

**Steve Luker Associates Ltd**



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT    BIOMASS    RENEWABLE ENERGY



Stephen Cirell Consultancy Ltd

A Local Authority Biomass Supply Chain;  
experiences in North Lanarkshire and  
Stockport

November 2013

# Councils operating or planning wood fuel depots

- Stockport
- North Lanarkshire Council
- Oldham Council
- Bristol City Council
- North Ayrshire Council
- Barnsley
- ??

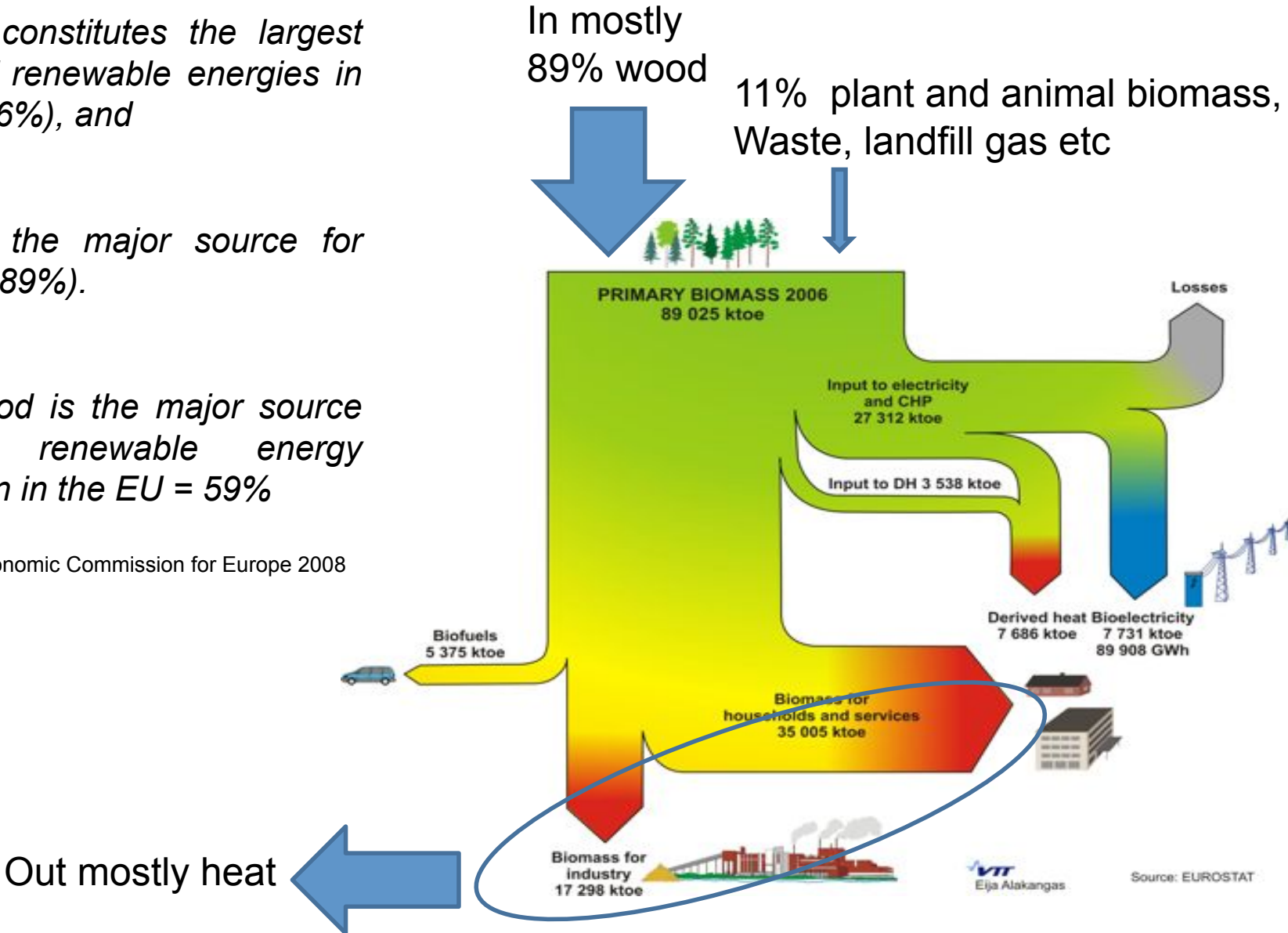
# Wood energy and biomass - definitions

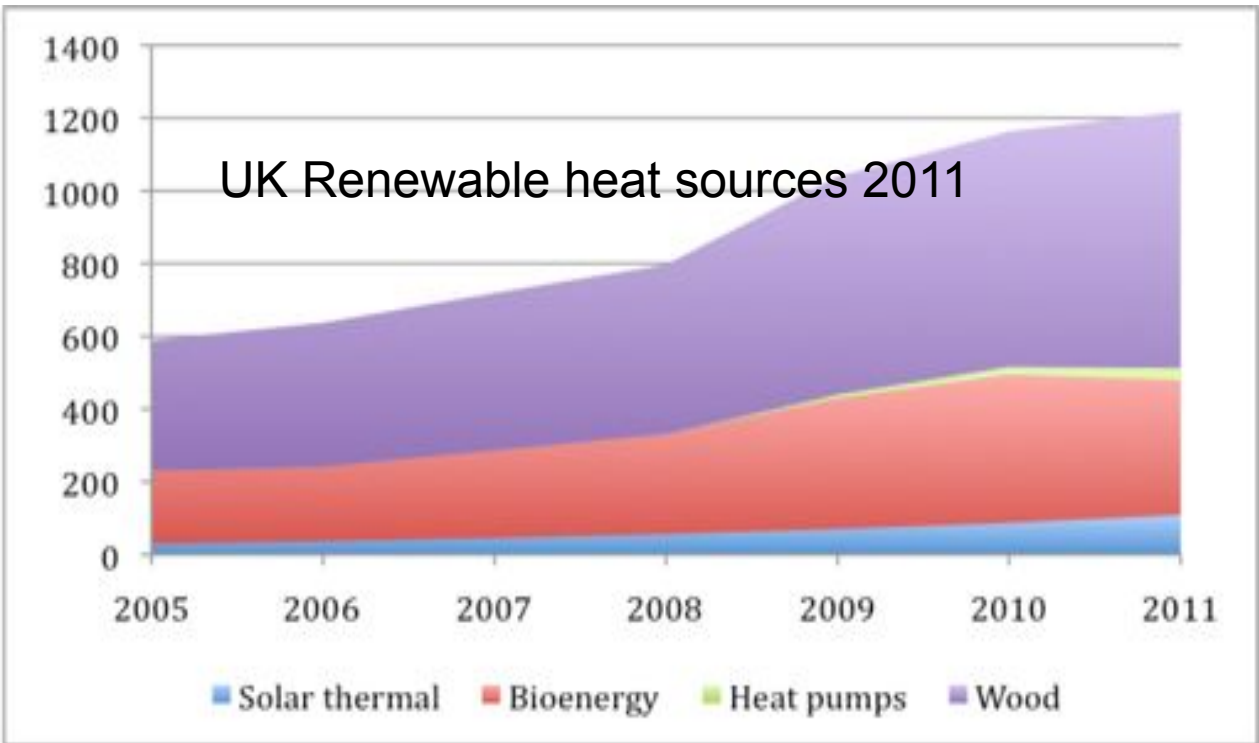
*Biomass constitutes the largest source of renewable energies in the EU (66%), and*

*Wood is the major source for biomass (89%).*

*Thus, wood is the major source for all renewable energy generation in the EU = 59%*

Source: UN Economic Commission for Europe 2008





**Wood Renewable heating:**

59%

2 million tonnes wood pa

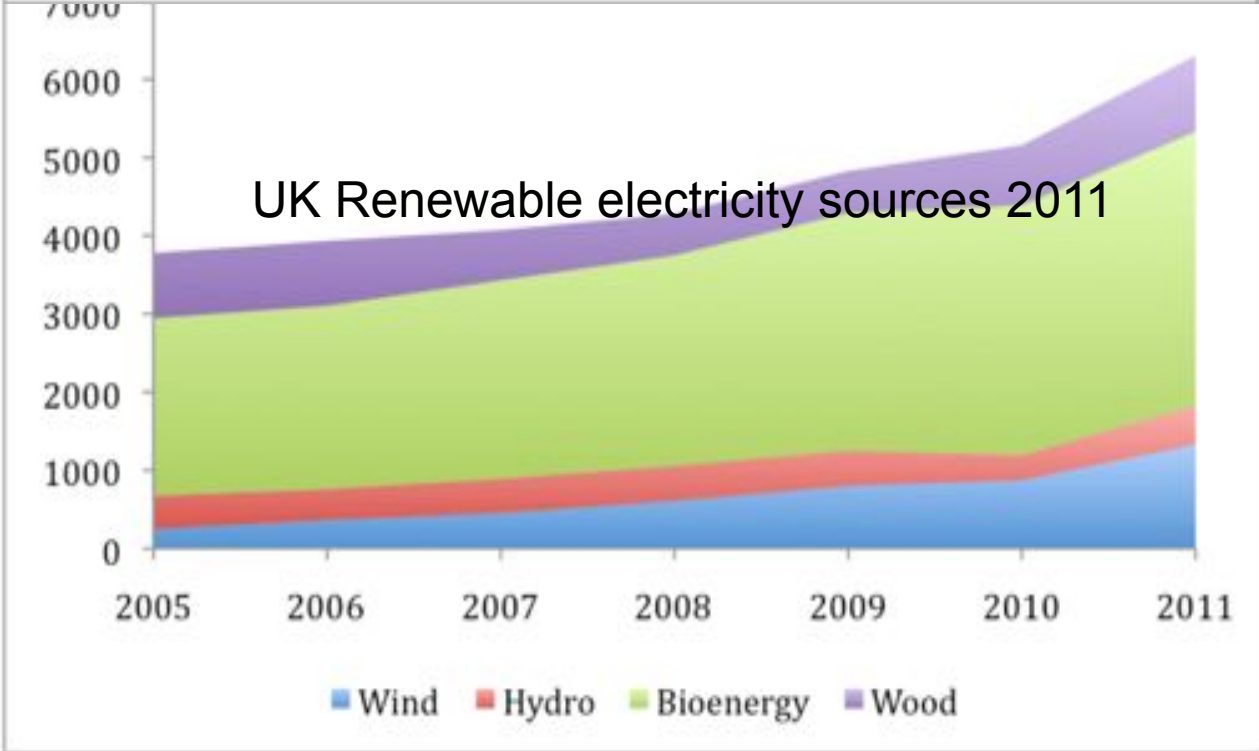
**Wood renewable electricity:**

5.7%

1.5 million tonnes of wood pa

**Overall**

Provides about 20% of RES



# Policy targets for renewable energy (presently at 3%)

## **EU**

20% renewable energy by 2020

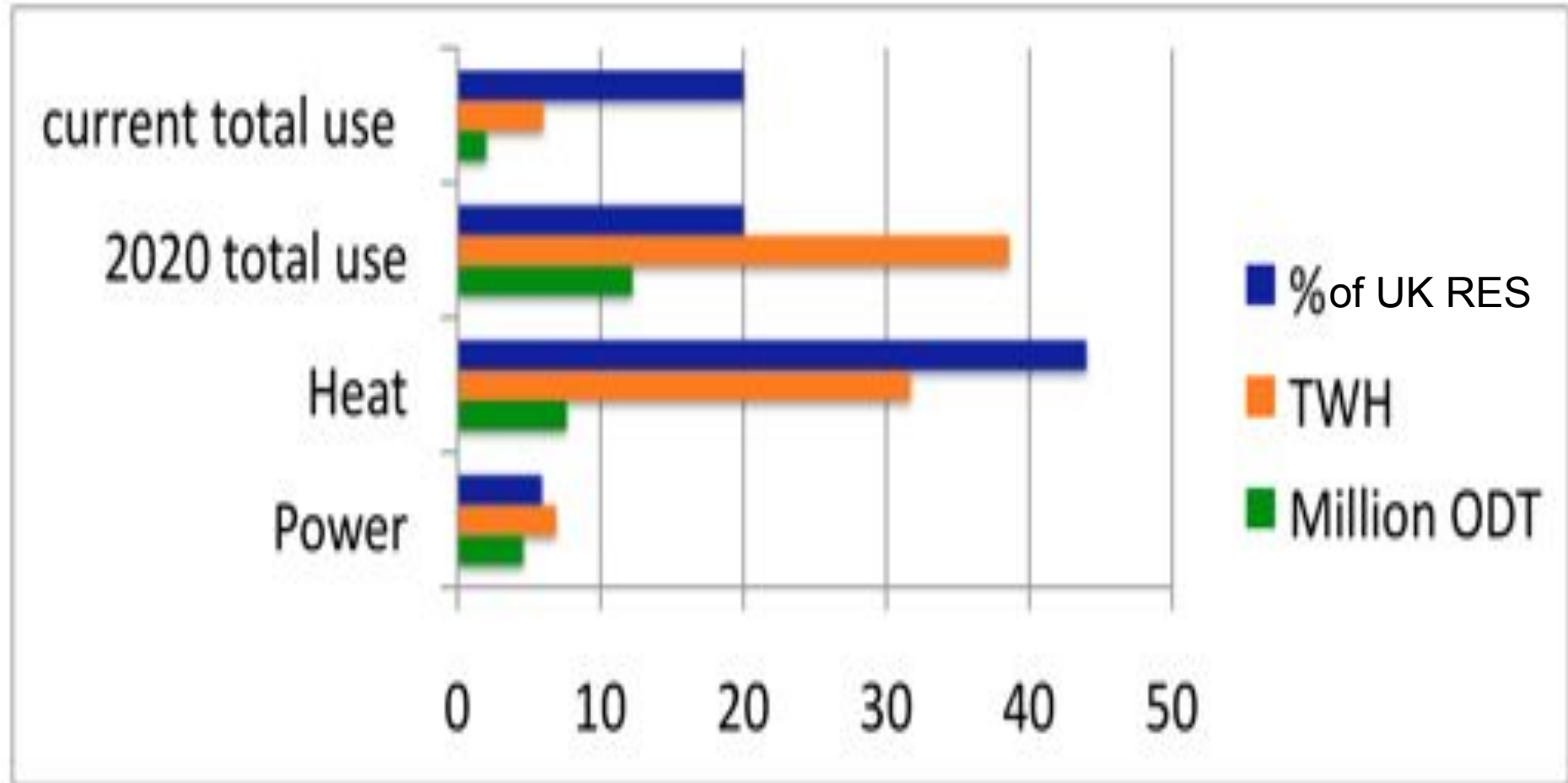
## **UK**

- 15% of energy demand from renewables by 2020

## **Scottish**

- 100% electricity demand equivalent from renewables by 2020
- 11% heat demand from renewables by 2020
- At least 30% overall energy demand from renewables by 2020
- 500 MW community and locally-owned renewable energy by 2020
- The Climate Change (Scotland) Act setting a 42% reduction target for 2020 (the UK has a 26% target)

## A summary forecast to 2020 of wood energy



### Key points:

- wood energy is/will be one of the most important RES
- wood will provide much of our renewable heat

# Biomass in Scottish Councils in 2009

Around 12MW  
installed  
47 systems in total  
Average size 256KW

In 2013?  
Guess we can  
double these figures

Installed System	Council	Capacity (KW)
Inverloch Primary School	Highland Council	150
North Coast Leisure Pool (Bettyhill)	Highland Council	150
Avoch Primary School	Highland Council	110
Hilton of Cadboll Primary	Highland Council	150
Abernethy Primary	Highland Council	150
Lochside Primary	Highland Council	150
Averon Leisure Centre	Highland Council\Leisure Centre	150
Dingwall Primary School	Highland Council	150
Lochbroom House	Highland Council	100
Russell Road Vehicle Depot	City of Edinburgh Council	360
Care Home (non operational)	City of Edinburgh Council	300
Vogie Country Park (Dalkeith)	Midlothian Council	330
Palacerigg Country Park (Cumbernauld)	North Lanarkshire Council	50
Drumpellier Plant Nursery (Coatbridge)	North Lanarkshire Council	220
Calderhead High School (Shotts)	North Lanarkshire Council	500
Braadwood Stadium	North Lanarkshire Council\NNL	200(e)
Taylor High School (Motherwell)	North Lanarkshire Council	500
Aqualibrium Leisure Centre (Campbeltown)	Argyll & Bute Council	360
Berwickshire High School	Scottish Borders Council	300
Eyemouth High School	Scottish Borders Council	300
Earlston High School	Scottish Borders Council	300
Airlie Primary School	Angus Council	120
Tannadice School	Angus Council	300
Ladyloan Primary School	Angus Council	200
Seaview Primary School	Angus Council	250
Aboyne Academy	Aberdeenshire Council	1,000
Pitlochry High School	Perth & Kinross Council	220
Alyth Primary School	Perth & Kinross Council	300

Aberfeldy Community Campus	Perth & Kinross Council	Installed capacity
Blairstown Community Campus	Perth & Kinross Council	
Crieff Community Campus	Perth & Kinross Council	
Rural Cluster Primary School, Peel Farm	Angus Council	45
Forfar Academy	Angus Council	850
Monifieth High School	Angus Council	850
Websters High School	Angus Council	850
Telford Centre	Highland Council	200
Mallaig Hostel	Highland Council	300
Lochaber High	Highland Council	500
Wick High	Highland Council	500
Lairg Primary	Highland Council	150
Halkirk Primary	Highland Council	300
Acha an aus (home)	Highland Council	200

# What is the size of the possible Council market?

- 8,500 buildings
- £65-£75 million pa on gas

## Fuel costs

- £29/MWh wood fuel
- £30/MWh gas
  
- RHI £20 to £80/MWh



# Typical current investment case in public buildings



Biomass heating system  
Capital cost: £450-700,000  
Return: £37-60,000 per annum  
20yrs CO<sub>2</sub>: 6,000 tonnes  
IRR 7.4 to 10.7%



Solar PV power array  
Capital cost: £375-450,000  
Return: £34-35,500 per annum  
20yrs CO<sub>2</sub>: 1,840 tonnes  
IRR 7.1 to 10.6%



Note the IRR is better than wind

# What it is: heating a primary school



What it is: 100KW boiler heating sheltered housing



What it is: Sports Centre 400KW boiler Fort William



# What it is – 500KW boiler for School



# What it is: wood fuel production



# What it is: wood fuel delivery



# Why should a Council develop a wood fuel depot?

- **To secure long term sustainability of supply**
- **To secure stable biomass prices**
- To secure lower cost biomass (marginally)
- To use its own underused woods and wood
- To help manage/extend its woodlands
- To grow energy crops (in the future?) on underused land assets



# North Lanarkshire depot – operated under an open book lease by a contractor



Site	Actual 2011/12	tonnes	Possible tonnes	long term
Broadwood	83.95/t		100/t	
Coltness	192/t		429/t	
Drumpellier	143.34/t		94/t	
Palacerigg	65.42/t		27/t	
Taylor HS	203/t		278/t	
Calderhead	nil		400/t	
Chryston	nil		400/t	
Totals	688/t		1728/t	

# Wood fuel depot -process

Large agricultural shed  
(20m x 30m x 4.5m)to  
store chips, perhaps  
with a mechanical  
under-floor drier



Mobile chipper  
rented perhaps 25  
days a year



1.6h to 2h of level  
dry land and ideally  
surfaced land to  
store and dry logs



Contract and in  
house haulage  
options

# Possible sources of wood fuel feedstock

- Urban woodlands
- Recycled wood
- Arbor, parks and gardens etc
- Commercial forestry
- Energy crops
- Sawmills co-products

# Stockport Homes/Council x 5 highrise

Demand = 6,875 tonnes



Source (all figures in tonnes pa at 35% MC)	Theoretical availability of wood fuel	Likely availability for a depot	actual for a
Urban Woodlands	28,000 t	7,000 t	
Aboricultural arisings	3,500 t	700 t	
Recycled wood	200,000 t	10,000 t	
Commercial Forestry	160,000 t	80,000 t	
Energy Crops	2,323 t	370 t	
Sawmills co-products	37,800 t	3,780 t	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>431,623 t</b>	<b>101,850 t</b>	

# Urban Woodlands

## Woodlands Satellite Mapping data

<b>Council</b>	<b>LA area (HA)</b>	<b>Woodlands area (HA)</b>	<b>Sustainable theoretical annual tonnes at 35%</b>
Bolton	13,980	1,286	3,215t
Bury	9,948	591	1,477t
Manchester	11,565	725	1,813t
Oldham	14,278	321	802t
Rochdale	15,808	595	1,488t
Salford	9,719	872	2,180t
Stockport	12,606	1,180	2,950t
Tameside	10,313	1,211	3,027t
Trafford	10,604	522	1,305t
Wigan	18,819	1,304	3,260t
<b>Totals</b>	<b>127,640</b>	<b>8,607</b>	<b>21,517t</b>

Data sourced from Redrose Forest and via 2009 and 2011 aerial photography – Greater Manchester Tree Audit (GMTA Consortium/Bluesky)  
 Tonnes at 35% calculated as if 100% of the woodlands are managed and 100% of the yield is used for wood fuel feedstock  
 Excludes Warrington, Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Cheshire Councils (adds 6,453 tonnes?)

# Depot development issues

- Own and operate (in house)
- Own and lease
- Facilitate and long term purchase arrangement
- Pay the right price (all wood has a market)
- Secure supplies in different means
  - Gate fees
  - Disposal
  - Spot contracts
  - Long term contracts

# And finally....sources of UK RES in 2010 (i.e. an established sector)

Of which c60% is heat and c40% is power

