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“Council buildings become even more Energy Efficient”

The latest independent energy assessment of seven of Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council’s largest buildings shows that they have all become more energy efficient over the last twelve months.

The energy rating exercise was carried out by “Information Prophets”, a nationally accredited energy assessment company based at Coventry University’s Technology Park, to produce up-to-date “Display Energy Certificates” for the Borough Council Buildings. The exercise, conducted using nationally set criteria identified that every one of the buildings looked at, used less energy during 2009 than 2008.

Display Energy Certificates give buildings an “A- G” rating for energy efficiency in much the same way as freezers, washing machines, cookers and other white goods are rated, with “A” being the best rating and “G” the worst. While the average rating of all the buildings taken together remained at “D”, the average score for the Council’s buildings improved from 93 to 78, just 3 points off a “C” rating [51-75].

The building inspected were:

- The Town Hall
- The Council House
- Pingles Leisure Centre
- Bedworth leisure Centre
- Jubilee Sports Centre
- The Museum and Art Gallery
- The Civic Hall Bedworth

Councillor Nick Grant, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council’s Cabinet Member for Environment said:

“I am delighted that the latest set of Display Energy Certificate [DEC] inspections have confirmed that the hard work and investment that the Borough Council has put into making our corporate buildings more energy efficient has had a positive effect in reducing their carbon footprint and significantly reducing the costs of running them. A DEC points score of 100 would show that the energy usage in a building is “typical” of that type of building. The scores for our buildings prove that overall we are using much less energy to run than would be expected. But we’re not resting on our laurels and we will be striving to make our buildings even more energy efficient over the coming months. We are aiming for an average score of less than 75 points and for every one of our seven largest buildings to have a rating of “D” or better by the time the next set of inspections take place in December 2010.”

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Notes to Editor

Display Energy Certificates (DECs) show the actual energy usage of a building, the Operational Rating, and help the public see the energy efficiency of a building. This is based on the energy consumption of the building as recorded by gas, electricity and other meters.

The DEC should be clearly displayed at all times and clearly visible to the public. A DEC is always accompanied by an Advisory Report that lists cost effective measures to improve the energy rating of the building.

Display Energy Certificates are only required for buildings with a total useful floor area over 1,000m² that are occupied by a public authority and institution providing a public service to a large number of persons and therefore visited by those persons. They are valid for one year. The accompanying Advisory Report is valid for seven years.

The requirement for Display Energy Certificates came into effect on 1 October 2008.

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