



Swaffham Prior Community Heat Network

CLIENT: Bouygues E&S Solutions Ltd. for SPCHN (Cambridgeshire County Council)
LOCATION: Swaffham Prior, Cambridgeshire **DURATION:** 1 year



Prospus Group were appointed to provide planning and project management for the application process of this Community Heat Network.

Details

Prospus Group has undertaken another successful energy-based planning application with Bouygues E&S Solutions Ltd. This project is a highly ambitious community-led zero carbon heat network proposal that seeks to marry ground-sourced borehole thermal energy with air source powered by a dedicated PV array.

The heat energy from these sources is then concentrated and pumped around a village within a conservation area and retrofitted into round 200 existing central heating systems.

Project key facts:

- 750kW PV array
- 130 x 200m borehole array
- Energy centre with thermal stores, back up LPG plant, and air sourced heat pumps
- 5km of underground pre-insulated pipes in the highway
- Exploratory work on a Local Listed Building Consent Order (LLBCO) to secure advance consent for installations in listed buildings

Prospus Group's involvement included:

- Pre-application advice and EIA screening requests to the LPA
- Ecological surveys
- Landscape and visual impact assessments
- Heritage assessment
- Noise and vibration assessment
- Traffic assessment
- Flood and drainage assessment
- Glint and glare assessment
- Input into the scheme design and network route
- Development of the landscaping and biodiversity mitigation strategy

This proposal saw the team overcome a number of challenges in order to secure planning consent including; a number of listed buildings, sensitive views, and the Devil's Dyke SSSI/Scheduled Ancient Monument. Furthermore, the engineering work required to get this project into a consentable state was enormous and much credit goes to Bouygues and their engineering team for this successful undertaking. Also of note was the incredible work undertaken by the local community board who enthused the community to support the scheme and continue to volunteer to ensure the project is deliverable. This project was delivered on time and to budget and demonstrates the fantastic team effort from all parties involved.