

Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) 1995 report update

May 2016

Introduction

The Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 places requirements on Local Authorities to reduce emissions of Carbon Dioxide to the atmosphere by improvements to the energy efficiency of the residential dwellings within the area. Councils are required to issue reports on progress being made on a two yearly basis.

The current Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) report for Fylde was published in March 2015. Within that report an action plan was produced highlighting the work that would be undertaken within Fylde and Lancashire until 2020. This is an information update on the latest work which has been undertaken in relation to that action plan.

This update should be read in conjunction with the report which was published in 2015.

1. Local energy efficiency and fuel poverty ambitions and priorities.

Measure	Update
Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Strategy	No further updates have been received in relation to these 2020 targets
Lancashire Climate Change Strategy	No further updates have been received in relation to these 2020 targets
Fuel Poverty Target	The council has been involved in the Fylde Coast and Lancaster Affordable Warmth action plan. A 14 point action plan was produced and implemented. The latest in relation to this can be seen below. (see appendix 1) Currently Affordable warmth funding is not available via Lancashire County Council for 2015/16 or 2016/17.

2. Measures we are taking to result in significant energy efficiency improvement of our residential accommodation.

Measure	Update
Green Deal and Energy Company Obligation (ECO)	The National Audit Office has recently released a report on the Green Deal scheme. Please see link. It has stated that Green Deal did not deliver value for money and did not deliver what the government had intended. Only 14,000 homes nationally were improved via Green Deal compared to 1.4 Million via ECO funding. https://www.nao.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Green-Deal-and-Energy-Company-Obligation.pdf ECO funding continues to be available. This is primarily dealt with via the CHiL scheme in Fylde.

Minimum standards in the private rental sector	<p>FBC housing section has undertaken 425 inspections within 2015/16 in relation to maintaining standards in the private rented sector. It has responded to 243 service requests in relation to defective properties.</p> <p>The Housing team has recently completed a district wide survey of Houses in Multiple Occupation based from both current and historic records. It has identified 515 properties.</p> <p>All inspections in relation to housing defects also include a survey of the heating and insulation systems within the specified property.</p> <p>“Excess cold” is a hazard under the Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) and allows Fylde to require adequate heating and insulation measures within the private rented sector.</p> <p>In addition we also require all landlords to supply an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) following an housing standards inspection. Whilst we are not the enforcing authority for this we refer any properties without an EPC to Lancashire County Council Trading Standards. The EPC indicates how energy efficient a property is by rating the premises from A-G.</p>
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3. Measures we propose to cost effectively deliver energy efficient improvements in residential accommodation by using area based/ street by street roll out

Measure	Update
CHiL Scheme and DECC central heating fund	<p>CHiL is the primary mechanism to referring inefficient properties towards grant assistance.</p> <p>CHiL has recently been rebranded and a new website is now online. http://www.chil.uk.com/</p> <p>A six month review of the CHiL scheme is due to be released in July 2016.</p> <p>Fylde Council has distributed leaflets to potential properties as well as including leaflets within our housing enforcement letters. We have also distributed leaflets via our Disabled Facility Grant work. Leaflets are also available via the One Stop Shop.</p> <p>Leaflets and information have also been passed to partner agencies such as Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service.</p> <p>An additional 600 leaflets are due to be released in relation to “room in roofs” within targeted areas of</p>

	<p>Fylde. Rooms in roofs are usually poorly insulated and specific funding is available for these types of properties. Similar schemes in Blackpool and Preston have proved successful in delivering additional energy efficiency measures.</p> <p>DECC central heating fund is delivered via Fire Fly Energy who administer the CHiL scheme and Southern and Scottish Electric (SSE). SSE will only do installs that meet the affordable warmth (benefits) criteria while Firefly will also do jobs for households in fuel poverty as defined by the CSE fuel poverty calculator. The householder will choose which installer they want to use if they have a preference, the contract for work will then be directly between the household and the installer.</p> <p>There are currently 150 measures to be installed across Lancashire when this funding becomes available. The funding is set to be available until August 2016 however due to delays it is likely to be extended until November 2016.</p>
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4. Fuel Poverty Actions

Measure	Outcome
Collective Energy Switching	<p>Collective energy switching was undertaken in 2013. It reported that Fylde had a low rate of uptake for the scheme despite active publicity.</p> <p>The latest Lancashire Home Energy Officers meeting on the 17/5/16 discussed the possibility of a new collective energy switching scheme to be undertaken in winter 2016.</p> <p>It was felt that efforts should instead be made towards targeting energy switching for individuals who are the standard energy tariffs and persons who are on pre-payment meters.</p> <p>Saving in excess of £600 per year can be made by switching from standard tariffs and pre-payment meters.</p>
Warm Homes Healthy People Projects	This scheme was completed in March 2015
DECC Fuel Poverty Funding	This scheme was completed in April 2013
Green Deal Home Improvement Loan Fund	See previous comments in relation to Green Deal

5. National and Local Partners

Measure	Outcome
NW Carbon Action Network	<p>The Council links into the NW CAN network via the Lancashire Home Energy Officers Group (LHEOG).</p> <p>The CAN network has recently been rebranded to the Association of Local Energy Officers (ALEO) this is to reflect the work being undertaken in relation to home improvements rather than purely carbon reduction.</p>
Public Health	<p>The council has been involved in the Fylde Coast and Lancaster Affordable Warmth action plan. A 14 point action plan was produced and implemented. The latest in relation to this can be seen below.</p> <p>Funding for 2016/17 is not likely to be made available via Lancashire County Council.</p>
Lancashire Home Energy Officers Group (LHEOG)	<p>LHEOG consists of representatives from across all Lancashire districts. Blackpool and Blackburn with Darwen council as well as Lancashire County Council.</p> <p>The group meet monthly to lead on all the measures which are reported within the HECA report.</p>
Blackpool, Wyre, Lancaster councils, The PCT and voluntary Groups	<p>Delivery of the affordable warmth action plan as stated previously.</p> <p>The latest LHEOG meeting discussed the greater use of engagement with the third sector. This is to be taken forward by the LHEOG.</p>
LESS/Firefly and AECOM	<p>As discussed previously.</p> <p>Firefly administer the CHiL scheme and the DECC central heating fund.</p>
Fylde and Wyre Home Improvement Agency (Care and Repair)	<p>Revenue funding support is given to the agency to help vulnerable households in a variety of ways including advice on energy efficiency, fuel costs etc.</p> <p>In 2014/15 the following were installed.</p> <p>105 Portable Heaters were supplied 80 Boiler assessments conducted 14 Replacement boilers 15 Heating system repairs 335 Winter Warmth measures</p>

Appendix 1

Lancaster and Fylde Coast Affordable Warmth Action Plan March 2014- April 2015					
	FYLDE AND WYRE LOCALITY				
	<u>Tasks</u>	<u>Success Criteria</u>	<u>Lead Agency / Person</u>	<u>Milestone</u>	<u>Updates</u>
1	Evaluation of interventions from 2013/14 in Fylde and Wyre and circulate to relevant partners/organisations in order to demonstrate the impact on vulnerable citizens within the locality.	Positive impact on some of the most vulnerable citizen's in Fylde and Wyre Districts	Care and Repair W&F/ Michele Scott/Mark Broadhurst/Tom Birtwistle	Ensure that all partners delivering interventions around the AW Agenda provide monitoring outcomes for evaluation	Partners have continued to provide monitoring data for LCC of preventative interventions carried out throughout the year
2	Need to engage with the Fylde and Wyre CCG and LCC with regard to the Better Care Fund in order to address preventative Affordable Warmth issues which affect health and lead to an increase in hospital admissions/ GP visits	Improvement in living conditions from an Affordable Warmth perspective which have a positive impact on the HWB of residents. Increase in priority referrals	Mark Broadhurst, Cllr Cheryl Little, Diane MacDonald	Ensure that links are established and feed into Fylde and Wyre Health and Wellbeing Partnership and Joint Officer Group (JOG) and the Lancashire HWB Board and JOG Mark and Diane to meet with Mike Banks	
3	The Lancaster and Fylde Coast AW Group will adopt triggers to assist in the identification of vulnerable citizens with HWB issues and refer for appropriate preventative measures currently available through the affordable warmth scheme	An increase in the number of appropriate referrals received following partners working together to identify the vulnerable at risk members of the locality.	All partners	Partners and organisations work together in order to identify vulnerable clients in order to prevent winter crisis. Engagement and involvement in the Adult Social Care working group established to look at agreeing a Lancashire wide Home Risk Assessment.	

4	All front line agencies to receive relevant information about the winter 14/15 affordable warmth programme and refer clients to Care and Repair (Wyre and Fylde) for appropriate assessment and intervention(s).	Awareness of 14/15 winter warmth programme across Fylde and Wyre statutory, voluntary, community and faith sectors. Increase in referrals. Increase in interventions delivered.	Michele Scott - All partners	Partners and organisations work together and refer those eligible for an assessment and interventions if appropriate; and/or refer onto other agencies for support in order to prevent deterioration in home/living conditions which would lead to an impact on health.	-
	<u>Tasks</u>	<u>Success Criteria</u>	<u>Lead Agency / Person</u>	<u>Milestone</u>	<u>Updates</u>
5	Produce consistent information in a range of formats for use in a range of marketing across Lancaster and the Fylde Coast which could also be used in local publications where possible	Adequate supply of relevant information to be available for staff and the public domain.	Diane Macdonald/ Debbie King	Consistent information available and circulated to inform all staff and public ahead of winter.	Public facing information leaflet and flyers for front line staff produced and allocated to agencies.
6	Using single point of contact details (C&R (W&F)) re-establish links with Health and Social Care and 3rd Sector staff in order to re-affirm the affordable warmth message, promote the referral pathway and increase the number of vulnerable clients referred for assistance.	Increased number of referrals to Care and Repair (Wyre and Fylde) from health and social care	Care and Repair W&F/ Michele Scott/Mark Broadhurst/Tom Birtwistle	Referral mechanisms and information cascaded ahead of winter 2014/15	Flyers for front line staff containing single point of contact number produced and allocated to agencies.
7	Address affordable warmth issues in the private rented sector using advice and/or regulation where necessary.	Scheme previously funded by public health incorporated into mainstream work. Advice and enforcement action on reduction of the hazard of excess cold.	Housing Standards Team	EPC information made available to Landlords and the Public. Advice on how to improve the thermal efficiency of rented homes to all landlords visited, and enforcement where appropriate.	Reduction of the hazard of excess cold is a priority of enforcement work. Partnership working to promote access to funding initiatives. EPC Register now available on line.

8	Ensure the partnership works together to maximise the incomes of clients in or at risk of fuel poverty by:- checking and ensuring that clients claim the benefits they are entitled to; receive fuel debt advice when in fuel debt and; are supported to change suppliers / tariff switch when appropriate; have access to housing advice and possible options	Number of clients supported by CAB. Number of clients assisted to claim additional benefits. Number of utility bill clinics held. Number of clients attending utility bill clinics. Number of clients assisted to switch energy suppliers	CAB Fylde/CAB Wyre/ LESS/Care and Repair	Ensure that all partner work collaboratively to support vulnerable and at risk people from becoming fuel poor.	
9	To determine, from LCC Public Health, what funding will be allocated to Fylde and Wyre winter warmth programmes for 2014/15.	Maximise any remaining funding/seek funding opportunities to enhance projects 2014/15	Diane Macdonald/LCC/ C&R W&F	To continue to deliver as many interventions as practically possible remaining resources/new funding opportunities	LCC funding confirmed with Winter plans in place and interventions commenced.
	<u>Tasks</u>	<u>Success Criteria</u>	<u>Lead Agency / Person</u>	<u>Milestone</u>	<u>Updates</u>
10	Preparation and planning to determine what interventions will be offered for winter 2014/15	Funding obtained and interventions are delivered to improve the health and wellbeing of those vulnerable at risk from the impact of cold damp homes.	Mark Broadhurst/Tom Birtwistle/ Michele Scott/ Diane Macdonald	To continue to deliver Affordable Warmth interventions with partner agencies with the available resources during winter 2014/15	Winter plans in place and interventions commenced
11	Reflect and prioritise the measures offered in order to react to other extreme weather conditions which may impact on the HWB of vulnerable citizens within the locality	Funding available earlier in the year to enable support the most vulnerable whose health and wellbeing would be compromised by other extreme weather conditions. E.g. High winds/ flooding/heatwave	Mark Broadhurst/Tom Birtwistle/ Michele Scott/ Diane Macdonald	To Maximize any funding available to support as many vulnerable people as possible. Identify interventions available from available from partner organisations for Care & Repair to refer on to following assessment.	Monthly monitoring meetings commencing Nov

12	To facilitate ongoing brief interventions training for front line staff in the awareness of initiatives to address affordable warmth issues to reduce hospital admissions and visits to GP's. This should include relevant pathways and a single point of contact. To link with and make use of existing events both local and national in order to raise awareness within the locality.	Training and events delivered to front line staff to raise awareness of the initiative and encourage referral from those agencies able to identify and refer vulnerable groups.	Julia Green/ LESS/ All front line staff and partner agencies.	To establish a programme of training sessions for front line staff.	
13	To investigate the problem of affordable warmth in park homes across Fylde and Wyre (& Lancaster & Blackpool)	All mobile park home sites identified in each locality and postcodes provided to enable Public Health Intelligence to identify the age of residents and those registered with a GP and develop a profile in order to recognise potential vulnerable groups residing in these properties	District Councils/ DM/LCC/PH Intelligence	Assess the scale of the problem. Determine what funding might be available to deliver interventions. Determine what advice the partnership can offer to vulnerable park home residents.	Await the outcome of Blackpool input.
14	To explore the opportunity to link with similar groups of Lancashire to share best practice and knowledge of what has worked well/ not so well	Groups across Lancashire come together to share information	Debbie King/ Chris Calvert /Clare Platt/ Diane Macdonald	Networking event opportunity achieved	Event being planned by LCC