

Data Collection Methodology

Table 1 below summarises the information/data gathering techniques proposed in order to fulfil the project's objectives.

Table 1 Summary of information and data gathering methodology

Information/Data required	Information/data gathering techniques proposed
A suitable location for the study.	Must satisfy the criteria identified in section 2.9
Energy demand for space heating and hot water demand of any "anchor buildings".	Initially, seek primary data from the building managers in the form of utility bills, annual usage figures. Secondarily, use published benchmarks or case studies as estimates and obtain floor areas.
Residential energy demand for space heating and hot water.	Questionnaire Survey of residents, floor areas.
Distance over which the DHN will need to be laid	Measure distances involved.
Evidence for a local biomass supply chain.	Interview the local forestry development manager at Teagasc.
Numbers of potential customers.	Questionnaire survey of residents.
Identify commercially available, small-scale CHP plant,	Seek information, costs and specifications from CHP plant manufacturers.
Costs and Income	Obtain estimates for costs from contractors and manufacturers. Otherwise, use published case studies to make reasonable estimates.
Public attitudes to CHP/DHN as a potential energy service in the locality.	Questionnaire survey of residents.