

£500,000 of savings found for North Lanarkshire Council thanks to a Water Plus audit



“The installation of over 200 Smart Meters and 100 water audits across North Lanarkshire Council’s varied property portfolio has been a very worthwhile exercise. We would have no hesitation in recommending Water Plus and their services to any organisation.

Both projects were managed efficiently and in line with our timescales: Water Plus managed the process end to end to ensure our objectives were achieved. To date we have been very impressed with Water Plus’s professionalism, efficiency and furthermore their ability to highlight innovation.”

Peter Scanlan Energy Manager, NLC

Challenge

North Lanarkshire Council needed a full water audit on all their sites, with a goal of saving money through water efficiency plans.

Solution : water audits

We conducted a large-scale water audit, according to their requirements and timescale, and produced water savings reports.

Savings



**Could save
£500,000**



**Detailed water
savings report
for 100 sites**



Leaks found



**Water saving
devices
suggested**

Client

North Lanarkshire Council are responsible for a large number of sites, such as schools, council buildings and community centres. They have worked with us in the past, when we installed over 200 smart meters across their portfolio.

Challenge

Scottish councils are facing a fifth year of cuts, with 2019-20 bringing a £319million reduction to their services budget (SPICe report, 2018*). So, reducing running costs is particularly important for councils.

North Lanarkshire Council wanted to undertake a full water audit programme, to understand what savings they could make. With this information they then planned to create a business case for investing money in water efficiency, to create large long-term savings.

Savings

The recommendations in our water audit could **save North Lanarkshire Council £500,000.**

The council now has all the information it needs to start saving money by investing in becoming more water efficient, plus some unexpected savings to be made from repairing leaks.

Solution

The council had specific requirements for the water audit, to develop their business case. Our specialist team's vast experience and knowledge was one of the reasons we won the tender.

- We conducted an audit of 100 of North Lanarkshire Council's sites.

This involved:

- Conducting a water usage review. This identified leaks and helped establish whether the current meter sizes were appropriate.
- Benchmarking and comparing. This compared the current water consumption and charges of the council's sites to other non-council sites of a similar size.
- Performing on-site water efficiency surveys. This identified where water wasn't being used efficiently, which helped us find areas to recommend water efficiency measures.
- Carrying out rateable value reviews. This compared sites and detailed their potential savings and risks.

With this information, we:

- Produced a detailed water savings report for each of the council's sites, showing our findings in the council's specific areas of interest.
- Found leaks, which had been losing the council money.
- Suggested water saving devices to help the council make significant water savings.

*Burn-Murdoch A., Campbell A., Aiton A., Finnigan K. 2018. Local Government Finance: Budget 2019-2020 and provisional allocations to local authorities. The Scottish Parliament Information Centre (SPICe): Scotland