

Introduction

The Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 ('HECA') requires all local authorities in England to submit reports to the Secretary of State demonstrating what energy conservation measures they have adopted to improve the energy efficiency of residential accommodation within that Local Authorities' (LA) area. This covers measures to improve properties in

the owner-occupier, private rented sector, and social rented sector. The Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) uses data submitted through LAs HECA returns to inform policy thinking on energy efficiency, and to build an ongoing picture of local and national energy efficiency policy delivery.

Summary

During 2019-21, ADC supported energy saving and/or carbon reduction in residential accommodation with the following schemes:

1

WARM HOMES ON PRESCRIPTION

This scheme provides central heating systems, insulation and energy saving advice to owner-occupiers in fuel poverty with long-term, cold-sensitive health conditions. In 2020/21, around £125,000 was invested in this scheme.

2

ADC'S CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

Each year, we complete a significant number of improvements to the social housing properties we own, ensuring they meet all required standards. Energy efficient measures that are installed as a matter of course include: double glazing, modern central heating systems, insulation. Some properties have been fitted with communal biomass boilers and solar photovoltaic panels. During 2021-23, there will be a particular focus on ensuring all properties achieve EPC Band C.

3

WINTER WELLNESS CAMPAIGN

In collaboration with partners, each winter we provide energy saving advice on our website and through leaflets in our offices

Summary

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PARTNERSHIP WORKING

We work with partners such as Eon and Ashfield Citizens Advice to provide access to funding for new heating systems and energy saving advice.

We also work with other Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire LAs to secure funding and to inform BEIS of the challenges affecting our ability and capacity to do more on this agenda.

5

GREEN HOMES GRANT

In 2020/21, we secured around £1.7 million in grant funding to improve up to 195 residential properties, owned either by ADC or owner-occupiers in fuel poverty.

6

THE ENERGY COMPANY OBLIGATION (ECO)

The Energy Company Obligation (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 ECO “Local Authority flexible eligibility” (LA 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 in the LA Flex programme 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.

ADC has issued declarations to 5 households.

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ENERGY ADVICE

A number of officers across ADC provide energy saving advice as part of their work with residents across all tenures. The Private Sector Enforcement Team also provides advice to landlords in the district, taking enforcement action where necessary in line with the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards regulations.

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STRATEGY

A Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan will be published in 2021. Fuel poverty is identified as a strategic priority in the Housing Strategy 2021-23 and the Private Sector Renewal Strategy 2021-23.