

# Durham: 510 buildings certified

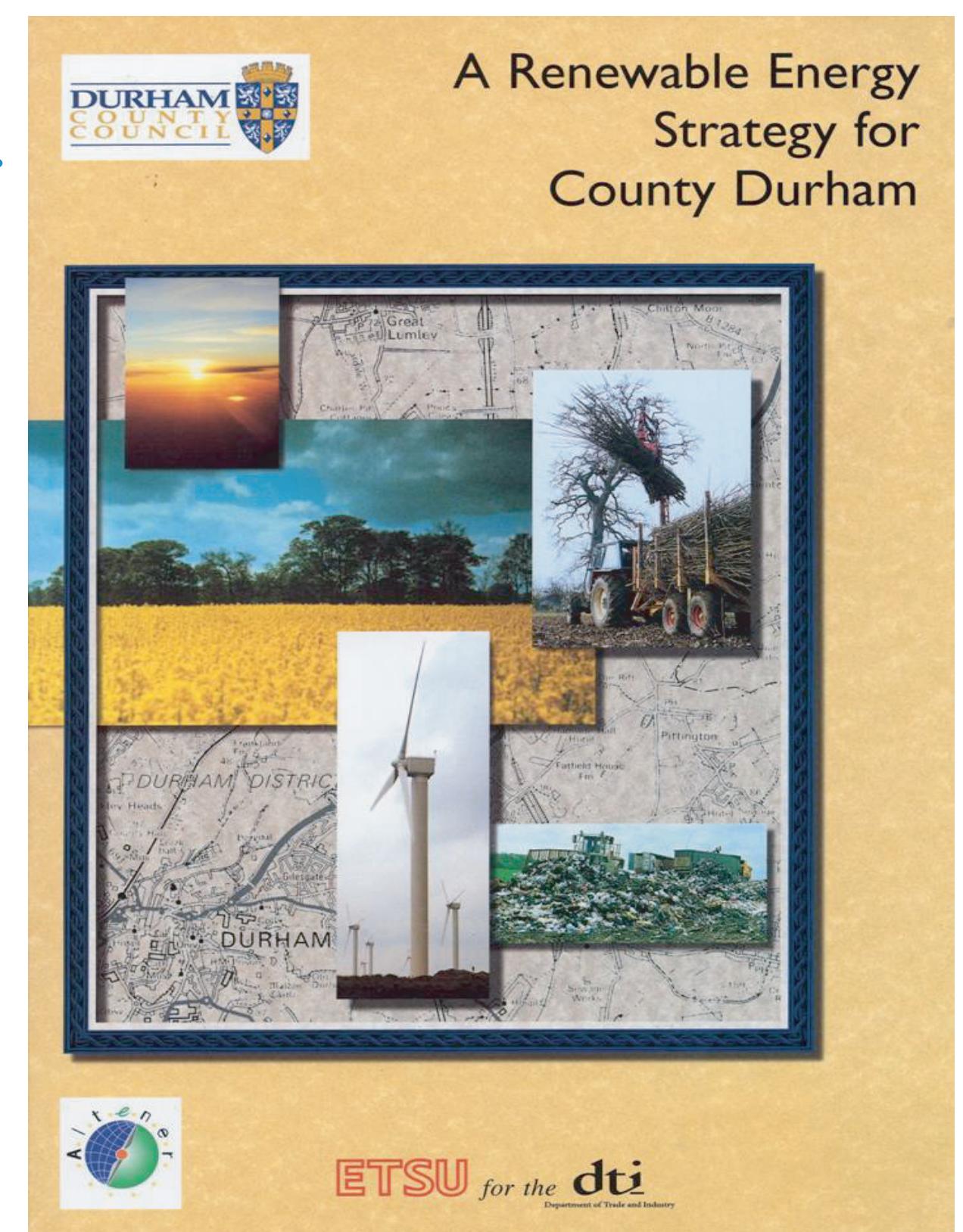
## Towards Class A - Shining examples

...are everywhere and in a town near you...

### Embedding a strategy at the highest level

Realising the age of their building stock, and secure in the knowledge that the EPBD would require energy performance of building certificates, Durham decided to certify as many of their buildings as possible, using Display. In this way they could be confident at the highest levels of management that the Council was demonstrating to their resident's value for money, pro-action and responsiveness to broader social challenges such as tackling climate change.

510 posters later, the decision to adopt Display was easy, as the principles of sustainability were already an embedded feature of the Council's ethos.



### Positive, Pre-emptive action

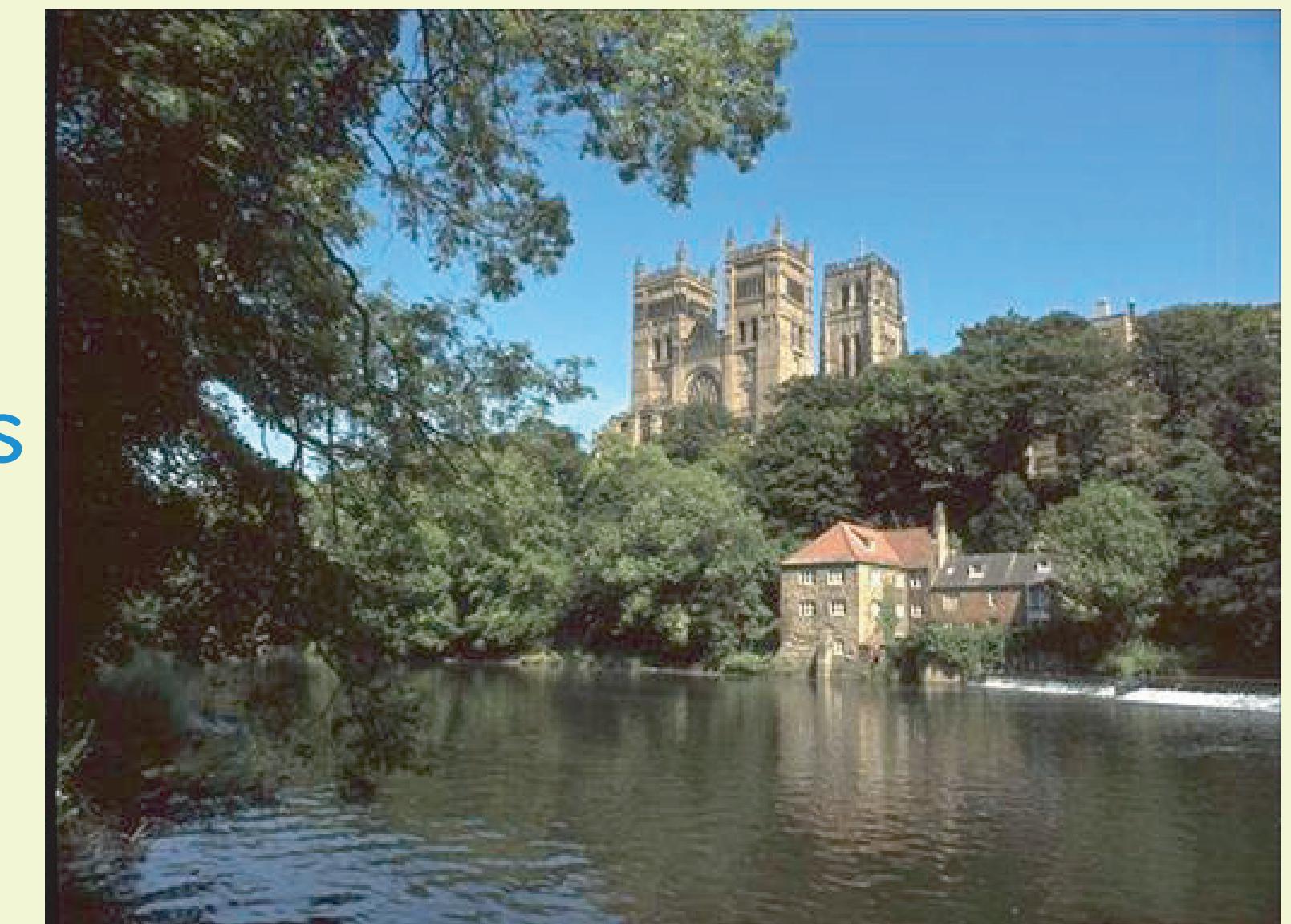
The Council was keen to maintain good public relations: It was conscious that the public may react adversely to buildings receiving poor energy ratings under a mandatory scheme required by the EPBD. Consequently the Energy Team within the Council prepared a business case recommending that the Council joins Display. In this way it could start labelling early and then demonstrate improvements on these labels once the labelling scheme became mandatory.



### Strategic level buy-in leads to easy implementation

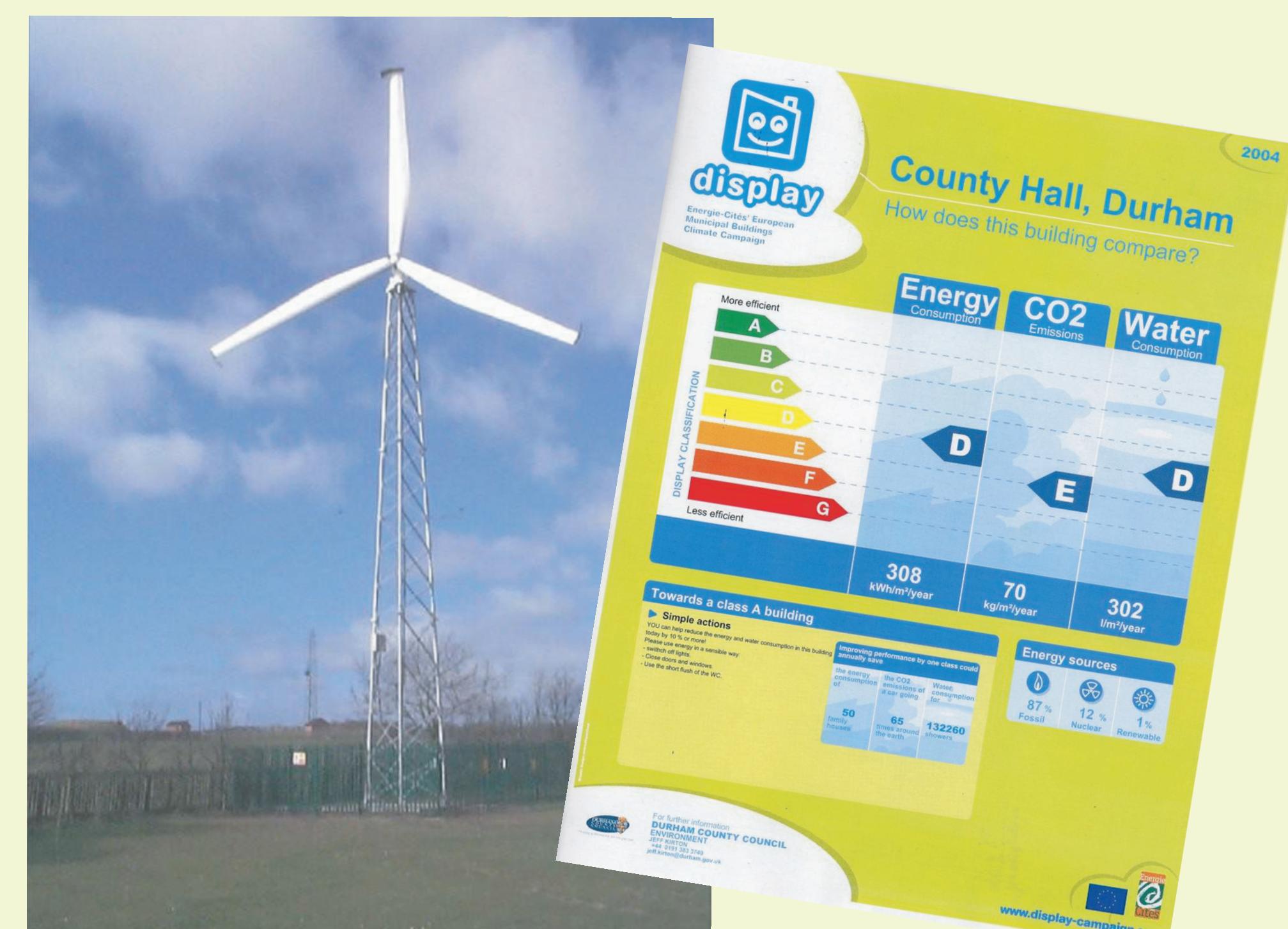
Durham Council has a sound track record at being a forerunner in environmental activity. It produced its first Energy Strategy report in 1994 and has signed up to the UK Government's 'make a corporate commitment' programme. This led new objectives and implementation of systems for measuring and managing their energy and resource use.

These systems, endorsed at the highest level, means that the information and enthusiasm was plentiful.



### Measures

Most improvements have come in the form of replacing old coal fired boilers with gas, and more recently with biomass boilers. This decision was aided by the Council's waste strategy which identified waste timber from forestry in an adjacent county as a good source of wood pellets. It was also a strategic goal to install at least one demonstration of each renewable technology, to inform the people of Durham.



### Partners



### Contact

#### Partner

Energie-Cités - the association of European local authorities promoting local sustainable energy policy (coordinator)  
EnEffect - Centre for Energy Efficiency (Bulgaria)  
EuroACE - European Alliance of Companies for Energy Efficiency  
CEMR - Council of European Municipalities and Regions  
ACE/CAE - Architects' Council of Europe

[www.display-campaign.org](http://www.display-campaign.org)

### Durham

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Intelligent Energy Europe

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