Evaluating support for local authorities to deliver sustainable communities

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Today:

Our approach to impact assessments

Methodology to determine CO₂ savings

Holy grail; attribution of CO₂ savings

Confidence in data; limiting risks

Summing up; our rationale





EST and Databuild's approach Impact assessments

- Demand for CO₂ impact
- Our response is
 - Pragmatic and cost effective approach
 - Social research survey approach
 - Respondent attribution

Determining the impact delivered through Local Authorities as a result of EST's Local Authority Support Programme





LA Support Programme Logic

Provision of free, impartial advice and support to help LAs improve the EE of the housing stock in their communities

EST LA Support Programme

Core service

Local in-depth Outreach



- Measures
- Standard
- Communication
- Influencing
- Funding

Increase in EE measures installed in housing stock

Social Housing Private: Housing

RentedOwneroccupied

CO₂ saved

how and why?





Evaluation Objectives:

- Assess the CO₂ emission saving impact
- Assess EST's value; how and why?

Methodology:

- Social research approach
- Primary fieldwork collecting empirical evidence
- Survey approach

Quantitative research

Large representative survey of LAs in the UK, England, Scotland, Wales and NI

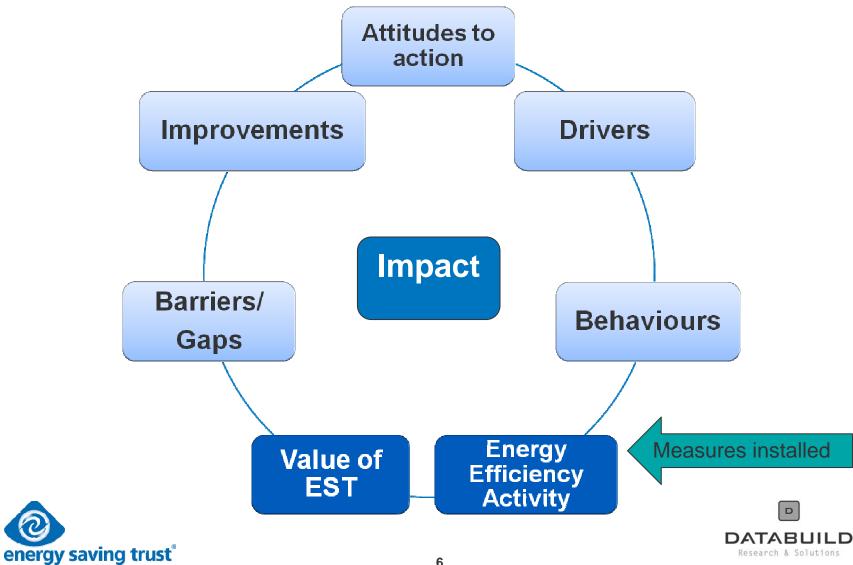
Qualitative research

- In-depth, telephone and face to face
- Paired Interviews

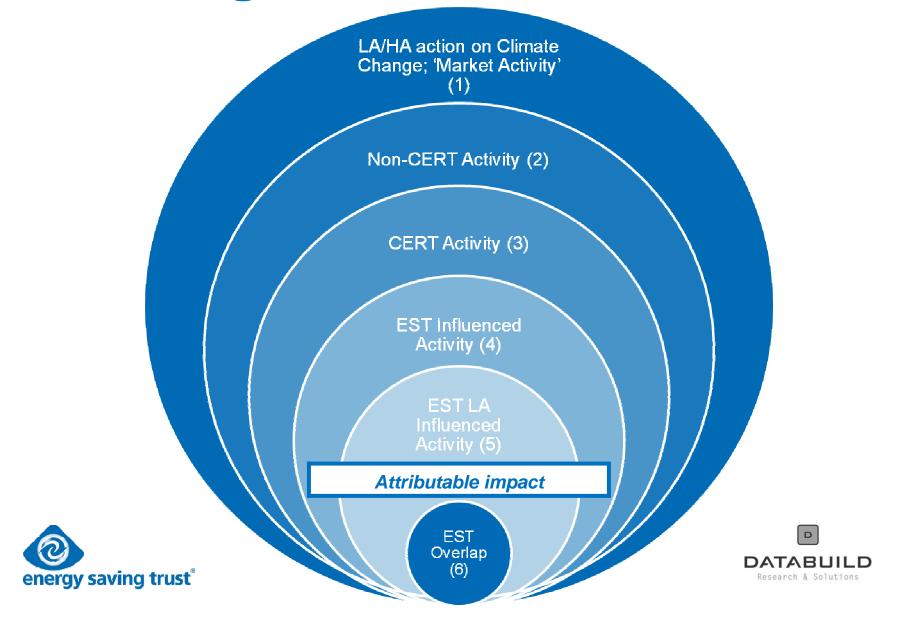




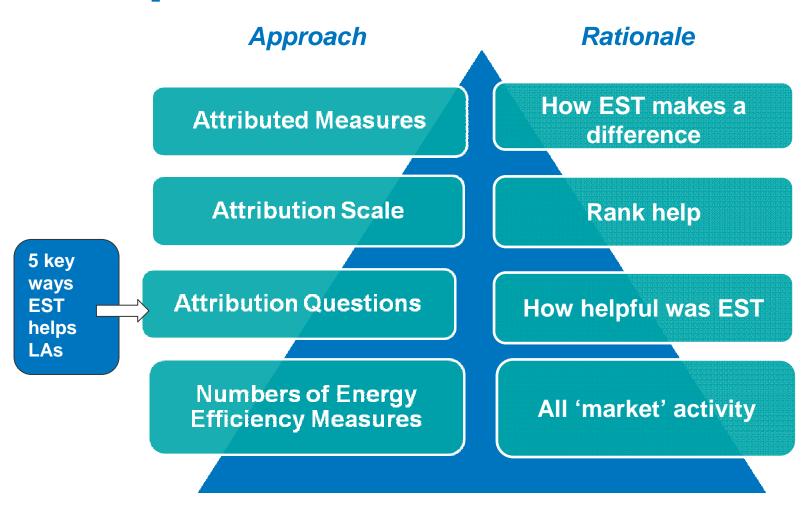
Methodology



Isolating EST's influence



Respondent Attribution

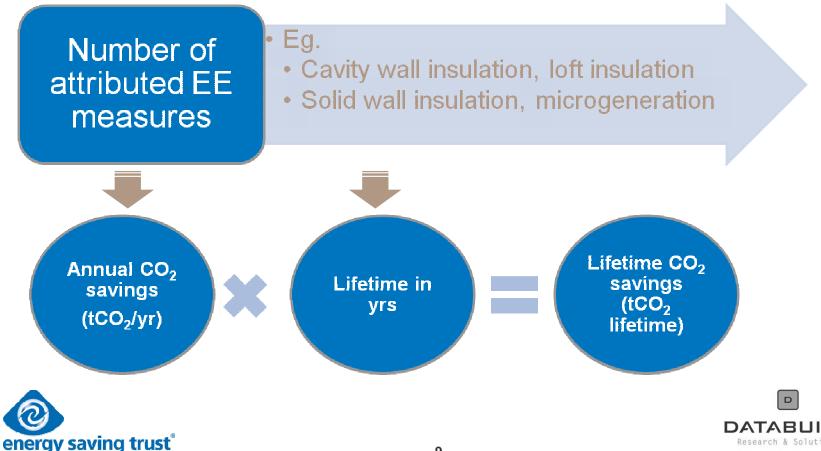






Estimating CO2 savings

Application of standardised estimated savings associated with each energy efficiency measure



Limiting risks

Limitations to all methodologies

- Non representative samples, bias, grossing up errors
- Overlap and Over-claim

Verification of impact

- Benchmark against market and other research data
- Put into context with qualitative survey research
- Peer review Programme Team's perceptions
- Additional research to verify data or fill knowledge gaps

CO₂ results are part of the 'evidence suite'; not the only.

Informed decisions should be made using all available evidence





Use of findings

TREND

Decrease in social housing and increase in private sector housing

RESPONSE

Operational

Guides on how to install solid wall insulation in HTT homes

Strategical

Embed CC strategy including how to tackle HTT





Rationale

Why we do it this way

Responding to the demand for CO₂ impact assessment

- 5 year's experience refinement of methodology
- Evidence of the level of market activity
- Evidence of how EST makes a difference
- Respondent attribution
- Bottom up approach testing programme logic and assumptions
- Quantitative and qualitative evidence
- Limit risks by verifying against market data

Pragmatic, cost effective approach to assessing EST's impact through local authorities





Contacts

Full Paper:

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