



Report To: Leader's Portfolio Holder Meeting
Lead Officer: Director, Health and Environmental Services

11 March 2015

Home Energy Efficiency Act: Progress Report

Purpose

1. To approve the South Cambridgeshire District Council Home Energy Conservation Act Progress Report, March 2015.
2. This is not a key decision, however, is brought before the Leader because his Portfolio includes services that tackle the effects of climate change and the Secretary of State requires the progress report to be published.

Recommendations

3. It is recommended that the Leader approves the publication of the South Cambridgeshire District Council Home Energy Conservation Act Progress Report, March 2015 (Appendix A).

Reasons for Recommendations

4. The progress report outlines the progress that the Council has made on the priorities and components specified in the further report. The report does not commit the Council to anything over and above that which is agreed through other decision making processes. The Secretary of State requires that the progress report is published by 31 March 2015.

Background

5. Using powers under the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995, the Secretary of State required "all English authorities to prepare further reports by 31 March 2013 setting out 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"¹.
6. South Cambridgeshire District Council's further report was published on the Council's website by 31 March 2013.
7. The Secretary of State also requests that authorities provide progress reports on progress made in implementing the measures set out in the further report at 2-yearly intervals after submission of the further report (by 31 March 2015, 31 March 2017, 31 March 2019 etc) up to and including 31 March 2027.

Considerations

8. The further report, and therefore progress reports, are required to have regard to:

¹ Guidance to English Energy Conservation Authorities issued Pursuant to the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995, Department of Energy and Climate Change, July 2012 (rev'd March 2013).

- (a) measures that take advantage of central Government initiatives e.g. Green Deal and Renewable Heat Incentive, to help result in significant energy efficiency improvements of residential accommodation; and
 - (b) measures that an authority has developed to implement energy efficiency improvements cost effectively in residential accommodation involving local communities and partnerships.
9. The further report was developed in line with the example further report in the Guidance to English Energy Conservation Authorities issued Pursuant to the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995, Department of Energy and Climate Change, July 2012 (rev'd March 2013).
10. The progress report (Appendix A) draws together information from across the Council. It outlines the progress that the Council has made on the priorities and components specified in the further report. The report does not commit the Council to anything over and above that which is agreed through other decision making processes.

Options

11. The Leader could:
- (c) approve the publication of the South Cambridgeshire District Council Home Energy Conservation Act Progress Report, March 2015 (Appendix A),
 - (d) approve the publication of the South Cambridgeshire District Council Home Energy Conservation Act Progress Report, March 2015 (Appendix A) subject to amendments agreed at the meeting, or
 - (e) reject or defer a decision on the publication of the South Cambridgeshire District Council Home Energy Conservation Act Progress Report, March 2015 (Appendix A).

Implications

12. In the writing of this report, taking into account financial, legal, staffing, risk management, equality and diversity, climate change, community safety and any other key issues, the following implications have been considered: -

Legal

13. The Secretary of State requires all authorities to publish further reports and progress reports on their website in a format and location that is accessible to local residents. The progress report should be uploaded to the website by 31 March 2015 and the link forwarded to the Secretary of State. The further report is located at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/content/improving-energy-efficiency-residential-buildings-heca-further-report-2013>

Climate Change

14. The aim of the further report and progress report is to set out 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.

Consultation responses

15. Whilst no consultation has taken place, the progress report includes information provided by officers from across Health and Environmental Services, Affordable Homes and Planning and New Communities.

Effect on Strategic Aims

Aim 1 - ENGAGEMENT

16. The Council has committed to sustaining successful, vibrant villages through engaging and empowering local communities through the Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership and the Action on Energy (Green Deal) initiative.

Background Papers

Where [the Local Authorities \(Executive Arrangements\) \(Meetings and Access to Information\) \(England\) Regulations 2012](#) require documents to be open to inspection by members of the public, they must be available for inspection: -

- (a) at all reasonable hours at the offices of South Cambridgeshire District Council;
- (b) on the Council's website; and
- (c) in the case of documents to be available for inspection pursuant to regulation 15, on payment of a reasonable fee required by the Council by the person seeking to inspect the documents at the offices of South Cambridgeshire District Council.

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