

# CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

November 2024

## **COUNCILLOR ADAM VARLEY CABINET MEMBER FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND NET ZERO**

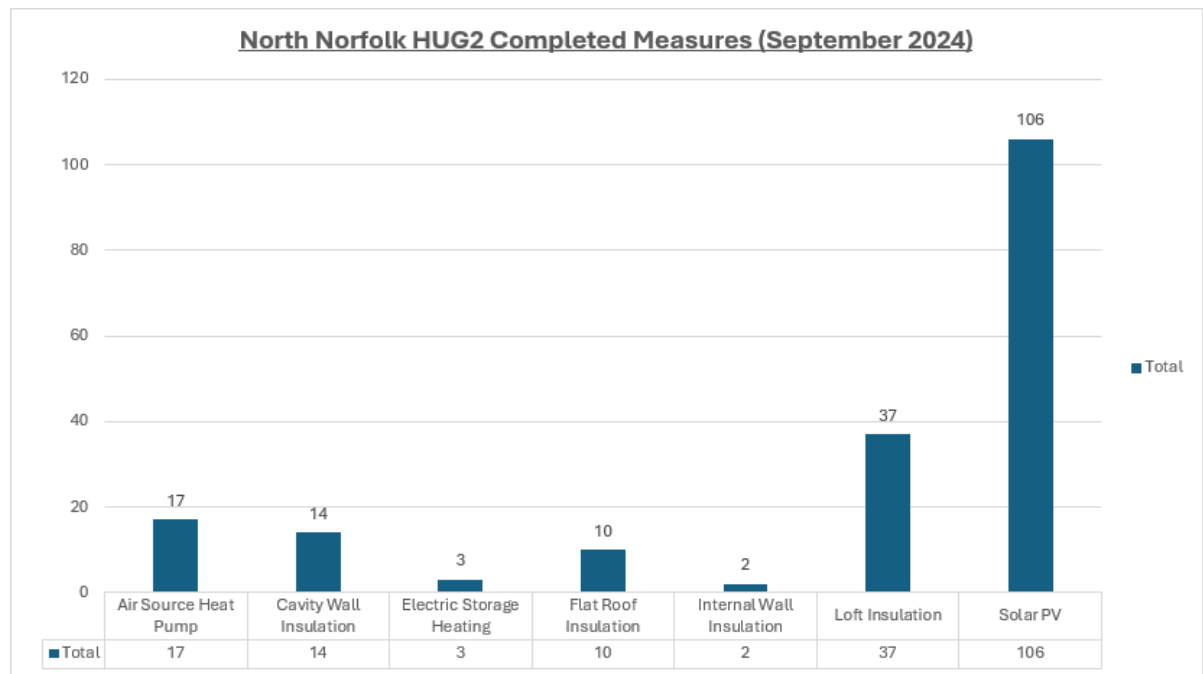
For the period September to October 2024

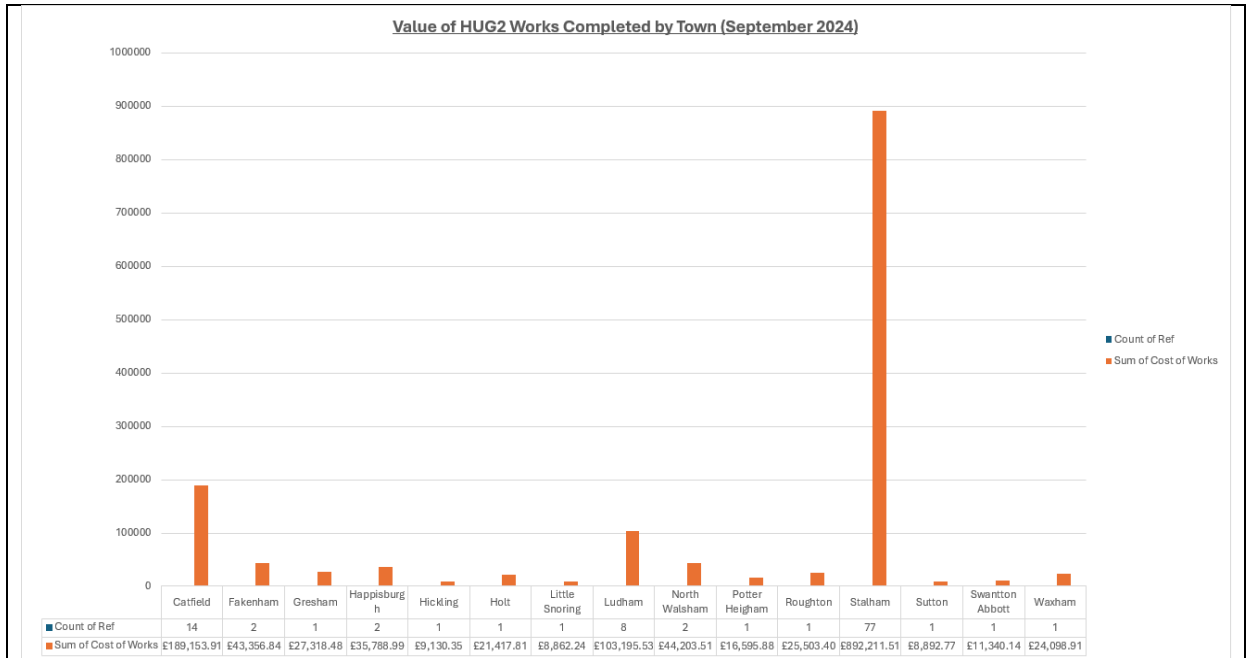
### **1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.**

#### **Delivery of funding from Government - Home Upgrade Grants (HUG2) and UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) funding in conjunction with Norfolk Warm Homes.**

Home upgrade grants are delivered by our Energy Efficiency Officer in conjunction with Norfolk Warm Homes (a consortium of Norfolk local authorities.) These grants are delivered to eligible off-gas households to improve the energy rating of the property and reduce bills. Energy efficiency improvements and a move to low carbon heating are key concepts of the scheme.

The value of completed HUG2 works across North Norfolk now exceeds £1,461,000 million which is comprised of 114 homes as of the last monthly reporting period (30th September). The Standard Assessment Procedure score, a number that estimates a building's energy performance and efficiency and informs the EPC (Energy Performance Certificate), has improved by an average of 18% across these buildings.





Stalham has a large number of off-gas homes which, together with the work done through the Net Zero Communities Project, has meant that the take-up of the grants in this area has been particularly successful.

UKSPF has enabled the team to unlock more HUG2 funding. Some properties fail the 'fabric first' requirements of the HUG2 funding, usually because of failed cavity wall insulation which cannot be rectified under the rules of the grant scheme. By funding this measure, UKSPF has enabled properties to insulate their homes making them suitable for alternative heating systems such as ASHPs which have been provided by HUG. Sixteen of the HUG funded homes have been enabled/enhanced through UKSPF.

The HUG2 scheme runs until March 2025 and is now fully subscribed.

The team is currently assisting Norfolk Warm Homes in preparing a bid for the Warm Homes: Local Government Scheme, which will replace HUG2.

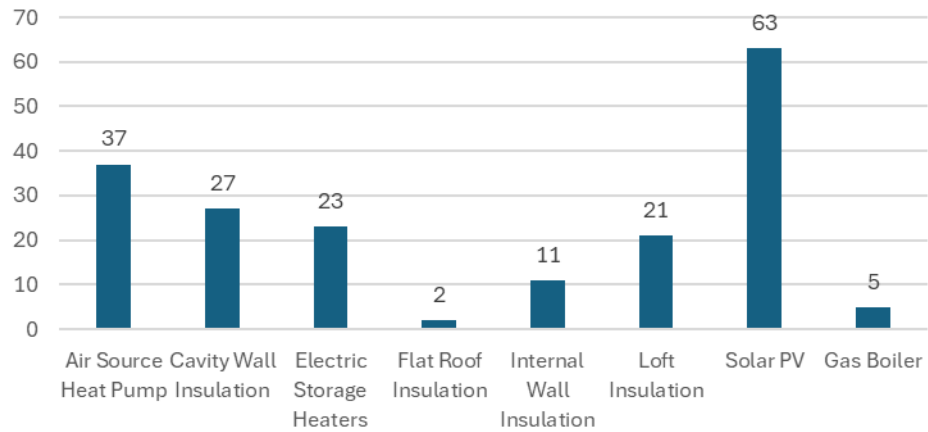
### Delivery of Energy Company Obligation Scheme

Under ECO, medium and larger energy suppliers fund the installation of energy efficiency measures into low-income British households. The obligated energy suppliers work with installers to introduce certain efficiency measures into homes, such as loft, floor or wall insulation, or heating measures.

In October 2022 Cabinet approved a statement of intent which allows the Council to approve additional households based on other factors such as those with a health condition that could be impacted by living in a cold home.

A total of 106 declarations of eligibility have been issued to-date, since the publication of our Statement of Intent, with 71 declarations issued in this financial year.

### Approved North Norfolk ECO4 LA Flex Measures (2024/25)



Take up of the scheme has again been particularly successful in Stalham and also Fakenham. This scheme is still open to applications and details of eligibility can be found on our website [Home | Energy saving tips \(north-norfolk.gov.uk\)](#)

## 2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Work to install Solar PV cells on Victory Swim and Fitness Centre in North Walsham is due to commence on site on 11/11/24.

Further engagement activities are taking place in Stalham as part of the Net Zero Communities Project. This is a community thermal camera “hire” scheme and an event at the Poppy Centre – “An introduction to Climate Awareness”, focusing on the challenges in North Norfolk related to climate change and what individuals and communities can do to decrease carbon emissions (carbon awareness training)

## 3 Meetings attended

Norfolk Strategic Flood Alliance  
Briefing on the outcome of the Ant Broads and Marshes planning inquiry  
NCCP Portfolio Holders Group

MAG002 The Broads: Flooding & Groundwater  
Carbon Footprint  
Biodiversity and Flagship group  
Introduction with Climate Change team