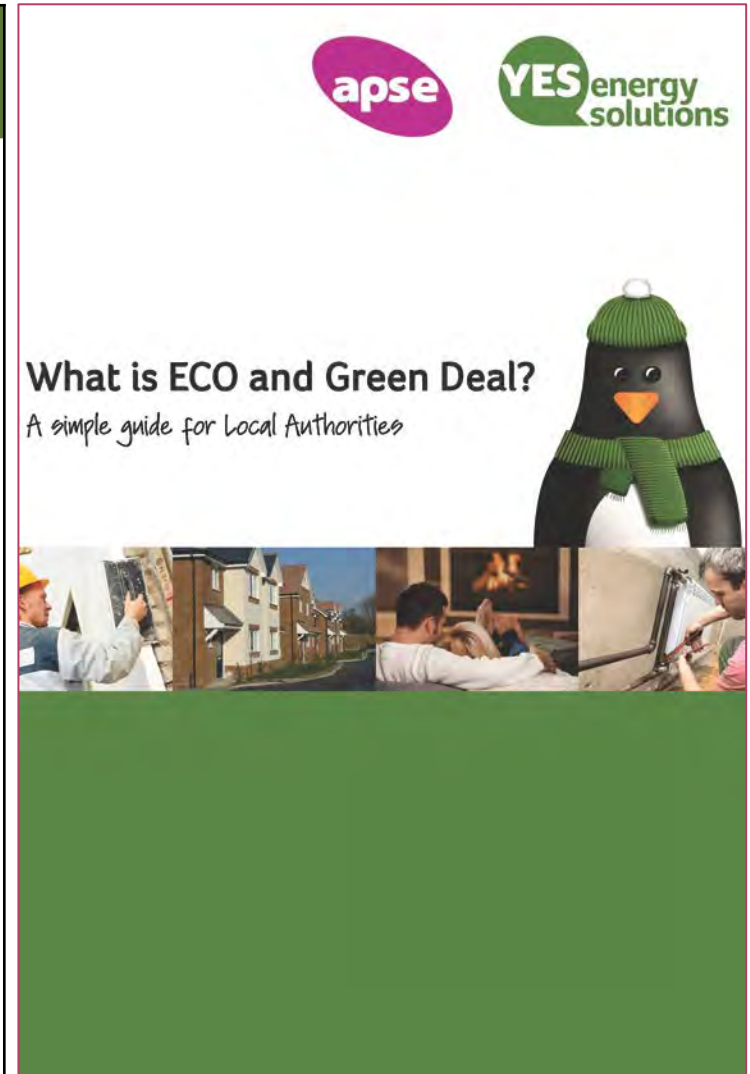
## Retail energy policies in Britain: Towards 2020



# Latest Research (2)

## What is Eco and Green Deal? A guide for local authorities – Free Report

Energy efficiency experts, YES Energy Solutions and APSE have developed a handy 'how to' guide for Local Authorities to learn about the benefits of introducing ECO and Green Deal initiatives. The main purpose of the Guide is to strip down all the confusing technical jargon and simply explain how ECO and Green Deal work, what each scheme is trying to achieve and how Local Authorities can get involved. It's fair to say that ECO and Green Deal have become something of a minefield since their launch in 2013. There has been a lot of noise made about these flagship Government initiatives, but do Local Authorities really know what they are all about and how they could use them to cut CO2 and reduce fuel poverty?





# Advocacy

- Working with NHS Scotland & Scottish Government on the evaluation of the free school meals implementation
- APSE Representative on the Executive Committee of Scottish Waste Industry Training, Competency and Health & Safety forum (SWITCH)
- Scottish Government consultations including the Housing (Scotland) Act 2014 – Section 28
- Main 5 political parties participated in the Scottish Building, Housing & Renewables on 12/13 February 2015
- Attended Scottish Party Political Conferences
- Attended the CoSLA/ IS Awards 2015

# Performance Networks

- 2<sup>nd</sup> batch printed reports made available at end of March
- New templates for all services will be released in April
- Environmental Health PN service area launched
- Scottish Building & Housing process benchmarking including Performance/ Cost Matrix and new Quarterly PI template collections
- Scottish Transport & Mechanical process benchmarking
- Land Audit Management Systems pilot under way within Parks & Streetscene
- Performance Networks Data Collection and Data Usage training available



# Solutions

- Activity in Scotland including: City of Edinburgh, Falkirk, Glasgow and North Ayrshire



**Work Study - Time & Motion**

Anybody who thinks that work study went out with the 1990s should have a word with APSE Solution's resident time and motion expert Dave Henrys.

Amongst other management services projects, he and his stop-watch continue to be busy meeting a new wave of demand from environmental services managers. Whether that be trying to work out optimum staffing levels for a range of activities or the benefits of alternative working methods and new equipment.

From street-sweeping and grass cutting to refuse collection and recycling, the man (because in this case that's what he is) with the clip board can provide an expert and crucially, unbiased, verdict on whether a new route or way of working is reasonable and achievable.

This explains why Dave is often involved when changes are being considered and there is disagreement about whether it is fair on the workforce. These days time and motion studies are as likely to be requested by trade union representatives as by management.

So if you need some work study to test out the viability of a new way of working talk to APSE Solutions.

For more info contact: Andy Mudd: AMudd@apse.org.uk 0161 772 1810  
www.apse.org.uk Gayle Gibson: GGibson@apse.org.uk



**Trading and Charging**

Can we trade our way out of austerity?

APSE Solutions has been helping APSE members to make the most of opportunities to bring in extra cash through external trading and charging for a decade or more. With further cuts looming the need to move on from marginal trading to serious income generation becomes ever more pressing.

Environmental services have huge external trading potential but can be held back by a lack of corporate support and clarity over the legal position. APSE Solutions can help you to:


- Understand the legal framework
- Know when you need a company
- Create a compelling business case
- Identify and pursue trading opportunities

Make the most of your opportunities to generate income:

- Commercial waste
- Commercial cleansing
- Garden maintenance
- Environmental know-how

Get in touch to find out how APSE Solutions can help you boost your income generation.

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**Performance Evaluation**

How do you know whether your service is effective? How do you know that it is efficient? How do you know whether it is improving? How do you know how it compares with similar services in other councils? These are the sort of questions that need answering before you can even start to think about whether you might be able to make improvements in effectiveness or efficiency.

Having access to all this data is one reason why APSE Solutions can carry out a service diagnostic exercise with about 6 (yes just six) days consultancy input. A service diagnostic is a high-level review that is able to pinpoint opportunities for cost savings or service improvements. We have helped save millions of pounds over the last few years with this approach.

APSE Solutions always starts any service review with a request for data – loads of data. But we don't always have to ask our client for it because we are lucky enough to share an office with the UK's biggest and best local government data benchmarking organisation. If you are a member of the APSE Performance Networks service and you submit data to it then we already have the data we need and can jump straight to analysing it and helping you to work out what you need to do to improve effectiveness or reduce the cost of service delivery.

Get in touch to find out more about the APSE Solutions' diagnostic approach and APSE Performance Networks benchmarking service.

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# Training Events

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|---|-------------------|------------------|
| <b>Identifying damp, timber mould and structural problems</b>                   | <b>27/04/2015</b> | <b>Glasgow</b>   |
| <b>Health and safety in waste and environmental services (supervisor level)</b> | <b>15/05/2015</b> | <b>Edinburgh</b> |
| <b>Awareness of drugs and alcohol for managers and supervisors</b>              | <b>18/05/2015</b> | <b>Glasgow</b>   |
| <b>Health and safety – Working on highways and verges</b>                       | <b>05/06/2015</b> | <b>Glasgow</b>   |
| <b>Controlling food costs</b>   | <b>17/06/2015</b> | <b>Glasgow</b>   |
| <b>Identifying damp, timber mould and structural problems</b>                   | <b>25/08/2015</b> | <b>Edinburgh</b> |

# Surveys

- **Street Cleansing State of the Market 2014-15**  
Available as Briefing 15-15 [here](#)
- **Parks and Green Spaces State of the Market 2014-15**  
Report currently being produced
- **Refuse State of the Market 2014-15**  
Report currently being produced
- **Social Media State of the Market**  
Available for completion soon

# Seminars

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| <b>Opportunities for civic wind energy – free APSE Energy workshop</b>   | <b>Thursday 14 May 2015<br/>Chatelherault Country Park, Hamilton</b>       |
| <b>APSE Social Media Seminar 2015</b>  | <b>Thursday 14 May 2015<br/>Elstree Studios, London</b>                    |
| <b>APSE Scotland Fleet, Waste and Grounds 2015</b>   | <b>Tuesday 26 to Friday 29 May 2015<br/>Hilton Coylumbridge, Aviemore</b>  |
| <b>Housing and Building Maintenance Seminar 2015</b>   | <b>Planned to be held in October – details available later in the year</b> |
| <b>Other upcoming seminars include:</b> Transport Seminar (June), Annual Seminar (2-3 September), Environmental Services Seminar (November) and Performance Networks Seminar (December). |  |

## Contact details

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