



Why Wood Fuel – The political, environmental and social drivers

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CEN is a not for profit organisation working in partnership with local authorities and the European Union to design and implement environmental projects.

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About CEN

CEN as a whole

- CEN is a not for profit environmental organisation of around 60 people
- Offices in Kent and London but operate all over the South East
- We work in the fields of energy efficiency, renewable energy and wider sustainability to alleviate fuel poverty and reduce carbon emissions

Biomass Work

- Site assessments & feasibility studies
- System design and costing
- Grant and planning applications
- Tendering & arrangement of fuel supply contracts
- ESCOs
- Resource assessments
- Building fuel supply infrastructure
- Masterplanning and community / district heating



South Hampshire Sub Region Study

1. Resource Assessment – forestry, clean waste wood, arboricultural, sawmills
2. Demand Assessment – existing and projected demand across different sectors over the next 20 years (80,000 new homes being built)
3. Mapping and overlaying results to identify areas of concentrated supply and demand
4. Developing a set of recommendations for growing the wood fuel market

Environmental Drivers

- Carbon neutral fuel over the lifetime of the tree (with a small allowance for harvesting, processing and delivery)
- Improved biodiversity through better woodland management



Political Drivers

- National Targets
 - 60% carbon reduction by 2050
 - 10% of electricity from renewables by 2010, 15% by 2015
- Reduced reliance on countries exporting fossil fuels
- Zero carbon homes by 2016
- Local policy such as the 'Merton Rule'
- Eco Homes and Code for Sustainable Homes



Biomass often cheapest way for developers to hit these targets

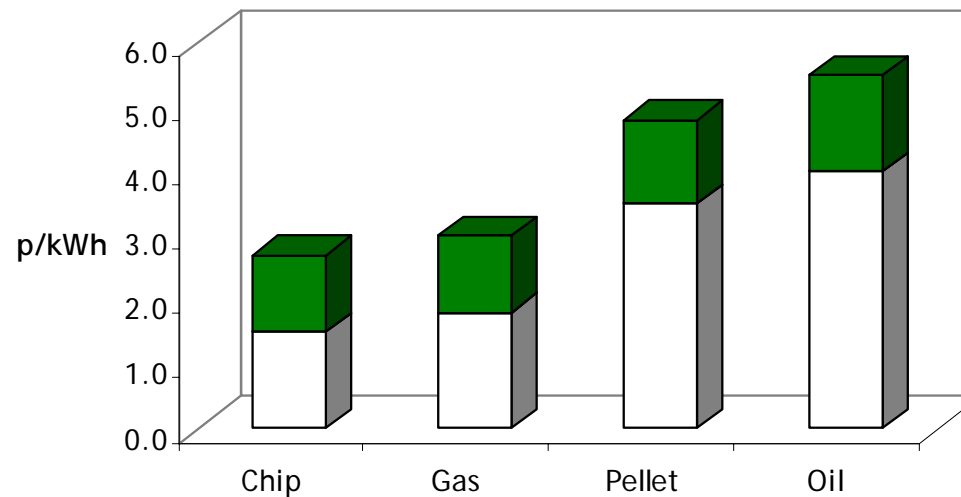
Social Drivers

- Increased rural employment
- Keeping the energy pound in the local area
- Improved access routes within woodlands
- Potential for greater public access and leisure pursuits
- Maintaining and improving forestry skills



Financial Drivers

- Grant situation
- Renewables Obligation and ROCs
- Heat Consultation going on at present (possibility of HOCs)
- Fossil prices rising (gas around 2.5 p/kWh, oil around 5p/kWh)
- Quality chip around 2-2.5 p/kWh, pellet around 4.5p/kWh
- ESCOs



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