

SOUTH TYNESIDE COUNCIL HOME ENERGY CONSERVATION ACT (HECA) FURTHER REPORT 2013		
ACTION		TIMING
1/ LOCAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY AMBITIONS AND PRIORITIES		
	<p>South Tyneside Council joined 11 partner authorities in the North East to become the first region to sign up to the EU's Covenant of Mayors, a voluntary commitment to increase energy efficiency and use of renewable energy sources within the Local Authority area. South Tyneside Council has set a target to reduce carbon emissions by at least 20% by 2020, against a 2005 baseline. An initial plan for achieving this level of CO₂ emissions reduction is contained in South Tyneside's Sustainable Energy Action Plan. Sustainable Energy Action Plan for South Tyneside. Domestic carbon emissions account for approximately half of total CO₂ emissions for South Tyneside.</p> <p>Current performance on emissions is 4.7 t CO₂ per capita, a 13% reduction on the 2005 baseline. Domestic emissions are 2.1 t CO₂ per capita, a 12.5% decrease since 2005. South Tyneside's domestic per capita emissions are lower than the North East average. Local and Regional CO₂ Emissions estimates 2005-2010. Latest DECC Fuel Poverty Statistics (2010) indicate that the level of fuel poverty in South Tyneside is 21.3%. This represents 14,526 households out of a total 68,105 households. DECC Sub-Regional Fuel Poverty data 2010. As energy costs have risen at a greater rate than inflation and wage increases in the intervening two years, it is reasonable to assume that this rate will have increased.</p>	2020
	Ambition to insulate all cavities and lofts, where practical.	2020
	Priority to retrofit 1000 homes in South Tyneside through 'Warm up North' (North East's Green Deal delivery Vehicle) Warm up North	2016
	Ambition to commit to the DECC Climate Local initiative	2013
	Priority to develop a revised Affordable Warmth delivery plan with partners, linking winter warmth planning, housing, health and income related interventions.	2013
2/ MEASURES WE ARE TAKING TO RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS OF OUR RESIDENTIAL		

ACCOMMODATION	<p>For the last five years South Tyneside Council has worked in partnership with Warm Zone CIC, Scottish and Southern Energy, and South Tyneside Homes to deliver 'South Tyneside Warm Zone'. Energy assessments have been completed for over 28,000 homes and over 11,000 loft and cavity wall insulation measures have been installed in over 9,000 homes, attracting over 2M in CERT funding. Income related interventions through Benefit Health Checks have resulted in an average increase in annual income of £5,000 for 152 households.</p>	2008-2013
ECO AND GREEN DEAL	<p>South Tyneside Council are full partners in the North East Green Deal delivery project 'Warm up North'. This retrofit project will target up to 15,000 domestic properties, with at least 1,000 of these in South Tyneside and moves away from a 'measure by measure' approach, offering whole house solutions and a wide range of potential measures, tailored to suit the needs of the particular home. It is expected that the scheme will be launched Summer 2013, following appointment of a delivery partner. South Tyneside Council will be working with the appointed Green Deal Provider and partner local authorities; Northumberland County Council, Sunderland City Council, Newcastle City Council, Durham County Council and Darlington Borough Council. Economies of scale together with new funding mechanisms will provide the opportunity to overcome long-standing barriers to the improvement of hard-to-treat homes across the borough.</p>	<p>Launch 2013 Project to run 2013 – 2018 plus possible 3 year extension</p>
	<p>Project to demonstrate Green Deal principles targeted at non-traditionally constructed homes, using DECC 'Go Early' funding. Following a Green Deal assessment 16 homes have benefitted from external and internal wall insulation, double glazing, A rated condensing boilers and improved heating controls</p>	March 2013
	<p>ECO support secured to provide additional funding for 'Go Early' project</p>	2013
	<p>Ambition to deliver further ECO programmes and promote Green Deal in the period prior to the launch of Warm up North, alongside Warm up North partners</p>	Up to Summer 2013

	DECC Fuel Poverty funding allocated for the continuation of cavity wall and loft insulation programmes, plus heating measures, managed by South Tyneside Warm Zone. 300 measures to be installed - loft insulation, cavity wall insulation and heating measures, including innovative work to find solutions for 'Hard-to-Treat' cavities where insulation systems have failed. (formaldehyde replacement programme)	End March 2013
	ECO support secured for installation of cavity wall insulation in hard-to-treat homes. South Tyneside Warm Zone is utilising ECO funding to maximise the Fuel Poverty Fund and increase the level of measures able to be carried out on this project, with the majority of ECO funding being targeted to the installation of cavity wall insulation in hard to treat homes.	2013 ongoing
	Since 2008 more than half the council stock has been improved through the Decent Homes Programme. Thermal efficiency has been improved through the upgrading of single to double glazing, upvc to composite doors, new roofs with loft insulation, cavity wall insulation, plus the installation of A rated boilers, TRV's and energy efficient lighting. South Tyneside Council aims to complete the Decent Homes Programme within the next five years.	2018
	Alongside the Decent Homes Programme, work has been carried out to address poor thermal efficiency standards in a large proportion of the borough's non-traditionally constructed housing stock. Currently work has been completed to over 1000 non-traditional properties, which has shifted the energy efficiency ratings of these homes from E to B. This work has entailed a full refurbishment of the property including the installation of external insulation with render finish, new internal insulation, the installation of A rated boilers, replacement doors and windows, replacement loft insulation and the provision of new heating controls.	On-going
	There is ambition to complete the transformation of the borough's remaining non-traditional housing stock within the next five years.	2018
	Delivery of South Tyneside's Department of Health funded Winter Warmth	2013

	<p>Programme targeting energy efficiency improvements including heating measures to vulnerable households and to those who have long term cold related illnesses. (Health Through Warmth Programme). The project also enhances delivery of Age UK South Tyneside's 'Spread the Warmth' campaign.</p>	
<p>INFORMATION, ADVICE, EDUCATION, PROMOTION</p>	<p>Community Energy Advisers have been recruited by South Tyneside Homes to work primarily with tenants living in council homes and with a later extension of the project to the private sector. Following Decent Homes work, the CEA's have helped tenants use their new heating systems efficiently. They have also checked tenants' energy tariffs and switched them to cheaper suppliers if they wished. The CEA's have helped to ensure that the most vulnerable tenants have received all the extra free services from their utility company to which they were entitled and have also provided help to tenants with fuel debt. The CEAs undertook home visits to tenants, in both non-traditional homes and properties that had recently undergone external and internal improvement works or in properties around the borough with electric storage heaters. The CEAs double-checked every electrically heated property to ensure there was sufficient insulation and arranged for any required cavity and loft insulation to be installed.</p>	<p>2011-2012</p>
	<p>South Tyneside Switch – helping to tackle fuel poverty by reducing expenditure on energy bills. South Tyneside's first Collective switching initiative launched February 2013 reaching vulnerable, fuel poor households through the community based activity of 2 dedicated Energy Advisers. The potential for further programmes will be assessed following delivery of the pilot. South Tyneside Switch</p>	<p>April 2013</p>
	<p>South Tyneside Council and South Tyneside Homes recognise the value of Community Energy Advisers working at a local level, within communities, to address the problem of rising energy bills and fuel poverty and will explore options for the future employment of Community Energy Adviser's to work throughout South Tyneside and across tenures.</p>	<p>2013</p>

	Spread the Warmth Campaign – Winter Awareness Roadshows	Winter 2012/13
	Climate Week promotional activities Hosting 'Energy Days' in partnership with South Tyneside Homes	On-going
	The Council will ensure communication channels provide appropriate, timely advice and information to householders / Private Landlords on Warm up North and opportunities	
FEED IN TARIFFS	South Tyneside Council / South Tyneside Homes have retrofitted 80 solar PV installations to council homes	2012
	South Tyneside Council has incorporated PV installations into the build of 180 new council homes	2011/2012
RENEWABLE HEAT INCENTIVE	140 Air Source Heat Pumps and 42 solar thermal systems retrofitted to existing council stock, replacing gas-ducted air, electric night storage heaters plus a few solid fuel/dated back boilers. These replacement renewable energy systems have helped to reduce carbon emissions and fuel costs for tenants. Measure funded via Renewable Heat Premium Payments, Customer Led Network Revolution, Low Carbon Buildings Programme 2 and the Community Energy Savings Programme.	2010-2012
	Council to consider further the opportunities for external investment in solar PV and in renewable energy heating systems following the launch of the Renewable Heat incentive due Summer 2013	Summer 2013
ZERO CARBON HOMES	We will continue to ask for standards as laid down in the current building regulations and keep abreast of developments in respect of the government's commitment to Zero Carbon homes, in particular the publication of the government's response to the 2012 building regulations consultation on energy efficiency requirements and the commitment to consult on the next steps for zero carbon homes policy, including the means for delivering allowable solutions.	2016

	<p>The Local planning authority monitors the measures taken to ensure the development minimises its impact on the environment and the causes of climate change by application of the Code for Sustainable Homes, in accordance with Local Development Framework Policies ST2 (Sustainable Urban Living) and DM1 (Management of Development – Energy Efficiency and Resilience to the Affects of Climate Change)</p> <p>South Tyneside council is driving forward a series of schemes providing quality new homes right across the borough. 222 new homes at Trinity South are to be built to Code level 3. 102 homes at Simonside Park will be built to a minimum Code level 3 with the option for potential purchasers to upgrade to Code level 5 and 20 bungalows to be built to Code Level 4.</p> <p>The UK's first carbon negative social housing scheme at Sinclair Meadows in South Shields is an excellent example of new housing development in the borough that is already going beyond the Zero Carbon definition. Sinclair Meadows</p>	
EPC's	South Tyneside Council has an established database compiled by South Tyneside Warm Zone, holding energy efficiency data for over 28,000 homes across South Tyneside	2008-2013 ongoing
	With the requirement for EPC's to be undertaken for the majority of homes where ECO funding is to be used then by working with the Warm up North delivery partner, South Tyneside Council will be able to enhance the existing stock management data base with full EPC data and so enable better targeting and future reporting.	Ongoing
	South Tyneside Homes are building a database of EPC data for council stock. EPC's are undertaken for all void properties, when homes are re-let and prior to thermal efficiency improvement works. Currently data is held for approximately one-third of council homes.	Ongoing

	South Tyneside Council will consider the added value of purchasing further EPC data from Landmark to supplement existing data	2013
MINIMUM STANDARDS IN PRIVATE RENTED SECTOR	Private rented homes in South Tyneside account for approximately 7% of the occupied housing stock (4842 homes) and there is strong evidence to suggest that the sector will play a much more important and prominent role in the local housing market in the future. The Council will continue to develop its relationship with private landlords through the accreditation scheme to encourage them to invest in their homes and adopt higher standards of energy efficiency.	Ongoing
	The council will continue to apply a broad range of enforcement options to compel improved standards.	Ongoing
	<p>The Energy Act 2011 contains powers so that from 2016 landlords should not be able to refuse reasonable requests for consent to install Green Deal measures from their tenants. From 2018 landlords should ensure their privately rented properties meet a minimum energy efficiency standard (likely to be set at EPC rating 'E') or that they have installed the maximum package of measures under the Green Deal.</p> <p>The Council will work with private landlords to raise awareness of these provisions and the potential funding routes and measures available for housing. In particular the Council will raise awareness of the opportunities for engagement in the Warm up North project, the Landlord Energy Saving Allowance, reduced VAT for energy efficiency improvements, Feed in Tariff, Renewable Heat Incentive. The Council is looking to introduce private sector leasing as a tool to tackle empty homes in the private rented sector. Efforts will be targeted at this growing group, where we will have regular contact with the landlords engaged in the scheme.</p>	2013
	Bringing empty homes back into use offers a sustainable way of increasing housing supply. Their renovation, that is almost always needed, offers an opportunity to install energy efficiency improvements to a property. We will look to identify op-	

	<p>opportunities for synergy between efforts of the Local Authority and Registered Providers to bring empty homes back into use and to improve the thermal efficiency of these homes through the Green Deal and the Energy Company Obligation. We will encourage Registered Providers and private landlords to consider taking advantage of the Green Deal as they renovate properties to bring them back into use. This will allow them to include energy efficiency improvements to their properties, with no upfront costs.</p>	
SMART METERS	<p>South Tyneside Council recognises that throughout the smart meter rollout there may be real value in local co-ordination activity. Local authorities can help give confidence to consumers about smart metering and help suppliers gain access to premises to install the meters and therefore will have a potentially significant role to play in the mass smart-metering roll out programme. Local authority support will help build consumer trust and confidence in the programme and support the Green Deal by encouraging choices that increase the energy efficiency of the home and validate the energy savings claimed by providers. Where area-based rollout is the preference of suppliers and funding is secured, the local authority will endeavour to assist with community engagement. For fuel poor consumers outside these areas then we will work with our partners to reach out to and help suppliers identify households and encourage them to request smart meters. As part of the national roll out programme, we will support the installation of smart meters linked to the delivery of Warm up North where this fits with the desired approach of the delivery partner.</p>	2014-2019
<p>3/ MEASURES PROPOSED TO COST EFFECTIVELY DELIVER ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS IN RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION BY USING AREA BASED / STREET BY STREET ROLL OUT</p>		
	<p>The roll out of Warm Up North across the six partner authorities will provide huge opportunity for the delivery of area based energy efficiency measures.</p> <p>This opportunity is also extended to social housing providers, and will encompass all tenures, constructions and locations. The project will exploit opportunities</p>	2013 - 2018

	<p>afforded by economies of scale and joint promotional activity to maximise support from the ECO Carbon Saving Communities Obligation, and look to determine synergies with other refurbishment work and planned activity of the local authority and other housing providers (including area regeneration). The project is also extended to publicly - owned non-domestic properties. Through Warm Up North, South Tyneside Council will work with a delivery partner to identify areas for early action, together with areas to target in the medium to longer term.</p>	
<p>4/ TIME FRAME FOR DELIVERY AND NATIONAL AND LOCAL PARTNERS</p>		
	<p>Time Frame for delivery of Warm up North is five years with the possibility of a further three years.</p>	<p>2013-2018</p>
	<p>The Basic Domestic scheme will require in the region £70M - £115M investment (including ECO)</p>	
	<p>Local partners include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Tyneside Homes • Registered Providers • South Tyneside Warm Zone • Age UK South Tyneside • South Tyneside Foundation Trust • South Tyneside Primary Care Trust • National Energy Action • Health Through Warmth • Darlington Borough council • Newcastle City Council (Warm up North Lead Authority) • Durham County Council • Northumberland County Council • Sunderland City Council 	

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Mansbridge', written in a cursive style.

Signed off by.....

George Mansbridge, Head of Development Services, South Tyneside Council