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**TITLE: HOME ENERGY CONSERVATION ACT 1995 (HECA) FURTHER REPORT AND ACTION PLAN**

Committee: Regulatory Services Committee

Date: 24th July 2017

Author: Nick Wyatt, Sustainability Officer

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1.0 ISSUE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members of the progress on the 2015 Action Plan and seek approval from Members of the 2017 to 2019 Action Plan within East Cambridgeshire Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) Further Report.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

2.1 That Members approve the 2017-2019 Action Plan within the HECA Further Report.

3.0 BACKGROUND/OPTIONS

3.1 The Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 (HECA) recognises that local authorities are uniquely placed to assess the needs of their local residents and have the ability to use their position to improve the energy efficiency of all residential accommodation in their areas.

In July 2012, the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) issued guidance to local authorities requesting the production of a HECA report by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013, which would set out in local context the energy conservation measures that the authority considers practicable, cost-effective and likely to result in significant improvement in the energy efficiency of residential accommodation in its area.

3.1 Authorities are required to provide reports on progress made in implementing the measures set out in the HECA reports at 2 yearly intervals – the next being due by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 and then 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.

3.2 A review against progress of the 2015 Action Plan has been completed, and is attached at Appendix 1.

3.3 Most notable progress against the plan includes;

- In November 2013 the Cambridgeshire local authorities (Cambridge City, East Cambridgeshire, Fenland, Huntingdonshire, South

Cambridgeshire, and the County Council) launched Action on Energy, an ambitious scheme to maximise energy efficiency improvements in buildings, engage communities, generate local employment and secure revenue streams to sustain local action.

- The scheme has been highly successful, accessing £7.8million of Green Deal Communities funding to provide significant energy efficiency solutions to over 1200 Cambridgeshire homes.
- Action on Energy Partnership offered a variety of incentives for householders. The funding also provided a contribution to the staffing costs of all partner authorities for administrating the project.
- The primary focus of the Cambridgeshire bid was to support private sector householders to insulate solid wall properties. £5.6million was allocated in total to provide a range of subsidies and incentives to encourage the uptake of solid wall insulation. The secondary focus of the bid included an additional £2million for the private rented sector (PRS) to provide additional incentives, and fund measures beyond solid wall insulation.
- In January 2016 the partnership were given the opportunity to refocus some of the funding to provide fully funded installations for residents experiencing fuel poverty.
- Green Deal Communities fund is now closed.

#### 4.0 ARGUMENTS/CONCLUSIONS

4.1 The Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 (HECA), requires local authorities to publish a report on their plans to achieve improved energy efficiency on a biennial basis until 2027.

#### 5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 All work identified within the Action Plan will take place within existing resources, or with external funding

5.2 Equality Impact Assessment (INRA) not required

#### 6.0 APPENDICES

6.1 Appendix 1 Action Plan 2015

6.2 Appendix 2 The Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 (HECA) and Action Plan

6.3 Appendix 3 Draft Fuel Poverty Leaflet

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**Background Documents**

East Cambridgeshire  
District Council, Home  
Energy Conservation Act  
1995 Progress Report  
March 2015.

**Location**

The Grange  
Ely

**Contact Officer**

Nick Wyatt  
Sustainability Officer  
E-mail: [nick.wyatt@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:nick.wyatt@eastcambs.gov.uk)