

Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) Report – summary

- this report covers Nottingham City Council activity for the two years up to 31 March 2023

Overview

The Secretary of State for the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) requires local authorities to provide a Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) Report setting out domestic energy saving activity undertaken over the previous 2 years. The following is a summary of our activity and outcomes for the reporting period.

Carbon Neutral Nottingham 2028

The council's effort to reduce domestic energy usage are under pinned by the city-wide ambition to be a carbon neutral city by 2028. The [Carbon Neutral Charter](#) provides the strategic direction for decarbonising all sectors in the city including domestic.

Fuel Poverty Strategy (2018 – 2025)

The [Fuel Poverty Strategy](#) guides the Council and our partner agencies in setting actions and committing resources to achieve four linked objectives to reduce fuel poverty in the city:

- Energy efficiency
- Maximise household income
- Communication, Evaluation, Monitoring and Review
- Energy Prices

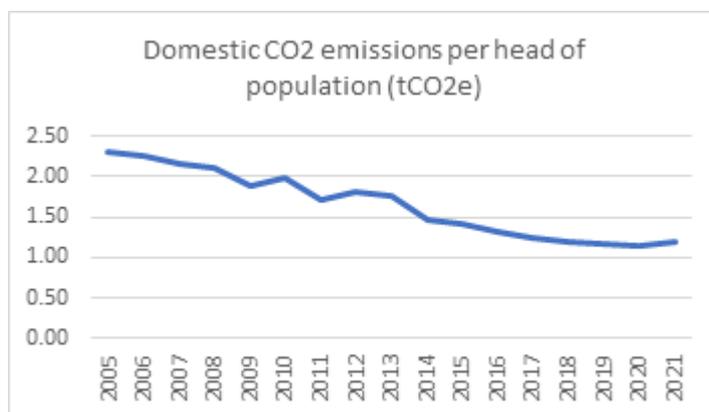
Key Performance Indicators for domestic energy efficiency

Carbon Emissions

Nottingham's domestic CO2 emissions have dropped substantially since 2005, although the long-term trend is a year-on-year reduction there was an increase between 2020 and 2021. All local authority areas experienced this increase which is thought to be because of increased gas for heating due to cold temperatures at the beginning of 2021 coinciding with increased time at home due to COVID-19 restrictions.

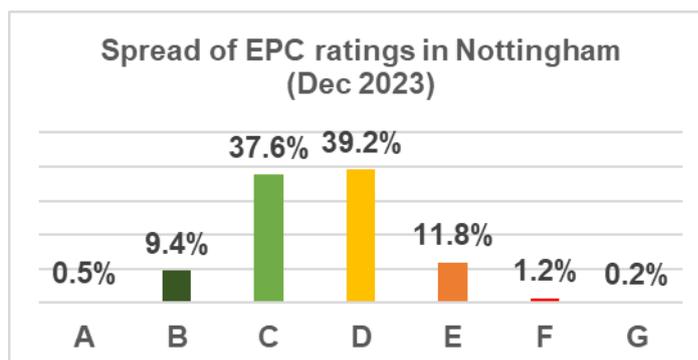
- 33.6% of Nottingham's CO2 emissions came from the domestic sector in 2021.
- **48.3% fall** in Nottingham's domestic CO2 emissions per person from 2005 to 2021 (2.29 tonnes to 1.18 tonnes) in latest DESNZ data.
- **42.0% fall** in Nottingham's domestic sector CO2 emissions between 2005 and 2021 (653.2 kt to 378.7kt).

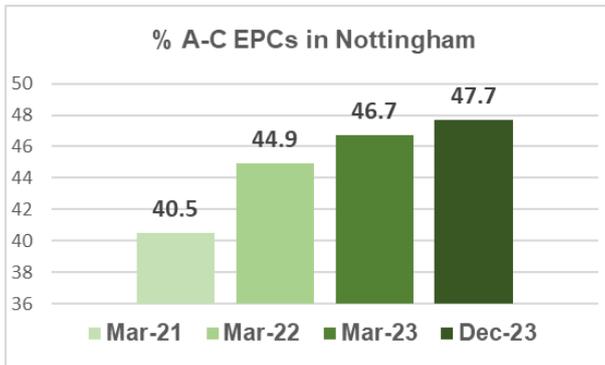
Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-local-authority-and-regional-greenhouse-gas-emissions-national-statistics>



Energy Efficiency of buildings

The energy efficiency of homes is measured by an Energy Performance Certificate. There is a nationally set target to get all homes to minimum of a C rating by 2035 and by 2030 if the household is in fuel poverty.



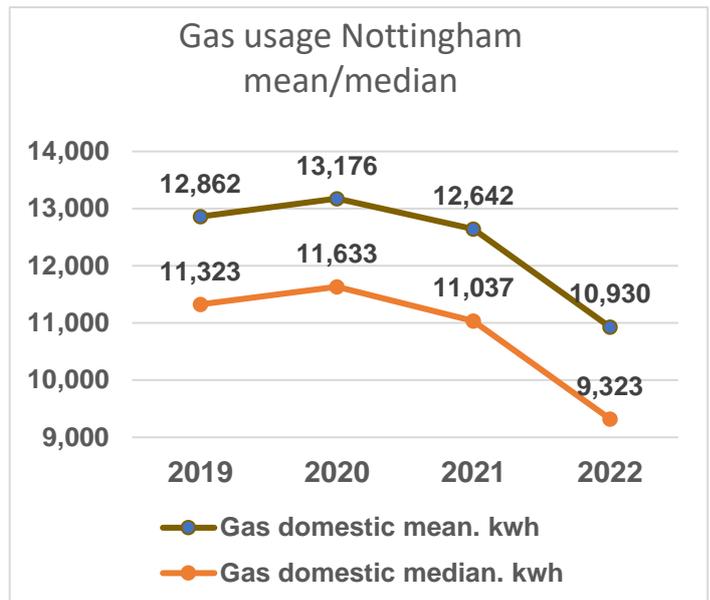
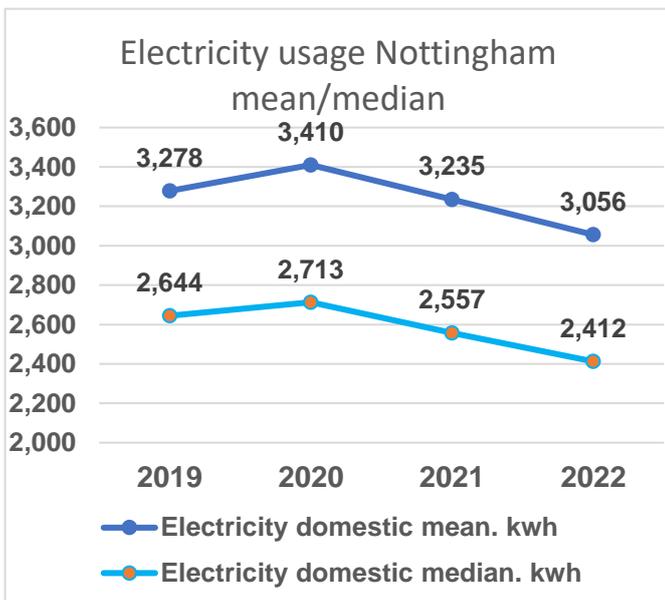


The proportion of households in Nottingham achieving an EPC rating of A-C rating has been steadily increasing and as of December 2023 stood at 47.7%, which is in line with England, where 47.0% of homes have achieved this¹.

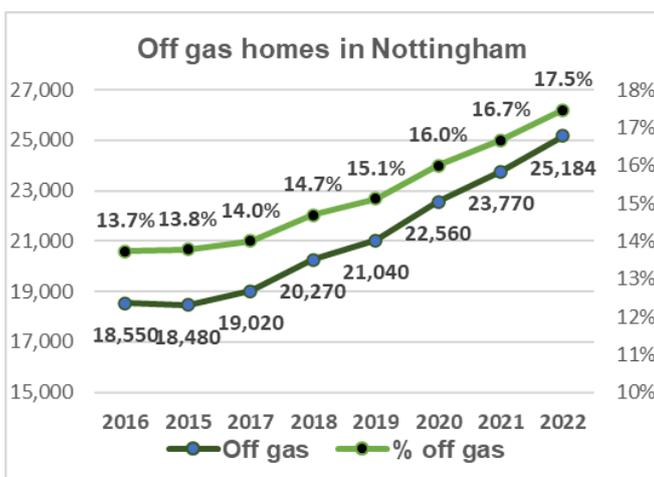
Census data shows that in March 2021 the proportion of households Nottingham that had a 10-year valid EPC rating was the highest of any local authority in England and Wales at 63.7%². This compares to an England average of 50.2%.

Gas and Electricity Consumption

Gas and electricity usage has been falling in Nottingham, making homes more energy efficient has contributed to this reduction.



Latest figures³ show mean average gas use fell 13.5% between 2021 and 2022. Electricity mean average fell by 5.5%. This takes consumption levels back to the pre-covid trajectory.



The number of off gas homes in Nottingham increased by 5.9% over 2021 and 2022. As of 2022 there were 25,184 off gas homes, which is 17.5% of all homes in the city.

¹ <https://epc.opendatacommunities.org/>

² [Percentage of dwellings covered by an Energy Performance Certificate in England and Wales, using Census 2021 data](#)

³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-energy-security-and-net-zero/about/statistics#latest-statistics>



Key Activity

£30 million of grants and investments for residential energy efficiency have been delivered [Greener Housing](#) is the council's delivery arm for domestic energy efficiency measures. The scheme seeks to improve both social housing and the private sector housing.

Energy efficiency and carbon reduction schemes over the past two years.	Private homes EPC D-G	Social homes EPC D-G
Greener Homes Grant Phases 1-3	975	
Home Upgrade Grant Phase 1	11	
Energy Company Obligation	809	
Boiler Upgrade Scheme (Heat pump)	68	
Greener Homes Grant Vouchers	521	
Warm Homes Fund Cat 1	116	
Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund		293
Energiesprong		60
Destination Zero 1 & 2		200
Homes treated over last 2 years	2,500	553

An estimated £30.2m has been invested in domestic energy efficiency initiatives, schemes and services, this has been resourced through a mixture of government grant and matched funding.

Improvements have included gas and electric heating, insulations, heating controls, heat pumps and solar photo voltaics.

The table shows the number of homes that have had energy efficiency improvements under various grant schemes.

Examples of domestic energy efficiency initiatives in Nottingham

Energy Company Obligation

Energy Company Obligation schemes help low income and vulnerable households improve their energy efficiency and reduce their bills. The Council is running a LA Flex scheme to widen the eligibility criteria for local people to enable more people to access the latest ECO4 scheme. Find out more [here](#)

So far the LA Flex scheme has helped an additional 2,458 owner occupier or private rented households fund heating and insulation improvements since 2019. 701 LA Flex applications were approved in the reporting period.

Solar Photo Voltaic

Solar panels are a renewable source of energy. Over the reporting period 865 Solar Photo Voltaics were installed in owner occupier homes using Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery phases 1/2/3. As of December 2023, there were 8,062 homes in Nottingham with Solar PV.

Smart Meters

Smart Meters help households to better understand their energy usage. 60% Nottingham homes had a Smart Meters at March 2023, this compares well against England average of 56%⁴. Find out more about Smart Meters [here](#).

Heat pumps

Heat pumps use less energy compared to traditional heating systems to heat homes. EPC data shows that as of November 2023 over 400 Nottingham homes have a Heat Pump
Over the period

- Nottingham Community Housing Association built 44 new homes for either rent or shared ownership with heat pumps
- 68 households (owner occupiers and private rented sector) upgraded their boiler for a heat pump through the Boiler Upgrade Scheme. Find out more [here](#)

⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/smart-meters-statistics>



Private Rented Sector & Energy Efficiency

The Council's Safer Housing and Selective Licensing teams are responsible for the enforcement of Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) in the Private Rented Sector. Over the reporting period 1,500 private rented homes have been engaged with over MEES, around 300 found non-compliant of achieving E rating and 288 have now been improved to E or above.

Information to help landlords improve the energy efficiency of their properties is available [here](#)

Partnership is key to the city's progress towards making homes energy efficient and reducing fuel poverty

The council has worked in partnership with a range of organisations to develop initiatives to support residents to reduce their energy bills and improve the energy efficiency of their homes.

Local partners include

- [Advice Nottingham](#)
- [AgeUK \(Nottingham & Notts\) including Warm & Wise](#)
- [Home Energy Advice Team](#)
- [Nottingham Green Partnership](#)
- [Installers including ECO installers](#)
- [Midlands Net Zero Hub](#)
- [Nottingham Energy Partnership](#)
- [Notts & Derbyshire LAEP](#)
- Private landlords
- Registered Providers
- The Universities

Useful Links

- Ask Lion - [Prioritise and Reduce Your Bills](#)
- Gov.uk - [Find ways to save energy in your home](#)

