

Kirklees Council
Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) Report 2017

1. Local Energy Efficiency Ambitions and Priorities

Ambition/Policy/Action	Description	Timescales
<p>Climate Local & Carbon Reduction Targets</p>	<p>Cabinet approved Climate Local Commitment, which incorporates the Local Authority Fuel Poverty Commitment. This action provides the council with a single, clear Nationally approved framework for delivering carbon reduction, a green economy and affordable warmth. See full Report detailing commitments and baselines published at https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/Data/Council/201212051700/Agenda/COUNCIL05121246985D.pdf</p> <p>The Council’s Climate Local framework, actions plans and reports are published online, here: http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/delivering-services/policies-and-strategies.aspx</p> <p>Kirklees Climate Local includes the Council’s 2020 Carbon reduction targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council emissions: A reduction of 40% by 2020 based upon 2005/06 baseline • District-wide emissions: A reduction of 40% by 2020 based upon 2005/06 baseline <p>The most recent figures indicate that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council has reduced its emissions by 28.5% (internal figures from 2015/16) • District-wide emissions have reduced by 29% by 2014 (BEIS CO2 Emissions Statistics) 	<p>Cabinet Approved December 2012 – Annual progress reports</p>
<p>Local Policies</p> <p>The Council's ambitions for Affordable Warmth, Carbon reduction and energy efficiency have also been integrated into other Council and Partnership Strategies listed right</p>	<p>Kirklees Economic Strategy (2014-2020) http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/involve/entry.aspx?id=661 See Priority Four: Infrastructure – Actions to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advance low carbon solutions • Improve the energy performance of existing homes and provide targeted support to vulnerable households <p>Kirklees Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2014-2020) http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/delivering-services/joint-health-and-wellbeing-strategy.aspx Extract from Vision: “People have a safe, warm, affordable home in a decent physical environment within a supportive community”</p>	<p>Published 2014</p> <p>Published 2014</p>

	<p>Tackling Poverty Strategy (2016-2018):- http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/delivering-services/pdf/tackling-poverty-strategy.pdf</p>	Published 2015
	<p>Kirklees Strategic Housing Market Needs Assessment 2015:- https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/planning-policy/pdf/strategic-housing-market-assessment.pdf</p>	Published 2015
Local Plan	<p>Kirklees Local Plan – The Local Plan is being developed and will include policies to ensure that it conforms to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Section 10 of the NPPF; <i>Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change</i>, sets the context for future Local Plan policies. The Local Plan will include policies which address greenhouse gas emissions, renewable and local carbon energy and consider the mitigation and adaptation to the impacts of climate change.</p> <p>http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/planning-policy/local-plan.aspx</p>	The Public Consultation period on the Local plan has recently closed with a view to submitting to the Secretary of State in Spring 2017. This would allow for adoption in early 2018.
Regional Policies	<p>Priority 3 of the Leeds City Region Strategic Economic Plan (Clean Energy and Environmental Resilience) sets out a long term ambition to become a resilient zero carbon energy economy underpinned by high quality infrastructure. Priority 3 particularly emphasises the ambition to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver improvements that make homes across the Leeds City Region warmer and reduce fuel poverty; • Develop partnership and funding models with the health sector to deliver collaborative interventions that reduce extreme cold and damp and improve health. <p>http://investleedscityregion.com/system/files/uploaded_files/SEP-2016-FINAL.pdf</p>	2016-2036

<p>Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing (KNH) – manages the Borough’s Council Housing</p>	<p>KNH have targets as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce carbon emissions from Council stock by 30% by 2020 from a 2005 baseline (as at 2015/16 this target has been surpassed with a 35% reduction achieved); • To aim to raise the energy rating of stock to a minimum of band D by 2020. 	<p>The 2020 carbon reduction target has been achieved</p>
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2. The Measures that take advantage of financial assistance and other benefits offered from central Government initiatives, to help result in significant energy efficiency improvements of residential accommodation

Specific Measures are detailed in the table below, with the specific points requested by BEIS covered in the paragraphs immediately below.

Requested Information (BEIS Guidance Document, January 2017)

Fuel Poverty

Kirklees Council is part of the Leeds City Region, which has around 140,000 fuel poor households in total. This represents an average fuel poverty rate of 10.8%, compared to 10.4% nationally. Kirklees has an equivalent fuel poverty rate of 11.6% (over 20,300 households), higher than both the regional and national averages. Other Local Authorities in the LCR show a range of fuel poverty rates from 7% in Selby to over 14% in Bradford. (Source: BEIS 2014 sub-regional fuel poverty data: low income high costs indicator).

The Council has limited staff resource to tackle fuel poverty and it should be noted that this has reduced significantly since 2010 as a consequence of overall funding reductions to Local Authorities. Whilst the Council does not have a specific Fuel Poverty Strategy, the issue is reflected in the strategies and policies detailed in section 1 (and also includes the regional LCR Strategic Economic Plan).

Via the regional Better Homes Partnership, the Council has accessed national funding schemes and ECO (see details on each below). Working as a region helps ensure economies of scale and reduces the risks to the Council associated with accessing ECO funding. The region has developed criteria for Fuel Poverty/'Low Income High Cost' eligibility (see 'Flexible Eligibility' proposals below for more information)

Boilers and Heat Pumps

Kirklees Building Control (BC) are notified of boiler installations via three typical routes:

- 1) Installation by 'competent persons' that subsequently notify the council (this represents the vast majority of installations) – these details are held on a database.
- 2) Building Control applications via new build houses (although it should be noted that private building inspectors can also fulfil this function, not just the council BC)
- 3) A small number require BC sign-off when associated with neighbourly disputes (i.e. if a boiler is installed close to a property boundary and there are potential issues of condensation/unwanted impacts to adjoining properties).

Whilst BC does have an obligation to follow-up contraventions (i.e. unauthorised boiler replacements), and does so where possible, it should be stressed that the resources to undertake this are extremely limited and a significant restriction upon policing this activity effectively.

The Authority is not currently working on projects involving heat pumps or other more 'novel' technologies.

Smart Meters

The Council and Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing are currently exploring the promotion of smart meters (in both private and council housing stock) through participating in the White Rose Energy municipal energy supply scheme, which has a proactive approach to the roll-out of Smart meters to domestic customers (see below for more information).

Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards in the Private Rented Sector

Kirklees Council are intending to coordinate the enforcement of the Private Rented Sector Minimum Energy Efficiency Regulations with the Council's existing Duties under the Housing Health and Safety Rating System.

Schemes and Initiatives that take advantage of financial assistance and other benefits offered from central Government initiatives, to help result in significant energy efficiency improvements of residential accommodation

Better Homes Kirklees (Green Deal and ECO)	<p>'Better Homes Kirklees' (Part of the 'Better Homes Yorkshire' Leeds City Region Green Deal/ECO Scheme):</p> <p>Better Homes Yorkshire is a long-term partnership scheme between the ten Leeds City Regions Local Authorities (including Kirklees) and contractors Keepmoat & Fortem. It works across the region to improve the energy efficiency of homes and help homeowners and private landlords reduce their fuel bills and live in warmer, healthier homes.</p> <p>The scheme officially launched on 18th March 2015 and includes energy efficiency measures such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cavity Wall Insulation• External & Internal Wall Insulation• Hard to Treat Cavities• Loft & Cavities• Room in Roof Insulation• Boilers & Central Heating installation• Windows & Door Replacement• Renewables e.g. Solar PV panels <p>The scheme is funded by external streams that are currently available such as the ECO (Energy Company Obligation), in order to heavily subsidise works and make energy efficiency measures affordable for customers. Since 2015, the Partnership has successfully accessed funding from the Green Deal Communities scheme and the Central Heating Fund.</p>	<p>Better Homes: Contractor appointed December 2014, Scheme launch March 2015</p> <p>(Ongoing)</p>
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	<p>Year one of the Programme (2015/16) delivered energy efficiency measures to 1,733 homes, with an investment value of £7.7m. To date, Year 2 (2016/17) has delivered £1.6m investment and improved 656 homes with a range of energy efficiency and heating improvements. Since launch, (Year 1 and Year 2 to February 2017), 77 homes in Kirklees have been received energy efficiency measures and been improved through the scheme.</p> <p>50% of the contract value in year one has been delivered by supply chain partners (SMEs) located within the Leeds City Region, and a further 44% has been delivered by contractors just outside the City Region based in Rotherham, Sheffield and Doncaster. In total 35 SME sub-contractors were awarded work through the programme and 204 jobs were sustained during 2015/16. To date, 45% of the Year 2 contract value has been delivered by contractors located in the Leeds City Region, and a further 52% by contractors employing Leeds City Region residents; 98 jobs are being sustained.</p> <p>The Better Homes Yorkshire programme website is live, and is maintained with current offers, news stories, show home videos, case studies and information about the programme. The website also contains an online diagnostic tool to assist households with identifying which measures may be suitable for their property. The website can be found at www.betterhomesyorkshire.co.uk</p> <p>A call centre function is also maintained and trained staff available to talk customers through the range of measures, costs and potential funding routes available. Records of all customers who opt not to progress due lack of funding are also retained (with permission) should future funding become available.</p> <p>Schemes delivered through Better Homes are detailed below.</p>	
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<p>Green Deal Communities Funding (Better Homes)</p>	<p>Green Deal Communities (GDC) funding was secured from Government and the programme has now been completed. This city region wide programme commenced in 2014, led by Leeds City Council. Phases 2 and 3 have been delivered by Better Homes Yorkshire. In total 1,246 homes have received measures through the programme, with GDC funding of £4.9m invested.</p> <p>Kirklees participated in Phases 2 and 3 of this scheme, resulting in 27 homes receiving measures.</p>	<p>2015-16</p>
<p>Central Heating Fund (Better Homes) : First time Central Heating Installations for residents in Fuel Poverty</p>	<p>The LCR Central Heating Fund (CHF) programme comprising over £1.76m is now complete. This city region wide programme commenced in 2015 and has involved WYCA, all ten city region Local Authorities, and three Housing Associations (Yorkshire Housing, Kirklees Community Association, Leeds Jewish Housing Association) . Central heating systems, and often a gas connection, will have been provided to 445 (291 via Better Homes contracts) fuel poor households, with no existing central heating.</p> <p>In Kirklees, 30 Households in fuel poverty received Central Heating via Better Homes through this scheme</p>	<p>2015-2017</p>
<p>Improvements and Investment in the Council Housing Stock (managed by Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing)</p>	<p>KNH/the Council have undertaken the following major investment since 2015, accessing ECO funding where available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade of central heating boiler in 2000 properties from non-condensing to A rated condensing boiler. • External Wall Insulation to 247 flats and houses. • Cavity wall and loft insulation to 65 properties. • Cavity Wall Insulation to 149 ‘hard to treat’ properties • New Gas supplies fitted to 92 all electric properties across Kirklees (100% funding from utilities) • Installation of 574 Solar PV systems to low RDSAP properties (Initially funded from the HRA Capital Plan, in the medium term the full cost of the works to be repaid from feed-in-tariff (FIT) payments to the Council). 	<p>2015-2017</p>

	<p>KNH are investigating funding options for potential schemes where the Renewable Heat Incentive RHI may be utilised on public owned domestic stock.</p>	
<p>Hillhouse 'Greening the Gap' Community Fund</p>	<p>This scheme involved the installation of Solar PV systems to 53 private households in a relatively deprived area of Huddersfield in 2010. This has created an ongoing community-led fund for 'low carbon living' improvements within Hillhouse area of Huddersfield.</p>	<p>For the life of FIT income on PV installed. Ongoing until c. 2030</p>
<p>Kirklees Empty Clusters Programme.</p>	<p>The 'Kirklees Bringing Clusters of Empty Homes into Use' project has brought empty properties (including commercial) in Dewsbury and Huddersfield town centres back into use. Department for Communities and Local Government funding of £2.8 million was secured by Kirklees Council in June 2012 and the project exceeded expectations, delivering 165 units of residential accommodation.</p> <p>By turning empty properties into residential accommodation, the scheme has helped to regenerate both town centres and increase the amount of accommodation in these areas. The project delivered new accommodation in council owned and privately owned buildings and where possible the thermal comfort of these historic buildings was improved through the conversion works.</p>	<p>Funding Secured 2012</p> <p>Completed 2015</p>
<p>White Rose Energy - Municipal Domestic Energy Company</p>	<p>The Council has the opportunity to participate in the White Rose Energy scheme. Set up by Leeds City Council, this is a partnership with Robin Hood Energy in order to deliver a fair, competitively priced energy offer for domestic customers, with particular efforts made to alleviate fuel poverty. WRE also has a proactive stance on the roll-out of 'smart' energy meters and their benefits to customers.</p> <p>At the time of writing, Kirklees Council, and Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing are exploring further whether to participate in, and endorse, this scheme.</p>	<p>Potentially Spring 2017 onwards</p>

<p>District Heating in Huddersfield</p>	<p>Kirklees Council is investigating the potential for a district heating network in Huddersfield Town Centre. Heat Mapping for Kirklees and Energy Masterplanning for Huddersfield has been completed as a result of DECC funding (Low Carbon Pioneer Cities & Heat Networks Delivery Unit). Follow-up detailed feasibility study of Huddersfield will take place in 2017 as a result of HNDU and Council capital funding.</p> <p>District heating could also provide heat to households located within the reach of the network, priced at a competitive and stable level, as well as an offer to town centre businesses.</p>	<p>2014 onwards</p>
<p>Improvements to Data Sets and Targets for Area Action</p>	<p>Affordable Warmth Database. The council has continued to develop its affordable warmth database, bringing together all historical data from energy efficiency schemes led by the authority. The database is used to plan future projects and help identify areas of continuing need or where take-up has been historically low, the authority has also recently invested in district wide EPC data, to enable even more effective targeting of future work.</p> <p>Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) Data The council purchased domestic EPC data for the entire authority area in 2012. This complements the existing council affordable warmth datasets and provides an additional level of detail on a significant proportion of households in Kirklees. It is expected that this data will help inform and guide how the council develops its approach to the Better Homes Scheme (Green Deal and ECO funding).</p>	<p>Affordable Warmth Database established 2009 updated on an ongoing basis</p> <p>2013 onwards</p>

3) The Measures which an authority has developed to implement energy efficiency improvements cost-effectively in residential accommodation by using area based/street by street roll out involving local communities and partnerships

<p>Leeds City Region Tackling Fuel Poverty Programme</p>	<p>The West Yorkshire Combined Authority approved a Leeds City Region Tackling Fuel Poverty Programme, and projects, to be delivered through the Better Homes Yorkshire programme during 2016. Projects have already commenced in Bradford, Barnsley, Craven, Harrogate, Selby, York, Leeds and Wakefield. The next phase of projects is currently being worked up by Kirklees and Calderdale.</p> <p>The proposal for Kirklees is being prepared in advance of Spring 2017 submission for approval. This scheme is likely to be a joint tenure approach with KNH (both council housing and private dwellings) to address hard-to-treat cavities in a relatively deprived area of Huddersfield with consistent build archetypes. The scheme is likely to be funded by a combination of Council investment and the LCR Tackling Fuel Programme (if successful) to deliver at least 200 measures. Should ECO be available for this scheme, it will also be accessed via Better Homes.</p>	<p>2016 onwards (two year programme)</p> <p>Potentially Summer 2017-2018</p>
<p>ECO – ‘Flexible Eligibility’ – partnership approach from the LCR Local Authorities</p>	<p>Energy Company Obligation (ECO) – ‘Flexible Eligibility’</p> <p>The Leeds City Region has proposed adopting a city region wide approach to implementing the forthcoming Flexible Eligibility policy initiative within the 2017/18 Energy Company Obligation regulations, through the Better Homes Yorkshire programme. Whilst these proposals have yet to be agreed by the Council or the LEP/Combined Authority at the time of writing, the draft proposals are detailed below.</p> <p>Although the target is limited in ambition (10% of the overall ECO target) the initiative is welcomed as a step towards increased local control over tackling fuel poverty and improving domestic energy efficiency.</p> <p>The policy approach is based on the following principles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Eligibility criteria are to be as streamlined, and simple, as possible ii) Focus on attracting ECO funding to support Local Growth Fund schemes iii) Early engagement with energy suppliers 	<p>April 2017 onwards</p>

- iv) Early engagement with local Members and partners
- v) Eligibility via 2 routes: (1) Geographical areas based on deprived communities; and (2) Eligibility for funding due to individual circumstances (based on criteria developed and refined already for the Central Heating Fund programme).

DRAFT LCR Flexible Eligibility Policy

The Better Homes Yorkshire programme is the only Council backed energy efficiency and heating offer within the Leeds City Region. All measures receiving ECO subsidy through Flexible Eligibility must be delivered through the Better Homes Yorkshire programme.

All private tenure households, within the geographic boundary of the Leeds City Region, will qualify for funding through the ECO Flexible Eligibility if the following criteria are met:

Route 1 – area based

1. Household located within Lower Super Output Areas with an Index of Multiple Deprivation score of less than 15%; or
2. Household located within an area defined by the Local Authority as a priority area for action.

Route 2 – individual circumstances (Low Income High Cost test)

Households will be considered at risk of fuel poverty if they are determined to be a Low Income household, living in a High Cost home in relation to energy use.

Households to meet Stage 1 (Low Income) criteria and one of the Stage 2 (High Cost) criteria.

Stage 1 (Low Income)	Criteria
Low Income	Gross household income of <£21,000

Stage 2 (High Cost)	Criteria
a) High Cost	Property EPC rating of E, F or G
b) High Cost	Property EPC rating of D; and - x1 characteristics of Fuel Poverty*
c) High Cost and Health Condition made worse by cold	Property EPC rating of D; and - Health condition made worse by cold: Chronic respiratory, cardio vascular, or musculoskeletal illness, or mental health condition.

	<p><i>*Characteristic of Fuel Poverty (Based on March 2015 Govt Fuel Poverty Strategy)</i></p>	<p>Criteria</p>	
	<p><i>Mainly families</i></p>	<p><i>Child under 16 resident in the household</i></p>	
	<p><i>Vulnerable Elderly</i></p>	<p><i>Over age 70</i></p>	
	<p><i>Living in a hard to treat home</i></p>	<p><i>Property has solid walls, non standard cavity walls, system built walls, is off the gas network, or has no loft.</i></p>	
<p>Maximise external funding opportunities</p>	<p>Maximise potential delivery of further area based Energy Efficiency Schemes using the Better Homes partnership scheme (detailed above) and additional sources of external funding. This could depend upon changes in ECO and related and other external sources of funding.</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>

4) Time Frame for Delivery and National and Local Partners.

Time frames for the delivery of Future Initiatives, unless otherwise stated above, will vary dependent upon bids for funding and capacity to resource work in the council and with partners. The Better Homes partnership will shortly be entering year 3 and the scheme is anticipated to run until 2022.

The strategic context and timescales for future initiatives is as detailed in Section 1. The LCR SEP is anticipated run from 2016 to 2036. The two current Kirklees strategies (the Economic Strategy and Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy) both run to 2020.

National and Local Partners	Affordable Warmth Partners: including input and support from: Public Health (now part of the Council), The Kirklees Financial Inclusion Steering Group, Age UK Calderdale and Kirklees, Citizens Advice Bureau, CCGs, Ambulance Service, WYFRS
	Not for Profit Organisations: Including The Energy Saving Trust, National Energy Action, Groundwork
	Private Sector Organisations: Keepmoat/Fortem (Better Homes partners), and others including those successfully awarded Tenders for works, various utilities providers
	Public Sector Organisations including BEIS and other Government departments, the Leeds City Region LEP/West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Partner Local Authorities, Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing

Signed By



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