

Appendix 1 HECA Report 2019 Online Questions – draft responses in italics

A	Headline and Overview Questions	
1	<p>Does your LA have a current strategy on carbon reduction and/or energy efficiency for domestic or non-domestic properties?</p> <p><i>Although we have no strategies specifically on either of these, the Greater Cambridge Housing Strategy – currently in consultation prior to adoption in March/April 2019 – includes priorities and actions which are relevant: Achieving a high standard of design and quality of new homes and communities (Priority 3); Improving housing conditions and making best use of existing homes (Priority 4); where both councils commit to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>+ promote greener and energy efficient solutions for home-owners and where necessary take action where private landlords fail to meet expected standards;</i> <i>+ invest in the fabric of council homes for optimum energy..</i> <i>+ support private landlords in managing their homes..</i> 	
2	<p>If yes, please provide a link to your current strategy here:</p> <p><i>Draft strategy can be viewed at: http://www.scambs.gov.uk/housing/housing-strategy-consultation/</i></p>	
3	<p>If no, are you planning to develop one?</p> <p><i>?</i></p>	
4a	<p>What scheme/s has your LA 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?</p> <p><i>Significant work has been undertaken in relation to the Council’s own properties – details to come.</i></p> <p><i>In relation to private sector housing, we have worked with the other Cambridgeshire local authorities as part of the Action on Energy Partnership to identify and bid for funding wherever available.</i></p> <p><i>In September we submitted a bid to the Warm Homes Fund for work to a collection of social housing and private housing for first time central heating. Whilst Affordable Homes who run the scheme liked our project management and governance they advised that costs were too high and the bid was withdrawn. Discussions with installers have been ongoing to revise the bid in time to resubmit for Round 3 on 8 February.</i></p> <p><i>We have published a joint Statement of Intent for ECO Flex (see Section G below).</i></p>	
4b	<p>What scheme/s is your LA planning to implement in support of energy saving/carbon reduction in residential accommodation (such as owner-occupied, privately rented and social housing) or non-domestic properties in the next two years?</p> <p><i>Discussions are ongoing with the other districts in relation to entering a partnership with a provider of energy advice and installations who can fund the work with funding from ECO.</i></p>	
5	<p>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</p>	

	(such as administration) as desired? Please provide figures and a brief narrative account if desired. <i>Not known as present</i>	
6	What businesses, charities, third sector organisations or other stakeholders do you work with to deliver the scheme/s? <i>In relation to the Warm Homes Bid, we have been working with installers who have current contracts with the councils/housing associations for work to social housing.</i>	
7	What has been the outcome of the scheme/s (eg 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..)? This does not have to be measured against national data or benchmarks but rather focuses on the LA's own monitoring and evaluation. <i>Data relating to work on Council housing stock to come...</i>	
8	What lessons have you learned from delivering this scheme/s? <i>Lessons learned on work on Council housing stock to come...</i>	
B	Local Communications Strategy	
9	Does your LA provide an advisory service to consumers (and businesses) on how to save energy? <i>No. A small number of enquiries on energy saving come in to the Council and are directed to the Energy Saving Advice Service.</i>	
10	If yes to q 10, please briefly outline how this is undertaken.	
11.	How do you communicate or encourage energy saving amongst domestic consumers and/or local businesses? <i>Council tenants have been able to access advice on energy saving from the Housing Warm Homes team. We run a thermal imaging camera loan scheme to help householders identify draughts (85 properties surveyed in 2017-18). We also provide promotional materials including an interactive model Eco-house to community groups to provide information stalls at village events.</i>	
C	Local Green Supply Chains	
12	Does your LA promote the use of energy efficient products amongst consumers (and businesses)? <i>Not at present</i>	
13	If yes, please briefly detail how this promotion work is undertaken.	
14	What engagement (formal or informal) does your LA have with local businesses/supply chains involved in promoting energy efficiency products or carbon reduction? <i>We have no formal engagement; however we have useful informal contacts with a number of local businesses including Cambridge Solar and Aran Insulation Services.</i>	
D	Domestic Private Rented Sector (PRS) Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards The Minimum Energy Efficiency 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 to 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. The PRS Regulations give enforcement powers to LAs, and authorities are responsible for ensuring landlord compliance with their area.	

15	Is your authority aware of the PRS Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards? <i>Yes</i>	
16	Which team is responsible for leading on enforcement of the PRS minimum standard? <i>Environmental Health & Licensing</i>	
17	Please provide the contact details of the person leading this team? <i>Gemma Barron is interim Head of Service; Emma Knight is the relevant team manager</i>	
18	What method or methods does your authority use to communicate with landlords and tenants about the standards and other related issues? <i>Due to staff vacancy no proactive contact with landlords and tenants at present.</i>	
19	Do you directly target landlords of EPC F and G rated properties? <i>As above</i>	
E	Financial Support for Energy Efficiency	
	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. <i>None at present</i>	
F	Fuel Poverty	
21	Does your LA have a fuel poverty strategy? If yes, please describe the scope of the strategy and the support that is available for low income and vulnerable households to help tackle fuel poverty in your local area. Please also provide a link to your strategy if published. <i>No fuel poverty strategy at present. However, the Council provides funding to a number of Citizen's Advice Bureaux who provide energy-saving advice to clients – often in relation to debt advice.</i>	
22	What steps have you taken to identify residents/properties in fuel poverty? <i>None within last two years</i>	
23	How does fuel poverty interlink with your LAs overall carbon reduction strategy? <i>n/a</i>	
24a	What measures or initiatives have you taken to promote fuel cost reduction for those in fuel poverty? <i>Occasional promotion of Cambridgeshire County Council's Collective Switching campaign</i>	
24b	If you have taken measures or initiatives to promote fuel cost reduction for those in fuel poverty, what partnership with business or energy providers have you undertaken? <i>n/a</i>	
G	The Energy Company Obligation (ECO) 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. 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.	
25	Has your LA published a Statement of Intent for ECO Flex? <i>Yes, published December 2018 at http://www.scamb.gov.uk/community/energy-saving/eco-flexible-eligibility-scheme/</i>	

26	Please provide any further information you feel might be of benefit to BEIS in helping to understand ECO Flex delivery in more detail. <i>No active promotion by the Council; one declaration to date through local installer.</i>	
H	Smart Metering – no engagement to date	
27	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 (eg ability to control energy use, identify best value tariffs?) Please detail any work undertaken or planned with local/community groups, housing associations, micro businesses, Smart Energy GB under their Partnership Programme and energy suppliers.	
28	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.	
29	Please detail any resources/support available to residents who have had an appliance condemned for safety reasons and cannot afford to replace it (eg during visual safety check conducted during smart meter installation or otherwise).	
30	Please detail any existing relationships with energy suppliers to help ensure that the opportunities presented by vacant properties under your control are effectively utilised (ie gaining access to install a smart meter).	
I	Future Schemes or Wider Initiatives	
31	Please outline any future schemes or wider initiatives not covered above that your LA has carried out or is planning to undertake to improve the energy efficiency of residential accommodation or businesses in your area, for example within your Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Energy Strategy. <i>Officers are exploring the potential to incorporate neighbourhood energy projects within new housing developments, combining on-site energy generation and storage with promotion of sustainable technologies such as electric vehicles.</i>	