



HOME ENERGY CONSERVATION ACT REPORT 2013

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) issued guidance in July 2012 to Council's for the production of a report (by April 2013) which contains plans for how they will achieve improvements in energy efficiency within residential housing stock in their district or borough.
- 1.2 In setting out their plans Local Authorities are required to have regard to the Green Deal, Energy Company Obligation (ECO) and the renewable Heat Incentive or other initiatives. Consideration should also be given to roll out of initiatives on an area / street by street basis involving local communities and partnerships.
- 1.3 The first report will need to set out timeframes for delivery of initiatives and those national and local partners that the LA proposes working with. Progress reports will be required thereafter at two yearly intervals. To promote transparency and accountability all reports must be published on the Council's website to ensure accessibility to local residents. Reports should cover:
 - Local energy ambitions and priorities
 - The measures that take advantage of financial assistance and other benefits offered by central government initiatives (Green Deal, ECO, FITS, RHI etc.)
 - Measures that the LA has developed to implement energy efficiency improvements in residential accommodation by using area or street by street roll out
 - A timeframe for delivery
- 1.4 DECC has also recommended that the Government publish a new Fuel Poverty Strategy and review the definition of Fuel Poverty during 2013. No firm timescales have been set for this yet but it may require an update of this Council's HECA report once published.

2. PROPOSAL

- 2.1 DECC has provided a template for the standard report and this has been used as the basis for compiling the New Forest District Council HECA report which is attached at Appendix 1.
- 2.2 The two principal priorities to be targeted are a reduction in the level of domestic CO2 emissions for the district as a whole and a reduction in the level of households considered to be in 'Fuel Poverty'.
- 2.3 Per capita domestic CO2 emissions have seen a steady fall in recent years (14.8% 2005–2009) and the proposal is to set a target of a further 10% reduction by 2020. This will be achieved by the Council adopting the role of enabler in encouraging households to take up opportunities to improve home energy efficiency measures through the Governments Green Deal initiative.

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- 2.4 NFDC will work in partnership with Hampshire County Council and other neighbouring Local Authorities in the promotion of the Green Deal to householders. A recent example of how this might work in the future is the Insulate Hampshire project which has successfully provided over 17,000 energy efficiency installations to households across Hampshire (2,086 in New Forest). Going forward, Insulate Hampshire will be supporting the Government's Green Deal and Energy Company Obligation (ECO) programme by engaging Hampshire householders and helping them get the energy saving support they need.
- 2.5 The percentage of households in fuel poverty within the district (12.7%) is below the national average but higher than the average for Hampshire as a whole. A target has therefore been set to reduce this level by 10% on 2010 levels by 2020. All future initiatives that are to be developed, promoted or supported will seek to target these households.
- 2.6 The Local Government Association has developed a new scheme for Councils to sign up to called 'Climate Local'. Its purpose is to support Councils efforts to both reduce carbon emissions and also to improve their resilience to the effects of changing climates and extreme weather. The new initiative is intended to replace the Nottingham Declaration which the Council signed up to in 2008.
- 2.7 Climate Local consists of:
- A Climate Local Commitment – for Councils to sign to demonstrate their commitment to addressing climate change and to challenge themselves to build on their existing achievements.
 - A set of topic based guides and templates to help guide councils in setting local commitments and milestones in reaching their ambitions
 - Additional resources and support
 - A Climate Local Steering Group
- 2.8 To date 13 Councils have signed up to the initiative, including Hampshire County Council. The HECA report identifies that NFDC will review the Climate Local initiative during 2013 and consider signing up to the Climate Local Commitment.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The whole thrust of this report is around the implications of CO2 emissions on the environment. The targets proposed will help in the wider agenda of global emission reductions.
- 3.2 This report has been presented to the January meeting of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel. The Panel requested that Cabinet be advised of their support for the HECA Report 2013, and further requested that a report on the Climate Local initiative be submitted to a future meeting of the Panel.

4. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

- 4.1 Energy efficiency measures will be promoted across the district for the benefit of all households. It is also proposed that certain household types, particularly those classified as being in Fuel Poverty, will be targeted to achieve greater take up of initiatives in these hard to reach groups.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 At the present time there are no direct financial implications arising from the proposals in this report. The delivery of energy efficiency initiatives will be through the Green Deal, and as a consequence should be self-financing for households with the cost of installations being recovered by Green Deal providers through levies on household energy bills equivalent to the estimated energy savings resulting from the installations.
- 5.2 The Council will need to provide officer resources to work with partner authorities in developing future initiatives and in the publicity and promotion of schemes within the district. This will be contained within existing resources.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Any County or District wide schemes will need to be carefully managed to ensure that Green Deal providers act in a professional and honest manner. All Green Deal providers are required to undergo a formal assessment and accreditation process, and to sign up to a Code of Practice.

7. ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL'S COMMENTS

- 7.1.1 The Panel supported the Home Energy Conservation Act Report 2013 and have also agreed that "Climate Local" should be subject to a review, through a task and finish group, to establish whether this Council should sign up.

8. PORTFOLIO HOLDERS COMMENTS

- 8.1 In thanking the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel for their consideration of the report's proposals, I would wish to endorse the recommendation that NFDC continues to support initiatives which can deliver on-going and meaningful energy efficiencies across the District.

9. CONCLUSION

- 9.1 The Council is required to submit its HECA report to the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change by 31st March 2013. The report attached at Appendix 1 sets out the Councils targets for reductions in CO2 emissions within the domestic sector by 2020 and the measures that the Council intends adopting to achieve these reductions.
- 9.2 The report complies with the DECC guidance and will be published on the Councils website.

10. RECOMMENDATION

- 10.1 That Cabinet approve the HECA report at Appendix 1 for formal adoption by the Council.

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Background Papers:

Guidance for Local Authorities

under the Home Energy

Conservation Act (HECA) 1995 -

DECC July 2012

New Forest District Council - Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 Report - March 2013

Action	Example						Timing
i) LOCAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY AMBITIONS AND PRIORITIES							
	Emissions:						
	CO2 Emissions (KT CO2) from domestic Use Estimates	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	% Reduction
	New Forest	462	458	439	443	400	13.4%
	Hampshire	3,202	3,221	3,099	3,120	2,821	11.9%
	England	126,348	126,122	122,506	121,907	110,907	12.2%
	National	155,230	155,250	150,649	150,494	136,393	12.1%
							2020
	Per capita emissions (t) Domestic	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	% Reduction
	New Forest	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.3	14.8%
	Hampshire	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.2	12%
	England	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.1	16%
	National	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.2	15.4
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our reduction in emissions is slightly better than the national average (13.4% over 2005 – 2009) and our per capita emissions (2.3t) slightly higher than the national average but has reduced by 14.8% over the same period. 						
	We will work to reduce carbon emissions in the domestic sector by 10% on 2009 levels by 2020,						2020

	<p>funding to implement energy efficiency measures up to the end of March 2013.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will work with Hampshire Country Council on possible future partnership proposals associated with the Green Deal and ECO. • We will explore the options to promote the Green Deal and ECO and consider potentially partnering with a Green Deal provider. 	<p>2013/14</p> <p>2013/14</p>
Feed in Tariffs scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the end of June 2012, 1593 domestic solar PV systems had been installed within the District. • In addition two large scale solar PV systems, totalling 7.5MW, have been installed within the District. It is estimated these two systems power 1470 homes. A further 5MW scheme has been granted planning permission but has not yet been implemented. Permission has also recently been granted for the installation of a 7.5MW solar PV system within the district. • As a Council we have installed 30kWp PV installations and plan to increase this by approximately a further 77kWp on our own estate. 	<p>2013</p>
Renewable Heat Premium Payment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No central government collated statistics are available regarding renewable heat installations within that District that receive a Renewable Heat Premium Payment. However as a Council we are aware of a number of biomass systems and Ground Source Heat Pumps (GSHPs) that have been installed into domestic properties within the District. • Furthermore as part of a pilot scheme the Council has installed 3 Air Source Heat Pumps (ASHPs) on its own houses. The performance of the ASHPs will be reviewed and the possibility of further installations will be considered. In addition to the ASHPs as a Council we are investigating the renewal of two existing Combined Heat and Power (CHP) systems at Council owned leisure centres. • In addition to domestic properties we are aware of a number of other larger biomass schemes and GSHP schemes that have been installed within the District. For example two biomass systems have been installed at Community Centres (Lyndhurst and Milford on Sea) within the New Forest District. Ferny Croft Scout Centre has received a grant, from the Sustainable Development Fund, administered by the New Forest National Park Authority, towards the installation of a GSHP. • A number of biomass systems are also operated by private sector organisations within the District. Planning permission has recently been granted for a large (8.5MW) commercial CHP biomass scheme which will use waste wood as its fuel source and will take advantage of the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) once it is operational. 	<p>Ongoing.</p>

Zero Carbon Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council has a planning policy in its Local Plan Part 1 (Core Strategy) which requires all new homes are built to zero carbon standards from 2016. 	2016
EPCs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council is aware that data is available from www.epcregister.com regarding the energy efficiency of residential accommodation within the District. The Council will consider the process for gaining bulk access to the published EPC data and whether it can make use of the data. 	2013/14
Minimum standards in the private rental sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council responds to complaints received from tenants in the private rental sector with regards to energy efficiency/insulation matters. The Council will explore the options to work with our local landlords to pilot energy efficiency activity in the District. 	Ongoing. 2013/14
Smart Meters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council expects the mass roll-out of smart meters to start in 2014 and to be completed in 2019. 	2014-19
iii) MEASURES WE PROPOSE TO COST EFFECTIVELY DELIVER ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS IN RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION BY USING AREA BASED/STREET BY STREET ROLL OUT.		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Identify local partners for area based measures. This may involve working with Hampshire Council County, and other local authorities within Hampshire, in developing the existing 'Insulate Hampshire' scheme to make use of ECO funding and possibly provide measures under the Green Deal. b. Identify target areas and priority roll out; c. Determine any links with other housing refurbishment work/projects on Council housing stock within the District e.g. proposals associated with bringing Council owned housing up to the Decent Homes Standard. 	2013/14 2013/14 Ongoing.
iv) TIME FRAME FOR DELIVERY AND NATIONAL AND LOCAL PARTNERS		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As detailed above we are working with Hampshire County Council (along with all the districts and boroughs within Hampshire), on installing energy efficiency measures in domestic properties, until the end of March 2013. These measures are taking place under the 'Insulate Hampshire' scheme. We will work with Hampshire Country Council (along with all the District and Borough Councils within Hampshire) on possible future partnership proposals associated with the Green Deal and ECO. This is likely to involve a new tendering process once the existing contract finishes at the end of March 	2013/14

	<p>2013.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council is also a named partner in a new collective energy switching initiative lead by Hampshire County Council. This contract is scheduled to be in place by April 2013 and in year 1 will target domestic energy use (Gas and electric). In year 2- 4 options will be explored to target households in Fuel Poverty, hard to reach groups, the vulnerable and other energy types e.g. oil fired heating and the business sector. 	2013/14
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Signed off by

Position – New Forest District Council