

**Other »»**

**[Published 2014-01-24]**

## Researchers from London visiting Gothenburg and Celsius Project

Studying cooperation in the district heating system. English scholars are in place in Gothenburg to see how different players have acted and worked together to build the city's district heating system. The study included in Gothenburg led Celsius, an EU project in the process of converting to sustainable cities.



The research project Celsius included in the EU's Smart Cities and started last fall. The focus is on district heating, to take advantage of waste heat and use it to heat homes. One area where Gothenburg is located far forward and therefore has had to take on the role to lead the project.

- There is a lot of waste heat in Europe and here you see a lot of potential. It's about wasted energy going to take advantage of if you build district heating network, says Katrina Folland, Göteborg's project coordinator Celsius.

### **Different actors interact**

But in order to build and use district heating requires complex structures and partnerships.

- It covers many different players. Secondly, there must be someone who owns the network, then it should be someone who delivers heat, anyone who buys the heat and so it is contractual and otherwise. Nobody goes into this if it's not profitable for them.

It is this interaction that a group of British scientists from London, who is also one of the cities in Celsius, currently in Gothenburg to consider further.



- The study is about how to create acceptance for this type of solutions, which are large systems with heavy investment and long-term thinking. We have done well with in Gothenburg and why they come here to study how we have done, says Katrina Folland.



Sociologen Ofer Engel från London School of Economics leder forskargruppen som den här veckan besökt Göteborg.  
Foto: Maja Högvik

### Will support other cities

She says that of course there are many interesting technological solutions.

- But perhaps it is even more interesting how to get acceptance from politicians, from usually reach, how to get to an agreement, a good dialogue and agree on who should own what, says Katrina Folland.

During his visit, the researchers interviewed 15 people, such as politicians and officials from environmental, municipal housing and Gothenburg Energy.

- They want to try to understand how it was possible to build up this system, since many European cities are facing just that. We can benefit from the project, and when we should support other cities and also recommend to the EU how to create policies, says Katrina Folland.

### "There are a lot here to learn "

The research team led by sociologist Ofer Engel from the London School of Economics.

- I am impressed by the vast amount of experience and creativity as the City of Gothenburg has accumulated regarding district heating over the years. There is much here to learn, he says.

Ofer Engel says the district heating system in London is basically non-existent, that there must rebuild the system from scratch and that it is therefore worthwhile to take note of how Gothenburg has done.

One of the things that has surprised him during his visit to Gothenburg is how the various players work together and to dialogue in order to agree.

Camilla Adolfsson

## Links

- [Smart Cities and Communities: Celsius](#)

## Earlier in Our Gothenburg

[Gothenburg leads EU project on sustainable district heating](#) [2013-06-12]

More Articles on Other ➡

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

## Contact

**Our Gothenburg** - Göteborg's newspaper online

404 82 Gothenburg

**Telephone:** 031-36 86 000

**E-mail:** [redaktionen@vartgoteborg.se](mailto:redaktionen@vartgoteborg.se)

**Editor:** Carin Smederöd

**Editor:** Helena Mehner