

**Copy of the East Cambridgeshire District Council 2019 Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 (HECA) on line submission. 31.5.19**

<b>Name of Local Authority</b>	East Cambridgeshire District Council
<b>Type of Local Authority</b>	District Council
<b>Name official submitting the report</b>	Nick Wyatt
<b>Job title of official submitting the report</b>	Sustainability Officer
<b>Headline and Overview Questions</b>	
<b>Does your Local Authority have a current strategy on carbon reduction and/or energy efficiency for domestic or non-domestic properties?</b>	No. However, the local plan (2015) has a chapter entitled 'environment and climate change', which includes policies supporting renewable energy, energy efficiency and carbon offsetting. Such policies are aimed at developers.
<b>If no, are you planning to develop one?</b>	No.
<b>What scheme(s) has your local authority implemented in support of energy saving/carbon reduction in residential accommodation (such as owner-occupied, privately rented and social housing) or non-domestic properties since 2017?</b>	Action on Energy Partnership  District wide partnership (local authorities) to promote energy saving measures.  The partnership submitted a bid to the Warm Homes Fund seeking funding for first time central heating to be installed in social and private housing.  The bid was well received, however the costs were deemed too high and required further consideration.  Save Energy, Save Money  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target hard To Treat (HTT) homes that might be eligible for Energy Company Obligation (ECO funding)</li> <li>• Organise and advertise advice surgery's (drop in sessions) at various locations around the district.</li> <li>• Ensuring households are accessing the best energy deals, Targeted promotion of energy options to households. This will be achieved by working in partnership with other groups and organisations. Maximise engagement through established mechanisms. Maintaining dialogue with external groups.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotion and support in the provision of basic energy efficiency measures. This to be achieved by utilising a wide range of mechanisms, for example, council website, literature, social media, articles in relevant publications, newsletters, attendance at relevant events plus use of frontline staff working within the community. Face to face contact with residents.</li> <li>• Promote energy efficiency measures to be included in to strategic planning policy documents and updated as national policy changes.</li> <li>• Working in partnership with Health Agencies to target vulnerable groups living in cold homes.</li> <li>• We will provide information and links via our website on the most up to date information on FITs and RHI. Energy efficiency planning guidance.</li> </ul> <p>Action on Energy (Cambridgeshire District Council wide partnership). Continue to work towards seeking external funding sources. Work towards re submitting the 'Warm Homes Fund' bid. The WHF is a £150million fund administered by AWS across England, Wales and Scotland, primarily designed to address some of these issues by incentivizing the installation of affordable heating solutions in fuel poor households who do not use mains gas as their primary heating fuel.</p>
<p><b>What has been, or will be, the cost(s) of running and administering the scheme(s), such as the value of grants and other support made available, plus any other costs incurred (such as administration) as desired? Please provide figures and a brief narrative account if desired</b></p>	<p>Funding Summary Costs: Grants secured from external funding sources 2017/19 for help towards heating costs and energy efficiency measures £20K. Officer salary and on costs £18,983 per annum In addition, the councils Care and Repair Services (HIA) provides services to assist elderly, disabled and vulnerable people with building related works to their home that will them to remain living independently, safely and comfortably. Total spend over the last two years was £1,698,332 plus an additional contribution of £200,000 from the Sanctuary Housing (Social landlord). In addition £71653</p>

	<p>has been awarded in the form of discretionary grants. Of these amounts approximately 20% has been on energy saving measures.</p> <p>There are no costs provided as to measures undertaken under ECOL although this will change when ECOL flex is implemented by the council.</p> <p>In addition the council is creating a 12 month part time Home Energy Advisor post situated within the councils housing department.</p>
<p><b>What has been the outcome of the scheme(s) (e.g. energy savings, carbon savings, economic impacts such as job creation and/or increased business competitiveness, societal impacts such as alleviation of fuel poverty and/or improved health outcomes etc.?)</b>  <b>This does not have to be measured against national data or benchmarks, but rather focuses on the local authority's own monitoring and evaluation.</b></p>	<p>The creation of a temporary part time Energy Efficiency Officer post.</p> <p>Energy efficiency advice targets exceeded in 2017/18 and 2018/19</p>
<p><b>What lessons have you learned from delivering this scheme(s)?</b></p>	<p>The main lesson is the need to utilise all possible pathways to enable us to inform residents of the issues and services available to them, this includes all forms of social media and working in partnership with other agencies and groups.</p> <p>In addition there is a need to keep up to date on funding opportunities, the importance community engagement, an efficient monitoring system and the sharing of information, for example sharing success stories.</p>
<p><b>Local Communications Strategy</b></p>	
<p><b>Does your local authority provide any advisory service to consumers (and businesses) on how to save energy?</b></p>	<p>Yes.</p>
<p><b>Outline how this is undertaken</b></p>	<p>The Council employs a Sustainability /Energy Efficiency Officer who provides advice on how to save energy. We utilise all forms of social media, for example the council's web site. In addition the Energy Efficiency Officer produces leaflets and posters and carries out community outreach work such as offering public talks, attending and organising events.</p>

<p><b>How do you communicate or encourage energy saving amongst domestic consumers and/or local businesses?</b></p>	<p>We utilise all forms of social media, for example the council's face book site. In addition the Sustainability Officer produces leaflets and posters and carries out community outreach work such as offering public talks, attending and organising events.</p> <p>Additional example, Enterprise East Cambridgeshire (Economic development) are due to host a workshop entitled 'Cut Carbon, Cut Costs' An introduction to Energy Efficiency for your business.</p>
<p><b>Local Green Supply Chains</b></p>	
<p><b>Does your Local Authority promote the use of energy efficient products amongst consumers (and businesses)?</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><b>Briefly detail how this promotion work is undertaken.</b></p>	<p>In terms of domestic consumers. One of our target areas is the promotion of the installation of Smart meters. A series of events will be organised and attended that will actively promote the benefits of smart meters</p>
<p><b>What engagement (formal or informal) does your local authority have with local businesses/supply chains involved in promoting energy efficiency products or carbon reduction?</b></p>	<p>Example of engagement. Enterprise East Cambridgeshire.</p> <p>Workshop: Cut Carbon, Cut Costs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* The business case for investing in energy efficiency</li> <li>* The importance of measuring, monitoring and managing energy use</li> <li>* Grant funding opportunities available to your business to make significant cost and carbon savings</li> </ul>
<p><b>Domestic Private Rented Sector (PRS) Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards</b></p>	
<p><b>The Minimum Energy Efficiency Regulations (the Regulations) apply to all privately rented properties in England and Wales. As of April 2018, all such properties are legally required to have an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) of at least an E before they can be let on a new tenancy. This requirement will then extend to all such properties by 1 April 2020, even if there has been no change in tenant or tenancy (please see BEIS's published guidance documents for the full details on the standard).</b></p>	

<b>The PRS Regulations give enforcement powers to local authorities, and authorities are responsible for ensuring landlord compliance within their area.</b>	
<b>Is your authority aware of the PRS Minimum Efficiency Standards which came into force in April 2018?</b>	Yes
<b>Which team within your authority is responsible for, or will be responsible for, leading on enforcement of the PRS minimum standard?</b>	Currently enforcement lies with Cambridge County Council. The County Council have drawn up a delegated authority agreement for consideration by the Council. If agreed, this will then come under the remit of the Councils Environmental Health Domestic team. The role can be combined as part of their standard inspection routine, and to combine both the MEES and HHSRS process to enforce heating standards.
<b>Please provide the contact details of the person leading this team.</b>	Liz Knoz. Environmental Services Manager
<b>What method or methods does your authority use to communicate with landlords and tenants about the standards and other related issues?</b>	The council housing team organises Land Lord Forums, attendees include local landlords and representatives from the National Landlords Association and Council officers. In addition we offer Information, Advice and Guidance to landlords when they contact the council directly.
<b>Do you directly target landlords of EPC F and G rated properties?</b>	Our approach is currently reactive, we will however work towards being proactive.
<b>Financial Support for Energy Efficiency</b>	
<b>What financial programmes, if any, do you have to promote domestic and non-domestic energy efficiency or energy saving? If applicable, please outline the sums, where such funding is sourced, and where it is targeted.</b>	A budget has been identified within the councils core budget 'Home Energy Conservation'
<b>Fuel Poverty</b>	
<b>Does your local authority have a fuel poverty strategy?</b>	No. Fuel Poverty is considered within the councils Vulnerable Community Strategy, (2018- 2023), addition forms part of the Councils Housing Strategy and the East Cambridgeshire District Council Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

<p><b>What steps have you taken to identify residents/properties in fuel poverty?</b></p>	<p>We utilise the Energy Performance Certificate which allows to identify households in E, F and G band which assists us in targeting resources</p>
<p><b>How does fuel poverty interlink with your local authority's overall carbon reduction strategy</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>What measures or initiatives have you taken to promote fuel cost reduction for those in fuel poverty?</b></p>	<p>This forms part of the councils of our general promotional campaign on energy efficiency measures and awareness of fuel poverty. For example social media and outreach events and includes initiatives such as Action on Energy, which is a partnership between the Cambridgeshire District Councils which supports Cambridgeshire residents to reduce energy bills.</p>
<p><b>The Energy Company Obligation</b></p>	
<p><b>The Energy Company Obligation (ECO) is an obligation on energy suppliers aimed at helping households cut their energy bills and reduce carbon emissions by installing energy saving measures. Following the Spring 2018 consultation, the Government set out in its response that ECO3 will fully focus on Affordable Warmth – low income, vulnerable and fuel poor households.</b></p> <p><b>The recently introduced ECO “flexible eligibility” (ECO Flex) programme allows LAs to make declarations determining that certain households in fuel poverty or with occupants on low incomes and vulnerable to the effects of cold homes, are referred to ECO obligated suppliers for support under the Affordable Warmth element of ECO. LAs involved are required to issue a Statement of Intent that they are going to identify households as eligible, and the criteria they are going to use; and a declaration that the LA has been consulted on the installation of measures in a home.</b></p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Link <a href="http://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/energy-efficiency/energy-efficiency">www.eastcambs.gov.uk/energy-efficiency/energy-efficiency</a></p>
<p><b>Smart Metering</b></p>	
<p><b>Please provide a brief statement outlining your current or planned approach to: Engage and support your residents (including those in vulnerable circumstances or with pre-payment metering) to promote take up of smart meters and achieve associated benefits (e.g. ability to control energy use, identify best value tariffs)? Please detail any work</b></p>	<p>Smart Meters, the Council has made information on the smart meter roll out available to residents through sharing of leaflets, posters and information in Civic Centres and inclusion on the Council's website. This will be developed to include sharing information from the Smart Meter Energy Efficiency Advice project, where appropriate.</p>

<p><b>undertaken or planned with local/community groups, housing associations, micro businesses, Smart Energy GB under their Partnership Programme and energy suppliers.</b></p>	
<p><b>Please provide a brief statement outlining your current or planned approach to: Integrate your approaches to delivering energy efficiency improvements in residential accommodation with the opportunities presented by the installation of smart meters, drawing upon materials from the Smart Meter Energy Efficiency Materials Project or other sources of independent information.</b></p>	<p>We will continue to promote the installation of Smart Meters utilising the Smart Meter Energy Efficiency Materials such as leaflets, posters and social media and fact sheets.</p>
<p><b>Please detail any: Resources/ support (e.g. services, funding) available to residents who have had an appliance(s) condemned for safety reasons and cannot afford to replace it (e.g. during visual safety checks conducted during their smart meter installation or otherwise).</b></p>	<p>We assist individuals by providing information on how to apply for replacements. In addition we will apply for the funding on the households behalf if required. The funding is secured from external funding sources, for example local charities.</p>
<p><b>Please detail any: Existing relationships with energy suppliers to help ensure that the opportunities presented by vacant properties under your control are effectively utilised (i.e. gaining access to install a smart meter).</b></p>	<p>No formal relationships exist at the moment</p>
<p><b>Future Schemes or Wider Initiatives</b></p>	
<p><b>Please outline any future schemes or wider initiatives not covered above that your local authority has carried out or is planning to undertake to improve the energy efficiency of residential accommodation or businesses in your area.</b></p>	<p>We will explore all funding and partnership opportunities as they become available.</p>