

# Standards and Regulations for Energy Audits

David Weatherall, Associate, Energy Saving Trust



[How can policy better support SMEs in the pathway to Net Zero? \(Energy Saving Trust\) - Climate Change Committee \(theccc.org.uk\)](https://theccc.org.uk)

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The EN standard for energy audits, EN-16247 provides the basis for the International Standard ISO 50002 for energy audits

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ISO 50002 and EN 16247 can be used within the overarching ISO 50001 standard for energy management systems,

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American ASHRAE standard



# Energy Saving Opportunities Scheme

UK large businesses scheme:

- All large undertakings must audit their energy use, in four-yearly cycles.
- The audit must be carried out or reviewed by an approved assessor
- An option for ESOS compliance is ISO50001
- ISO50002/EN16247 may be used as a standard within ESOS energy auditing, particularly where compliance is demonstrated via the ISO50001 route
- “ESOS reports will use an existing auditing standard such as ISO 50002 or EN 16247 from Phase 4 onwards”
- A 2021 consultation discussed extending ESOS to more energy intensive SME businesses.



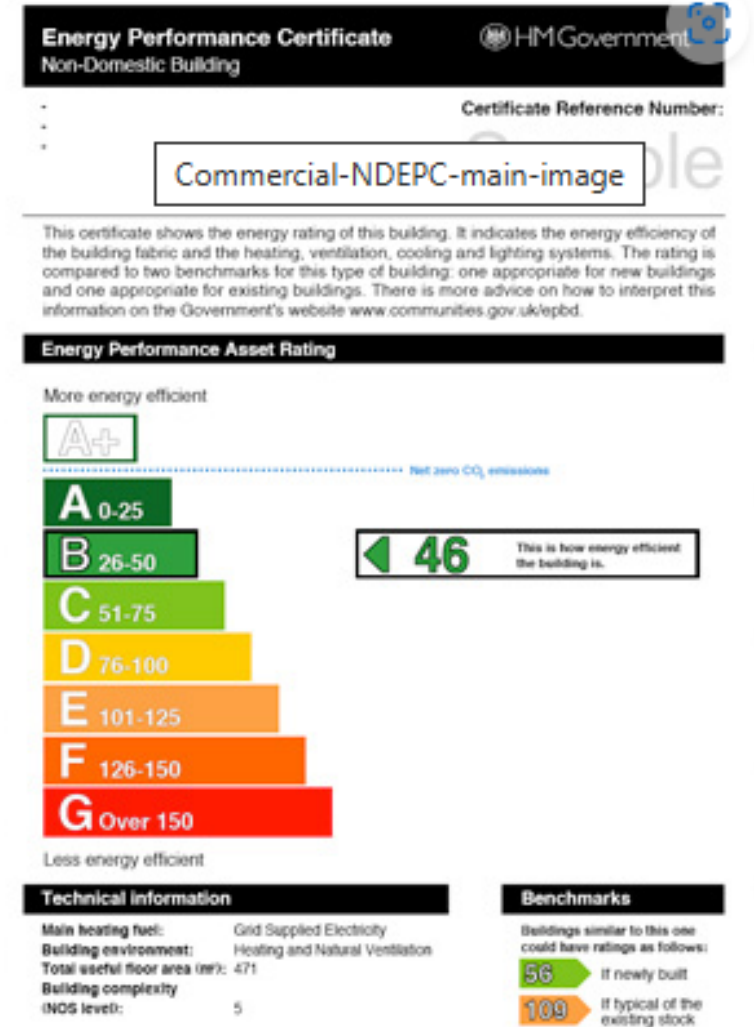
# Two other regulated assessments relevant to energy audits

- Non-domestic Energy Performance Certificate

*Required at point of sale or renting out of property. Based on “asset rating” assessment of energy performance of the building.*

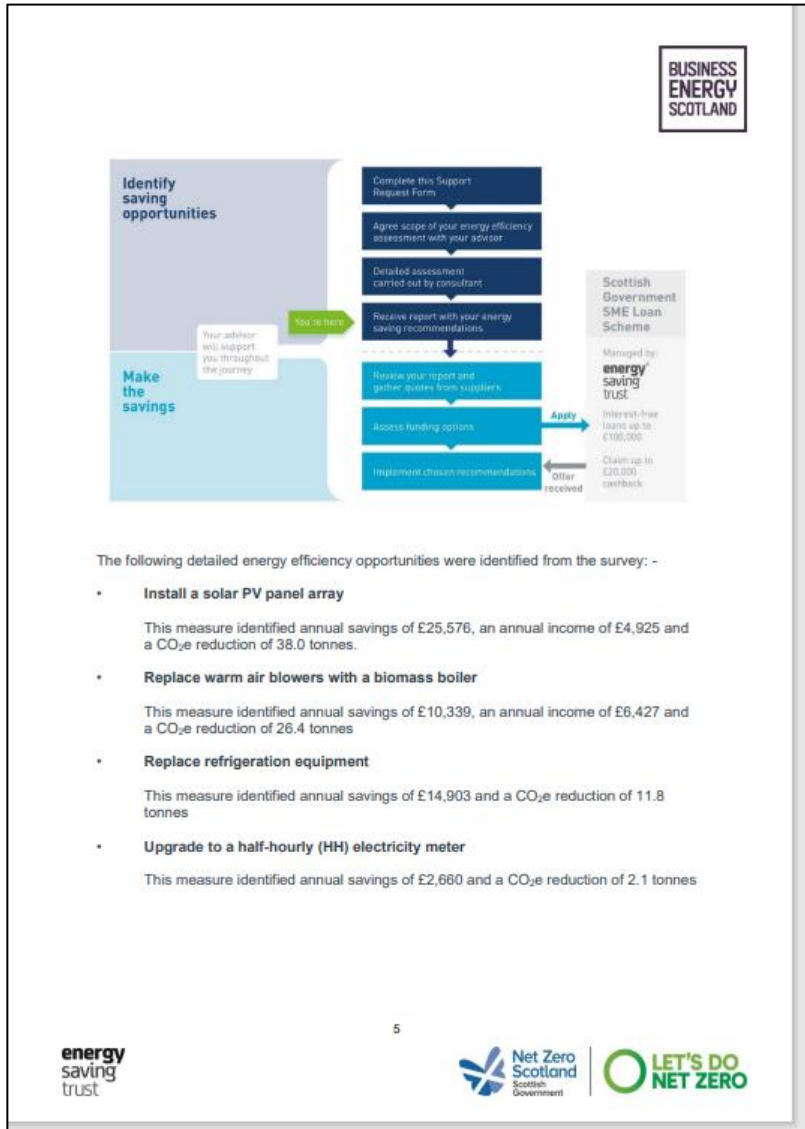
- Display Energy Certificate

*Show the operational performance of a public building. Required for any building owned or occupied by a public authority.*





# SME Energy Audits: The State of Play?



- Growing numbers of level 1, online or phone based tools for initial energy assessments, often overlap with carbon foot printing tools?
- There has been a very limited SME market for level 2 and 3 audits?
  - SMEs don't tend to pay for energy audits (except for statutorily required EPCs)? Until the current crisis it has sometime been hard to give audits away.
  - Carbon Trust has delivered SME audit programmes, using its own audit methodology, for UK and Wales governments, and now delivers a commercial service of business energy audits
  - Business Energy Scotland audit programme on behalf of Scottish Government and using its own audit methodology (currently delivered by Energy Saving Trust).
  - Many regional ERDF/Shared Prosperity Fund programmes have developed their own audit approaches and/or rely on EPC assessments/assessors – mixed quality and often, in practice, building only?
  - Similarly some sector organisations (eg NFU) offering energy audits to their own methodology/using ESOS assessors.
- Some public support for transport and process energy reviews
- No widespread use/uptake of ISO50002/EN-16247 standard, certainly in SME sector?  
 This is very different from other countries where these standards are the basis of national energy audit support programmes for SMEs.

# Thoughts for programme delivery

Should a more standardised approach (eg based on ISO50002/EN16247) to energy audits be encouraged in the SME sector? How?

Where regional SME support programmes (ERDF & Shared Prosperity Fund) provide audits— should there be more shared learning and best practice?

Do free or heavily subsidised energy audits work in driving action? (at national at regional/local level) Are they a good idea?

What is the value of Level 1,2 and 3 audits? Do all SMEs need audits at all levels? Is there more potential because of the energy crisis?

How could government and regional policy makers support development of a market for SME energy audits?

How does the potential/market for SME audits differ between business sectors?