



# **Home Energy Conservation Act 1995**

**Progress Report 2013-15 on behalf of the**

**The Nottingham and Derbyshire**

**Local Authority Energy Partnership**

**(LAEP)**

**and**

**Derbyshire Dales District Council**

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Rina Jones  
LAEP Manager  
01629-536130  
[rina.jones@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:rina.jones@derbyshire.gov.uk)

## **Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Local Authorities' Energy Partnership (LAEP)**

The LAEP is a non-statutory partnership of all 20 councils across Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, established in 1996 and continues to provide an excellent model of how councils can work together for mutual benefit.

This report covers collective activities across the following 14 LAEP housing authorities:

### **Nottinghamshire**

Bassetlaw District Council  
Broxtowe Borough Council  
Gedling Borough Council  
Mansfield District Council  
Newark and Sherwood District Council  
Rushcliffe Borough Council

### **Derbyshire**

Amber Valley Borough Council  
Bolsover District Council  
Chesterfield Borough Council  
Derbyshire Dales District Council  
Erewash Borough Council  
High Peak Borough Council  
North East Derbyshire District Council  
South Derbyshire District Council

Partnership activities are delivered via a membership service and a communications service which are funded through separate subscriptions. Councils benefit from support, information and communication services and collaborate on carbon reduction, affordable warmth and sustainable energy projects, sharing expertise and best practice.

Each council is represented on the Officer Working Group (OWG) which runs the partnership and funds are held by Derbyshire County Council.

### **LAEP Chair's introduction**

The production of this report by our Partnership, which complements the individual reports of our member councils, is an example of how our long-standing collaboration has provided huge benefit and exceptional value to our partners over the years.

In increasingly challenging times for local government, this report provides evidence of how our partnership is striving to maximise the economic, social and environmental benefits to our councils and residents through its work on home energy conservation and affordable warmth.

*Phil Keynes  
Team Manager, Energy and Carbon Management  
Nottinghamshire County Council*

## HECA reporting

The LAEP has a collective ambition to reduce carbon dioxide and fuel poverty across the area and acknowledges the legal requirements for local government to improve the energy efficiency of residential accommodation as outlined in the Climate Change Act 2008.

The LAEP supports the aims of the 2001 UK Fuel Poverty Strategy to eradicate fuel poverty in England as far as reasonably practicable by 2016 and the new statutory target published in 2012 to “ensure that as many fuel poor homes in England as is reasonably practicable achieve a minimum energy efficiency rating of Band C by 2030”. The LAEP also looks forward to the imminent publication of the new Fuel Poverty Strategy for England which will set out DECC’s approach to delivering the target and milestones.

All LAEP district and borough councils submitted 2013 HECA reports and have links to them on their websites.

This HECA progress report is presented in **three** sections and provides an update on trends, strategies and initiatives since 2013 as LAEP councils work together to reduce domestic carbon dioxide emissions and fuel poverty:

1. Baseline information across Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire
2. LAEP HECA Report 2013-15
3. \*\*\*\* Council HECA Report 2013-15

## 1. BASELINE INFORMATION

Baseline information on key issues enables local authorities to gauge the impact of collective and individual initiatives

- 1.1 Levels of fuel poverty
- 1.2 Domestic fuel consumption
- 1.3 Domestic carbon dioxide emissions
- 1.4 Energy Company Obligation funded measures
- 1.5 Green Deal measures

The following data has been collated from documents placed on the Department of Energy and Climate Change’s website.

## 1.1 Levels of fuel poverty

Between 2010 and 2012 a new way of calculating the number of households in fuel poverty was introduced, temporarily running in parallel with the original definition.

In 2010 the **10% definition** was used whereby a household was in fuel poverty if it needed to spend more than 10 per cent of its income on fuel to maintain an adequate level of warmth.

From 2012 a new **Low Income High Cost (LIHC)** definition was applied which considers a household to be in fuel poverty if they have required fuel costs that are above average (the national median level) and, were they to spend that amount, they would be left with a residual income below the official poverty line.

Across Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire between 2010 and 2012 there was a small fall in the number and % of households in fuel poverty in most district and borough areas, using the original 10% definition. Using the new Low Income High Cost definition results in **fewer people being categorised as being in fuel poverty** so the total number of and % of households in fuel poverty is shown as much lower.

The following table shows levels of fuel poverty in all the district and boroughs in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire in 2010 and 2012 (both definitions used in 2012 for comparison), taken from <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fuel-poverty-sub-regional-statistics>

FUEL POOR HOUSEHOLDS	2010	2012	2012	2010	2012	2012
	10% definition		Low Income High Cost definition	10% definition		Low Income High Cost definition
Local Authority	Number of fuel poor households			% Fuel poor households		
Amber Valley	9,918	9,610	7,078	19.1	17.9	13.2
Bolsover	6,564	5,635	4,153	20.6	16.8	12.4
Chesterfield	9,191	8,028	6,217	20.0	16.8	13.0
Derbyshire Dales	7,483	9,314	4,917	24.4	29.6	15.6
Erewash	8,429	7,783	6,287	17.5	15.7	12.6
High Peak	7,027	8,248	5,281	17.8	20.7	13.3
NE Derbyshire	7,876	7,656	5,239	18.6	17.4	11.9
South Derbyshire	5,867	6,077	4,393	15.5	15.3	11.0
Bassetlaw	9,334	9,341	6,193	19.7	19.2	12.7
Broxtowe	7,825	7,260	5,736	16.5	15.2	12.0
Gedling	8,085	7,754	5,522	16.2	15.4	11.0
Mansfield	8,782	7,738	5,796	19.9	16.9	12.6
Newark & Sherwood	9,221	9,504	6,311	18.9	19.1	12.7
Rushcliffe	6,818	7,471	5,367	14.8	16.0	11.5

## 1.2 Domestic fuel consumption

The tables below show domestic gas and electricity consumption figures from 2010 and the most recent available figures from 2013, taken from

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/gas-sales-and-numbers-of-customers-by-region-and-local-authority> and

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/sub-national-electricity-consumption-data>

DOMESTIC GAS CONSUMPTION	2010		2013	
	Total (GWh)	Average Household (kWh)	Total (GWh)	Average Household (kWh)
Amber Valley	808.3	15,861	742	14,422
Bolsover	773.3	15,482	439	13,788
Chesterfield	607.6	15,312	611	13,107
Derbyshire Dales	469.2	15,218	409	16,026
Erewash	745.8	15,897	653	13,411
High Peak	674.4	14,691	577	15,349
North East Derbyshire	442.5	17,637	620	14,914
South Derbyshire	717.9	14,919	495	13,960
Bassetlaw	779.4	16,544	555	13,658
Broxtowe	629.5	16,971	678	14,270
Gedling	692.1	15,855	714	14,915
Mansfield	674.1	15,852	647	14,230
Newark and Sherwood	669.4	16,383	622	14,327
Rushcliffe	759.5	17,719	707	16,226

DOMESTIC ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION	2010		2013	
	Total (GWh)	Average Household (kWh)	Total (GWh)	Average Household (kWh)
Amber Valley	225.2	4,251	215.6	4,025
Bolsover	211.3	3,915	121.9	3,665
Chesterfield	125.4	3,688	161.6	3,425
Derbyshire Dales	188.2	5,078	146.1	4,683
Erewash	168.7	4,049	184.8	3,747
High Peak	155.5	4,215	161.0	4,042
North East Derbyshire	195.1	3,945	162.4	3,725
South Derbyshire	208.8	4,348	163.4	4,058
Bassetlaw	167.8	4,373	198.7	4,086
Broxtowe	168.5	3,813	179.2	3,755
Gedling	217.9	4,212	199.8	3,987
Mansfield	168.4	3,840	163.3	3,588
Newark and Sherwood	205.5	4,452	208.8	4,194
Rushcliffe	167.2	4,322	196.6	4,203

### 1.3 Domestic carbon dioxide emissions

The tables below show the domestic carbon dioxide emissions per capita in tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> in 2010 and 2012, the most recent figures available.

All data is taken from <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/local-authority-emissions-estimates>

<b>DERBYS</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Industry and Commercial</b>	<b>Domestic</b>	<b>Transport</b>	<b>Total</b>
		Per capita tonnes CO <sub>2</sub>			
Amber Valley	2010	3.2	2.6	1.9	7.7
	2012	3.1	2.5	1.8	7.4
Bolsover	2010	6.9	3.1	4.6	14.6
	2012	6.6	2.9	4.5	14.1
Chesterfield	2010	2.3	2.5	1.5	6.4
	2012	2.5	2.4	1.4	6.4
Derbyshire Dales	2010	4.1	2.8	3.4	10.3
	2012	4.1	2.7	3.3	10.1
Erewash	2010	2.1	2.4	2.3	6.8
	2012	1.8	2.3	2.3	6.4
High Peak	2010	26.6	2.5	1.7	31.0
	2012	25.5	2.4	1.7	29.7
NE Derbyshire	2010	2.3	2.6	2.5	7.3
	2012	2.0	2.5	2.4	6.9
South Derbyshire	2010	3.6	2.5	3.3	9.4
	2012	3.3	2.4	3.2	8.9
<b>DERBYS TOTAL</b>	2010	6.1	2.6	2.5	11.2
	2012	5.8	2.5	2.5	10.8

<b>NOTTS</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Industry and Commercial</b>	<b>Domestic</b>	<b>Transport</b>	<b>Total</b>
		Per capita tonnes CO <sub>2</sub>			
Bassetlaw	2010	2.9	2.6	3.3	8.9
	2012	3.0	2.4	3.2	8.8
Broxtowe	2010	2.8	2.4	2.7	7.9
	2012	2.1	2.3	2.6	7.1
Gedling	2010	2.2	2.5	1.0	5.7
	2012	2.1	2.4	0.9	5.5
Mansfield	2010	1.7	2.7	1.2	5.6
	2012	1.6	2.7	1.1	5.4
Newark & Sherwood	2010	4.3	2.5	3.5	10.2
	2012	4.0	2.4	3.5	9.8
Rushcliffe	2010	2.0	2.5	2.2	6.9
	2012	1.9	2.4	2.2	6.6
<b>NOTTS TOTAL</b>	2010	2.6	2.6	2.2	7.5
	2012	2.5	2.5	2.2	7.2

## 1.4 Energy Company Obligation funded measures

A new obligation on energy utility companies replaced the previous Carbon Emissions Reduction Target (CERT) at the end of March 2013. The Energy Company Obligation Phase 1 (ECO1) runs from April 2013 to March 2015.

The ECO programme provides funding for energy efficiency measures for households in hard to treat properties and vulnerable or low income households who struggle to achieve affordable warmth.

The data below shows the number of ECO funded measures installed since the beginning of ECO to 30th September 2014 and has been compiled from

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/green-deal-energy-company-obligation-eco-and-insulation-levels-in-great-britain-quarterly-report-to-september-2014> Tables 1.11a) and d).

ECO OBLIGATION measures							
	Carbon Saving Target (CSO)	Carbon Savings Community (CSCO)	Affordable Warmth (HHCRO)	Total no. ECO measures delivered	All households	ECO measures per 1,000 households*	Households in receipt of ECO measures per 1,000
<b>ENGLAND</b>	<b>311,600</b>	<b>175,591</b>	<b>309,600</b>	<b>796,791</b>	<b>22,542,903</b>	<b>35.3</b>	<b>28.7</b>
<b>E MIDLANDS</b>	<b>21,763</b>	<b>10,646</b>	<b>29,080</b>	<b>61,489</b>	<b>1,935,710</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>25.1</b>
<b>Derbyshire</b>	3,535	742	4,598	8,875	338,213	26.2	20.6
Amber Valley	457	131	744	1,332	53,573	24.9	19.0
Bolsover	258	166	748	1,172	33,264	35.2	26.9
Chesterfield	831	132	712	1,675	47,180	35.5	28.8
Derbyshire Dales	114	34	169	317	31,197	10.2	7.5
Erewash	575	203	800	1,578	49,330	32.0	24.5
High Peak	270	43	470	783	39,821	19.7	17.2
NE Derbyshire	645	32	541	1,218	43,588	27.9	22.5
South Derbyshire	385	1	414	800	40,260	19.9	14.9
<b>Nottinghamshire</b>	<b>4,408</b>	<b>1,490</b>	<b>5,106</b>	<b>11,004</b>	<b>340,212</b>	<b>32.3</b>	<b>25.2</b>
Bassetlaw	498	271	750	1,519	48,631	31.2	24.4
Broxtowe	410	2	643	1,055	47,724	22.1	16.6
Gedling	671	40	755	1,466	50,096	29.3	22.1
Mansfield	619	543	1,022	2,184	45,520	48.0	36.9
Newark&Sherwood	1,236	266	592	2,094	49,778	42.1	34.9
Rushcliffe	458	2	331	791	46,771	16.9	12.7

\* More than one measure installed in some homes

## Measures installed

Information on which measures have been installed is not available down to local authority level. However, on a national scale government statistics show a marked decline in the rate of loft and cavity wall insulation (from all sources including ECO and Green Deal) coinciding with the switch from CERT to ECO, as illustrated in the table below, taken from <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/green-deal-energy-company-obligation-eco-and-insulation-levels-in-great-britain-quarterly-report-to-september-2014>

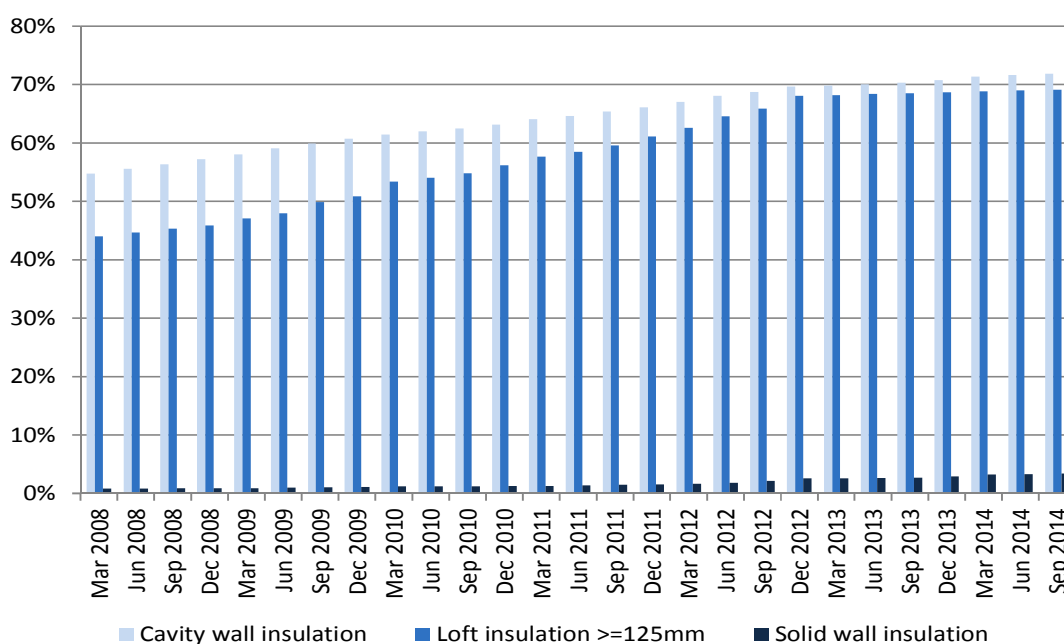


Table: Percentage of properties with insulation in Great Britain, March 2008 to September 2014

## 1.5 Green Deal measures

Green Deal statistics are currently only available from DECC at a regional level. A breakdown by administrative area should be available for the next quarterly release, due on 19/03/14. Data below taken from <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/green-deal-energy-company-obligation-eco-and-insulation-levels-in-great-britain-quarterly-report-to-september-2014> Table 1.7).

	Green Deal Assessments	Households	GD Assessments per 1,000 households
<b>England</b>	<b>288,999</b>	<b>22,542,903</b>	<b>12.8</b>
North East	16,177	1,145,559	14.1
North West	51,658	3,046,753	17.0
Yorkshire and Humber	38,004	2,262,423	16.8
East Midlands	30,067	1,935,710	15.5
West Midlands	44,047	2,332,802	18.9
East	24,657	2,484,620	9.9
London	22,857	3,383,918	6.8
South East	37,077	3,638,436	10.2
South West	24,455	2,312,682	10.6

Green Deal Assessments lodged by region, up to 30th September 2014



## 2.0 LAEP HECA REPORT 2013-15

### 2.1 Boiler replacement scheme (2013)

In December 2012 DECC awarded over £2 million to the LAEP to tackle fuel poverty as part of a nationwide local authority competition. This was the third largest grant awarded, despite stiff competition and a significantly oversubscribed fund, demonstrating the advantage of working in partnership for the benefit of all local residents.

Funding was shared between fourteen district and borough councils across the two counties and was invested in new boilers, heating systems and insulation to help vulnerable residents keep warm and well in winter.

Installations began in January 2013 and were completed by end April 2013, an average of 50 per local authority area. The success of the project was the result of fantastic team work by officers from LAEP councils who worked hard to identify eligible households and deliver measures within the very tight timescales.

*"I recently had a new boiler installed after having no heating or hot water for a number of years. For the first time my 18 month old daughter can have a proper hot bath rather than kettles in the sink."*

**Chesterfield resident**

In total the LAEP delivered **729 energy efficiency measures** to households, comprising:

- 511 'G' rated boilers were replaced with 'A' rated boilers
- 143 new heating systems were installed
- 85 properties received loft and/or cavity wall insulation
- Many properties received enabling works
- 36 boilers and heating systems repaired
- 2 renewable energy systems were installed in off gas properties

These measures translate into energy bill savings for householders in the region of **£220,000 per year**. This equates to approximately **7,140 tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup> per year**

### 2.2 Health and housing research project (2013)

Evaluation of the boiler scheme outlined in 2.1 revealed that around 38% of assisted households included someone suffering from a long term health condition made worse by a living in a cold home. It also found that many fuel poor households were not eligible for the fully funded affordable warmth element of ECO either because they were not on eligible benefits or because the works required on their heating systems were non-standard or extensive.

In an extension to the original boiler replacement project and to further investigate these issues, DECC approved a request from the LAEP to use project underspend to identify and assist fuel poor households with a long term health condition.

*"My husband and I had both been in hospital, very poorly, and came out when the snow was bad. It was too cold to stop here; we could only come home once the boiler had been replaced."*

**Newark resident**

This work was carried out from May to September 2013 across Notts and Derbys. Evaluation showed that out of 29 households assisted, 25% met the ECO affordable warmth benefits eligibility criteria

but were still unable to have energy efficiency improvement works carried out without making a personal contribution of between £1000 and £1500. This is due to the non-standard nature of the works required and the impact this has on the amount of ECO funding available. Non-standard works include:

- Properties with only secondary heating such as coal fires or electric bar heaters
- Solid fuel (coal) back boilers, wood burners or LPG boilers in off gas properties
- Partial and full sets of storage heaters.

The research highlighted the inability of the current ECO affordable warmth programme to fully fund energy efficiency measures for some of the most vulnerable householders, leaving some of them paying up to 30% of their income on fuel bills.

### **2.3 Derbyshire Healthy Home programme (2014 - ongoing)**

The results of the health and housing research project (2.2) have been applied to a new health and affordable warmth programme. Derbyshire Public Health have commissioned the LAEP to develop and deliver the 'Derbyshire Healthy Home' programme across the county, providing **£188k** revenue funding per year for two years.

The programme is combining information on health, housing and income at a household level to target fuel poor householders with long term health conditions made worse by a cold home. The aim is to reduce the incidence of Excess Winter Deaths and the cost to the NHS of the impact of cold related illnesses, particularly 'non-elective' (emergency) admissions to A&E. Due to data protection and patient privacy issues, GP surgeries will write to target households inviting them to contact the LAEP project team for assistance.

Whilst accurate targeting should ensure that most householders assisted are eligible for affordable warmth ECC (HHCRO), some homes will require additional funding to enable improvements to go ahead, as outlined in 2.2. DECC agreed in January 2014 to allow LAEP to carry forward the final balance from the original boiler replacement project funds to top up capital works associated with this project; Derbyshire's share is around £114k.

National Grid has recognised the project's innovative approach with an award of **£40k** to establish a hardship fund to further assist vulnerable householders

The project will assist households from February 2015 to August 2016. Outcomes will be rigorously monitored and evaluated and if successful funding is likely to continue, albeit at a lower level. DECC is very interested in this approach in terms of shaping delivery of fuel poverty and health related support services through local authorities.

### **2.4 Potential for a health and housing project in Nottinghamshire (2015)**

The Nottinghamshire LAEP authorities are looking closely at how the Derbyshire Public Health project develops and will invest their share of the underspend referred to in 2.3 (around £90k), to address fuel poverty and health related issues in a similar way.

Exploratory discussions, led by Newark & Sherwood District Council and the LAEP Manager, with Nottinghamshire Public Health and CCGs in the county demonstrate a desire to collaborate on this issue. Provisional project ideas involve working closely with CCGs to engage GP Practices in each area who would identify their most resource intensive patients with cold-sensitive long term conditions. Existing resources would enable councils to address the affordable warmth needs of a targeted number of

households identified in this way, even if none were HHCRO eligible. Rigorous monitoring by the CCG on the impact of interventions on health outcomes would be needed to justify the release of funding to enable project continuity.

## 2.5 LAEP Green Deal Pioneer Places (2013-14)

In January 2013, the LAEP successfully bid to DECC to fund a proposal to create demand for the Green Deal across Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. Four LAEP councils received funding to run pilot Green Deal projects each council targeted promotions at different housing types:

- Amber Valley Borough Council (Derbys): The private rented sector
- Chesterfield Borough Council ( “ ): Mixed hard-to-treat properties
- Newark and Sherwood District Council (Notts): Off gas homes, high council tax
- Rushcliffe Borough Council ( “ ): Large homes, old boilers, range of finance options

	Green Deal Assessments		Green Deal Plans	
	Target	Completed	Target	Completed
Amber Valley	100	27	50	0
Chesterfield	100	26	50	0
Newark	100	11	50	8
Rushcliffe	100	72	50	50

The project evaluation report was issued in July 2014. In total, 136 properties had a Green Deal Assessment carried out compared with an initial target of 400. The project aimed to convert 50% of assessments into plans and achieved 43% (58 plans). The lower than expected results were influenced by:

- Low levels of public awareness about the Green Deal
- Slow return of assessments to householders leaving no time to offer plans within project time frame
- The Golden Rule not being met due to vague estimates in the Assessments and higher than expected installation costs due to ‘other works’.

Keeping customers engaged throughout the complex process proved very difficult; Green Deal Assessors sometimes proved unreliable and this led the project to question the effectiveness of the Green Deal Assessor verification process.

## 2.6 LAEP ECO scheme development (2013)

In early 2013 the LAEP considered establishing an area wide ECO scheme, to provide residents in private sector housing with a reliable offer from a trustworthy source in a similar way to the Warmstreets scheme that the LAEP set up under CERT. Two comprehensive briefings were produced for managers outlining the opportunities and options available.

One option LAEP considered was to develop a local not-for-profit intermediary or energy agency which would maximise ECO funding drawn into the area. It would be sustained by turning local knowledge, housing data and referral networks into high quality leads for the obligated parties in return for a referral fee. With the utilities under pressure to discharge their ECO obligations as cost effectively as possible, the efficiencies resulting from engaging with 14 councils through the LAEP network should also be reflected in a good offer for LAEP residents.

Endorsing or promoting the offer from any utility to residents requires a tendering process to identify a partner. As a first and informal step in this selection process, the seven largest energy utilities were invited to a LAEP meeting in July 2013 to outline what they could offer a two county partnership. British Gas, SSE, EON, Scottish Power and EDF attended and outlined their priorities to the LAEP.

Unfortunately it became clear that the focus of all utility companies at this stage in the first ECO phase was external solid wall insulation in areas of concentrated social housing due to the potential for the largest carbon savings; there was very little on offer in terms of loft and cavity wall insulation or heating installations in the private sector.

Cuts in ECO targets later in 2013 undermined this potential funding stream so the LAEP put these plans on hold.

## 2.7 LAEP Green Deal Communities bid (2013-14)

DECC launched a new £20m Green Deal Communities scheme for local authorities in late July 2013 to help households benefit from the Green Deal on an area basis; this quadrupled to £80m in the autumn.

Based on its success detailed in 2.1, the LAEP decided to apply for this funding with the understanding that its previous intentions to engage Green Deal and ECO Provider(s) outlined above would be incorporated into these new plans.

The meeting with utilities referred to in 2.6 was also used to help develop a LAEP bid to this fund. As outlined, the utilities' focus was on social housing where they could bank carbon as cheaply as possible through high volumes and high take up. However, there was some potential for a LAEP scheme for private sector 'right to buys' to be incorporated into their broadly social housing schemes. Unfortunately none had a good offer for SWI for one-off private sector homes.

The LAEP submitted a final bid in December 2013 for over £2m on behalf of 14 district councils and Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire County Councils, for a retrofit scheme in each districts to treat a total of 500 properties. In line with DECC guidance the majority of funding was to subsidise the cost of SWI to both attract matched ECO funding from energy utility companies and to ensure that the remaining cost payable by the householder was eligible for Green Deal finance. The key element of the bid was to combine effective community engagement with evidence-based targeting using LAEP's housing and householder database.

*"LAEP's bid was ambitious and well designed and would have helped each council to roll out private sector solid wall insulation schemes in their areas."*

**Jane Thomas, Private Sector Housing Manager, Chesterfield**

This involved a very significant commitment of LAEP resources, including extensive efforts to establish a framework of ECO providers/contractors to deliver the scheme through either Efficiency East Midland's existing framework and through a tender placed by the LAEP on the public sector procurement platform, Source Derbyshire. The latter proved very difficult to achieve as it was obviously not possible to realistically define, or confirm, the total value of the tender contract prior to receiving funding.

64 proposals were submitted in total and unfortunately the LAEP bid was unsuccessful. Feedback from DECC indicated that in particular they did not have confidence that an ECO provider had been secured to deliver the scheme.

## 2.8 The LAEP Communications Service (ongoing)

The community focused communications service is funded by an optional £1500 p.a. subscription per authority. The service provides advice and information on energy efficiency, sustainable energy and affordable warmth directly to communities, schools, local authority staff, businesses and the general public on behalf of the LAEP.

The Communications Service has been collectively procured by Marches Energy Agency (MEA) through Service Level Agreements (SLA) since 2009 and provides a level and quality of delivery that would have been unaffordable for individual councils. Fifteen LAEP authorities participated between 2013 and 2015.

A core service provides:

- **A public facing website** [www.everybodys-talking.org](http://www.everybodys-talking.org) providing information on energy efficiency, sustainable energy, affordable warmth and community activity
- **A twitter account** with more than 170 followers
- **Monthly E-Bulletins** sent to more than 300 people representing more than 85 community groups and around 100 public and third sector organisations
- An **'Ask Me a Climate Question' Service** which allows community groups to request up to half a day's desk-based research from MEA. The service received 24 enquiries in 2013-14 and 18 by 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 2015
- LAEP annual **Eco Open Homes Event** aims to inspire householders to make eco improvements to their homes by visiting others who have already done so. In March 2013, 12 homes and other buildings in the area open their doors to more than 90 visitors; in 2014, 325 people visited 17 properties and the event is planned again for May 2015. The event has its own website: [www.everybodys-talking.org/ecohomes](http://www.everybodys-talking.org/ecohomes)



An additional tailored service enables councils select additional services which best meet their needs; the most



popular is visits by the Fantastic Home, a **mobile energy efficiency exhibition**, three times during the year to offer energy efficiency advice at community fairs, fetes, festivals, market days and busy shopping areas (see photos). Other activities have included presentations at Landlord Forums, workshops at community conferences, workshops for local authority staff, and briefings for elected members. In 2013-14, 1424 people engaged with the Fantastic Home vehicle.

MEA also seeks funding for other projects in the area and during 2013-14 secured funding totally £28,130 for other energy efficiency focused work in the area.

## 2.9 Looking Ahead (2015-17)

LAEP plans and aspirations during the next HECA period:

- Deliver, monitor, improve and evaluate Derbyshire Warm Homes programme with a view to secure continued revenue funding for staff beyond the current project time frame of September 2016. The LAEP will further engage with the CCGs in Derbyshire to demonstrate the impacts of affordable warmth interventions on health outcomes and costs, aiming to secure NHS funding in future for preventative support for high risk patients.
- Design, agree and secure funding and support for a Nottinghamshire health and housing programme, working closely with CCG and Public Health colleagues.
- Strive to offer affordable warmth support to a larger proportion of vulnerable fuel poor households not just those with existing health conditions, through innovative funding and partnership arrangements, building on the success and expertise gained through the health and housing programmes.
- A Derbyshire affordable warmth strategy is currently being developed by LAEP councils as part of a broader Derbyshire Anti-Poverty Strategy, an undertaking of the Derbyshire Partnership Forum, the countywide local strategic partnership.

For further information about the contents of this report, please contact:

Tim Braund, Head of Regulatory Services, Derbyshire Dales District Council, Town Hall, Matlock DE4 3NN, Email: [tim.braund@derbyshiredales.gov.uk](mailto:tim.braund@derbyshiredales.gov.uk), Telephone: 01629 761118

or

Rina Jones, LAEP Manager, [Rina.jones@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:Rina.jones@derbyshire.gov.uk), 01629-536130

## **ANNEX:**

### **THE ACTIVITIES OF DERBYSHIRE DALES DISTRICT COUNCIL IN RESPONSE TO THE HOME ENERGY CONSERVATION ACT 1995**

#### **Introduction**

Derbyshire Dales District Council has been an active member of the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Local Authorities' Energy Partnership since its formation in 1996. As an Authority we have found membership of the Partnership invaluable in order to help to form an approach to energy issues that is relevant for Derbyshire Dales as a district. There is no doubt that making use of the expertise of our partner authorities has helped to ensure that our residents have in turn received a better service than would otherwise have been the case. As such the District Council is pleased to sign up to this collaborative 'Further Report' and to contribute to it through this Annex.

#### **Derbyshire Dales District Council's Approach to the Home Energy Conservation Act**

In the first instance Derbyshire Dales District Council's approach to its responsibilities under the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 centred solely around improving the energy efficiency of domestic properties, mainly through offering advice and signposting to other services. Over time this approach has grown to include the whole fuel poverty and affordable warmth agenda and to encompass our response to the threats of climate change. It is noted that the 2012 HECA guidance covers both of these overlapping subjects and therefore this Annex will summarise our approach to both.

#### **Fuel Poverty and Affordable Warmth**

The activities of Derbyshire Dales District Council in respect of tackling fuel poverty and helping to provide affordable warmth are shaped through the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Local Authorities' Energy Partnership. Previously Derbyshire Dales District Council hosted and chaired and High Peak and Derbyshire Dales joint Affordable Warmth Steering Group which was attended by partners from other agencies with a role to play in this agenda, including High Peak Borough Council, Derbyshire County Council Welfare Rights, local Citizens Advice Bureaux, Derbyshire County PCT Public Health (shortly to become Derbyshire County Council Public Health), Age UK, Warm Front, Metropolitan Home Improvement Agency and Rural Action Derbyshire.

Through this Group Derbyshire Dales District Council and High Peak Borough Council developed a joint Affordable Warmth Strategy. The Strategy was adopted by Derbyshire Dales District Council in 2006 and although it is need of refreshing to take account of changes in the funding and priorities of local authorities and partners, it is still considered to be fit for purpose in principle. The Strategy has also

been adopted by the High Peak and Derbyshire Dales Local Strategic Partnership, and is monitored by the LSP Health and Wellbeing Sub Group.

The Strategy is a high level document that sets out the scale of the issue on a local level and describes the ambitions of partners in attempting to address fuel poverty. It is supported through a series of Action Plans that are revised annually and set out in more detail the activities that will be undertaken by members of the Group.

Over previous years the Group has overseen work such as maximising the uptake of Warm Front grants, the development of local CERT schemes and the adoption of the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire wide Warmstreets CERT scheme. It has also been instrumental in the creation of a Derbyshire wide oil co-operative and the promotion of that co-operative throughout the District, the incorporation of fuel poverty issues into a multi-agency referral scheme and the advertising of affordable warmth measures through PCT managed pharmacy campaigns.

During 2012/13 the main activities of the Group centred on maximising the impact of Warmstreets and trying to develop positions in respect of Green Deal and ECO. This resulted in the installation of 450 measures through Warmstreets, generated financial savings of £46,220 and carbon savings of 244.48 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>. It has also helped us to target the DECC funded Fuel Poverty Scheme in our District.

Since 2012/13 the Strategy has acknowledged the difficulty of attracting funding through Green Deal and ECO and the lack of resource to do this at the single local authority level. Derbyshire Dales District Council has concentrated its efforts in supporting the development of strategies, policies and schemes as part of the LAEP and played an active part in the development of the Healthy Home Scheme. Through links with one of the Clinical Commissioning Groups that serves the District we were able to identify 2 GP practices to participate in the initial pilot study.

As a result of this change in emphasis in respect of fuel poverty work the most recent action plans have been amended to show a different way of working.

## **Climate Change**

Whilst the work of the Affordable Warmth Group concentrated on dealing with issues relating to the ability of householders to heat their homes adequately it also inevitably impacted on climate change issues in the community. It did not, however, look at climate change issues as they directly impact upon and are managed by Derbyshire Dales District Council.

In order to consider its response to climate change issues Derbyshire Dales District Council formed an officer working group of its own. This Group was formed in 2007 in response to the adoption of the National Performance Framework and concentrated initially on reducing the District Council's carbon footprint. This work resulted in a reduction of 5.87 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> between 2008 and 2010. A further work strand was understanding the most likely effects of climate change for our district and we undertook this work through participation in a local climate impact programme. This programme confirmed that the most likely effect of climate change was increased flooding and we have consequently adapted our flooding related



services to help to ensure that we can provide a suitable service to local residents and businesses in the event of flooding incidents.

Further information about the work of Derbyshire Dales District Council in respect of fuel poverty/affordable warmth and climate change may be obtained from:

Tim Braund  
Head of Environmental Health  
Derbyshire Dales District Council  
Town Hall  
Matlock  
Derbyshire  
DE4 3NN  
Tel: 01629 761118  
Email: [tim.braund@derbyshiredales.gov.uk](mailto:tim.braund@derbyshiredales.gov.uk)

**This report must be authorised by the Chief Executive of your authority and be made available electronically on your website.**

I confirm that I have seen and agreed this report of the progress made by this authority to implement its energy efficiency report as required under the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995.

Signature:

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Name: **DORCAS BUNTON**

Position: **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

1. Authority: **DERBYSHIRE DALES DISTRICT COUNCIL**

## **APPENDIX 1**

# **AFFORDABLE WARMTH STRATEGY**

## **ACTION PLANS 2015-16**

**These Action Plans have been designed to guide the Affordable Warmth work of Derbyshire Dales District Council for the year 2015-16, and to indicate directions in which work may be progressed in following years. The Action Plans will be reviewed and updated annually.**

## AIM 1 – Developing partnerships to oversee and deliver the Strategy

Objective	Tasks and Outcomes	Lead	Priority
Maintain links with the Local Authority Energy Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Attend meetings of the Officer Working Group wherever possible</li> <li>▪ Contribute towards the development of the Healthy Home scheme</li> </ul>	<b>DDDC</b> <b>DDDC</b>	On going On going
Monitor, evaluate and review progress against the Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Produce an annual report detailing progress</li> <li>▪ Review action plans</li> </ul>	<b>DDDC</b> <b>DDDC</b>	April 2016 March 2016
Maintain effective links within the new health service arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain links with North Derbyshire and Southern Derbyshire CCGs</li> <li>▪ Promote affordable warmth with Public Health colleague</li> </ul>	<b>DDDC</b> <b>DDDC, HPBC, PCT</b>	On going On going

## AIM 2 – Maximising financial resources for energy efficiency measures

Objective	Tasks and Outcomes	Partners	Priority
Maximise revenue funding for Healthy Homes scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Assist LAEP and Public Health as appropriate to maintain funding for the Healthy Home scheme</li> </ul>	DDDC	On going
Maximise capital funding available through LAEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Assist LAEP as appropriate to access capital funding for energy efficiency schemes</li> </ul>	DDDC	On going

### AIM 3 – Maximise personal income and ensure benefit take-up

Objective	Tasks and Outcomes	Partners	Priority
Support those most vulnerable to fuel poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ensure that anyone found to be in need of debt advice is referred into the CAB debt advice service</li> </ul>	DDDC	On going
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Refer appropriate members of the public into the Benefits service/CAB for benefits check</li> </ul>	DDDC	On going

#### AIM 4 – Targeting action

Objective	Tasks and Outcomes	Partners	Priority
Identify those in fuel poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Make referrals into the Healthy Home scheme as appropriate</li> </ul>	<b>DDDC, DCC, LAEP</b>	On going
Identify energy inefficient dwellings			
Target areas where affordable warmth is likely to be a problem			

## AIM 5 – Promote energy efficiency advice services

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Tasks and Outcomes</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Priority</b>
Refer requests for advice into the national advice service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Ensure website contains up to date information</li><li>▪ Ensure Customer Communications are able to deal with first point of contact referrals</li></ul>	<b>DDD</b> <b>DDDC</b>	Ongoing On going