

Frequently Asked Questions

Ground Source Heat Pumps – Hot Water & Heating System

Q) What is a ground source heat pump?

A ground source heat pump extracts heat from the ground and uses it to heat the water in your radiators, warming your house and providing all of your hot water.

Installing one means that gas boilers are no longer needed, improving safety, reducing carbon emissions and improving air quality where they are installed. They come in lots of different shapes and sizes.

Q: Are heat pumps new technology?

No, you have probably had a heat pump in your home for years. Your fridge is a heat pump, only instead of warming something up, it cools something down. This technology has been used to heat homes for over 20 years and will play a growing role as the UK moves to a more sustainable energy system.

Q: Why are the council doing this now?

The launch of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme in 2020 allowed the council to secure significant funding to complete the works. This funding must be spent by March 2022.

Q: How deep are the boreholes?

The boreholes will be at least 100m deep, in order to ensure they can extract enough heat from the ground to heat the properties. Once they are drilled, all that will be visible is a manhole cover for occasional maintenance access.

Q: Where will the boreholes go?

The boreholes are going to be located in the grounds of the schemes, the precise locations are determined to avoid where any services (telephone/electricity cables, etc.) are buried.

Please also note, there will also be site welfare, storage containers, tanks for the drilling and drill rig located on site throughout the drilling process.

Q: Is the borehole drilling noisy?

The borehole drilling is very noisy work and does look very messy as muddy water is generated around the rig area. The drilling will be intermittent between the hours of 8am and will finish by 6pm each day and will not take place over the weekend. We would like to apologise in advance of any inconvenience this causes you.

If you would like to find out more information about how Ground Source Heat Pumps Work, please contact our Carbon Reduction Team on 01273 263000