

## London Borough of Waltham Forest - Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) Report 2015 – 2017

Commitment made in 2014/15	Progress made in 2015/16 – 2016/17	Ambition for 2017/18 – 2018/19
<b>(i) Local energy efficiency ambitions and priorities</b>		
Our current performance on emissions and fuel poverty is 4.1 tonnes per capita CO2 emissions (DECC 2014) and 12.8% fuel poor households (DECC Fuel Poverty Statistics 2010)	The Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) estimated that 11,928 households in Waltham Forest were living in fuel poverty in 2013 which is around 12% of the total population. We are awaiting more recent CO2 emissions data from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).	We will continue to work towards our Climate Change Strategy target (adopted in 2009) of an 80% reduction in CO2 emissions by 2050.
We will quantify carbon emissions reductions in Ascham Homes stock on 2010 levels by 2020, incorporating annual programmes of works	Ascham Homes (the former ALMO) moved back into the Council in 2016. The team joined with the Housing Strategy and Investment team to form Waltham Forest Housing (WFH), which sits within the Families and Homes Directorate of LBWF. We continue to make progress on reducing carbon emissions from Waltham Forest Housing’s Council stock. Between 2010 and 2017, a 10% reduction was made.	To meet our target of a 20% reduction by 2020 through improvements to insulation; heating and controls; windows and renewables.
LBWF intend to adopt a Fuel Poverty Strategy and action plan during 2015. Activity will be monitored via a delivery plan	The Council’s first Fuel Poverty Strategy ‘Keeping warm in Waltham Forest: How we will work together to reduce fuel poverty’ was published on Fuel Poverty Awareness Day in February 2015. The Strategy was written and was being delivered by the Council’s first Fuel Poverty Officer (this temporary post was incorporated into a permanent Housing Strategy Officer post in late 2016). The Strategy is being delivered between 2015/16 – 2017/18. It four key priorities: Improve our understanding and response to fuel poverty; Provide advice and assistance to all residents; Make homes more energy efficient; and Help residents save money on their fuel bills. To read the Strategy and our action plan, visit: <a href="http://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/save-energy">www.walthamforest.gov.uk/save-energy</a> The Strategy requires cross-departmental action to tackle fuel poverty in the social and private sector housing. There is a permanent team of officers who work to improve the energy efficiency of our Council social housing stock.	We will continue to deliver our Fuel Poverty Strategy ‘Keeping warm in Waltham Forest: How we will work together to reduce fuel poverty’. At the end of 2017/18 we will begin to review and refresh the Strategy.

Commitment made in 2014/15	Progress made in 2015/16 – 2016/17	Ambition for 2017/18 – 2018/19
<p>LBWF will consider re-commissioning a Climate Change &amp; Fuel Poverty project to improve energy efficiency for fuel poor households</p>	<p>The HEET Project was awarded the new year-long contract 'Reducing Fuel Poverty in Waltham Forest' in 2016-17, which has replaced the previous Climate Change &amp; Fuel Poverty project commission. HEET deliver home visits to eligible vulnerable households where they give energy saving and income maximisation advice and install energy efficiency improvements such as loft insulation and carry out boiler repairs. HEET act as a single point of contact for fuel poverty referrals in the borough and have built a large referral network as a result of working in Waltham Forest for 16 years. They receive referrals from the local health sector, social care services, charities and the Council's Social Prescribers. HEET also assist fuel poor residents in accessing grants and ECO funding for energy efficiency improvements including boiler replacements where possible.</p>	<p>We will extend the 'Reducing Fuel Poverty in Waltham Forest' contract until the end of 2017-18. We will introduce the Council's first fuel poverty related Key Performance Indicator to be introduced in 2017/18. This will be: "Number of vulnerable households saving at least £200 on their annual energy bill as a result of interventions from the Council's fuel poverty contractor." Annual target = 250 At the end of 2017/8 we will consider funding another fuel poverty contractor.</p>
<p><b>(ii) 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</b></p>		
<p>Ascham Homes will continue to explore the potential for ECO funded work in the LBWF owned residential properties</p>	<p>Between March 2015 and August 2016 there were 144 new installations of insulation saving 1339 tonnes of CO2. This included 109 cavity wall insulation installations and 35 loft insulation installations. In addition, 1055 energy efficient boilers were installed in this period.</p>	<p>To complete the fuel switch project which is part funded by ECO to 3 Council tower blocks. To develop an ECO funded external wall insulation programme. To install approximately 1000 new energy efficient boilers.</p>
<p>LBWF will explore the potential to select an ECO partner for work in the private domestic sector, following the expected national confirmation of the future of the Energy Company Obligation (ECO)</p>	<p>Due to changes in ECO, this was not progressed. However, we worked with British Gas on an ECO funded free boiler replacement scheme. Around 130 private households took part in the scheme and received free 'A-rated' new boilers, deeming the scheme a success.</p>	<p>We will explore how we can help residents in the private sector using potential ECO Help to Heat funding and involve our fuel poverty contractor where possible.</p>

Commitment made in 2014/15	Progress made in 2015/16 – 2016/17	Ambition for 2017/18 – 2018/19
Continue to monitor output from 1,023 PV installations on Ascham Homes managed properties	Further installations have been carried out and we now monitor the output for 1034 solar PV installations. This includes 9 systems with battery storage and 3 communal systems.	To continue to install solar PV to new build properties wherever possible.
Develop individual tenant statements of annual PV electricity consumption and savings	We experienced complications when trying to extract the data so this commitment remains outstanding.	To develop and issue annual PV statements on energy consumption and monetary savings.
Consider development of Renewable Heating Incentives pilots in Ascham managed stock, including potential fuel switching schemes	The Fuel Switch feasibility study was carried out and concluded that 3 of our tower blocks were suitable to switch from electrical heating and hot water to a communal gas system.	The eligibility of including RHI technology will be included in the “Avenue Road” fuel switch desktop feasibility study. Avenue Road is a large estate in which residents use electricity for heating and hot water.
To work towards all new built homes being zero carbon by 2016 we will continue to apply Development Management policies DM 10 & 11 to relevant residential developments	The following Council housing developments for social rent are a 35% reduction on 2013 building regulations: Southwell Grove Road 1 (dwellings); St Leonard's Avenue 2; Valognes Avenue 1; Titley Close 3; Rosslyn Road 2; St Stephen's Close 2; Avonfield Court 7; St George's Court 8; Mayfield Road 3; The Avenue 2; North Birkbeck Road 6; St Mary Road 3; Beresford Road 3; Tenby Court 3; Retingham Way 7; Warburton Terrace 42; Wood Street 17 Total: 112 dwellings	The following Council housing developments for social rent will be deemed as zero carbon which is a 35% reduction on 2013 building regulations with the rest offset through the London Plan Zero Carbon Levy: Wadham Avenue 5 (dwellings); Hungerdown Estate 5; Millfield Avenue 1; Churchill Terrace 5; Stanley Rd 25; Sansom 28; Lena Kennedy 42; Hylands 41 Total: 152 dwellings
LBWF will continue to work with government and regional partners to establish the feasibility of developing De-centralised Energy Networks	We have been designing a district heating system for the regeneration of the Marlowe Road and Wood Street area in Walthamstow E17. The district heating system will serve over 400 new homes on the site, providing low carbon space and water heating to the units. The homes are a mix of affordable, social and private. We have also been developing plans to extend the network beyond the primary site, including connecting it to Stocksfield Council housing estate.	The construction phase of the district heating system development will commence.

Commitment made in 2014/15	Progress made in 2015/16 – 2016/17	Ambition for 2017/18 – 2018/19
<p>Ascham Homes will continue to pilot the installation of retrofitting energy efficiency measures across the LBWF residential stock. This will potentially include installation of LED lighting, micro-CHP and heat pumps</p>	<p>Between 2015 and 2017 WFH completed 2360 LED upgrades which equates to 464 tonnes of CO2 savings. We are currently doing desktop studies with the view to upgrade estate lighting to low energy LEDs as well as better time controls which will be part funded from SALIX. Initial analysis has shown that if we upgraded all our landlord lighting, savings would be in the region of 572 tonnes of CO2.</p>	<p>To continue exploring upgrading estate lighting to low energy LEDs and installing better time controls.</p>
<p>Ascham Homes will continue to maximise the installation of energy efficiency works in LBWF residential stock using maintenance works &amp; other budgets</p>	<p>WFH introduced the Heatwave scheme which provides basic energy efficiency improvements in void properties to raise their notional EPC rating to band C. We also carried out basic energy efficiency improvements in occupied properties where there was evidence to suggest that the residents were living in fuel poverty.</p>	<p>To use existing tools from RE:NEW and the results of our desktop study to help plan our capital works programmes to improve the energy efficiency of our Council stock and use our budget most effectively.</p>
<p>Subject to funding, LBWF will continue to purchase and assess EPC and Green Deal data to consider targeted energy efficiency initiatives for domestic properties within the borough</p>	<p>EPC data from private rented sector properties has been collected through the selective licensing scheme. HEET also collect EPC data as part of their contract which provides the Council with a database of properties which could benefit from energy efficiency initiatives in the future.</p>	<p>Subject to funding, we will use the EPC data on properties we hold to target fuel poor households in any energy efficiency improvement projects or schemes that may arise.</p>
<p>LBWF will promote the improvement of energy efficiency through the administration of the private sector selective licensing scheme, which comes into force on 1 April 2015. This will include an aspiration to increase average EPC levels in advance of the statutory changes in the private rented sector EPC minimum levels due in 2018</p>	<p>We have carried out extensive enforcement activity to drive up standards in the private rented sector through the selective licensing scheme. We have discovered properties containing category 1 hazards including excess cold. We also look for damp and condensation during our property inspections. These properties have subsequently been improved by the private landlords in order for them to comply with licensing conditions. Officers were trained to identify potentially fuel poor households during inspections and began to refer residents to the fuel poverty contractor. We have been publicising energy efficiency improvement offers and schemes to private landlords via the licensing scheme's e-newsletter and in presentations at landlord forums.</p>	<p>We will continue to carry out enforcement activity against landlords who do not comply with licensing conditions, which includes ensuring that properties are not excessively cold. We will continue to publicise energy efficiency improvement schemes to private landlords.</p>

Commitment made in 2014/15	Progress made in 2015/16 – 2016/17	Ambition for 2017/18 – 2018/19
Continue to work with the London Landlord Accreditation Scheme (LLAS) to ensure energy efficiency standards are explained to all private sector landlords working in the borough who apply for LLAS accreditation	It is not compulsory for landlords to be LLAS accredited in order to receive a license so we have not been working with the Scheme.	N/A
N/A	Smart meter roll-out We have been developing a strategy to raise awareness among local residents about the smart meter roll-out.	We will raise awareness of smart metering and encourage energy behaviour change among residents through our website and fuel poverty contractor. This will help deliver maximum benefit from smart metering. We will also assist energy suppliers with getting access to our Council housing blocks to install the meters.
<b>(iii) Measures which the 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</b>		
The learning from the pilot “SMART Homes” Green Deal Communities Fund DECC project to retrofit energy efficiency installations across the borough will be used to shape any future energy efficiency installation projects. The pilot ended in 2014/15.	Learning from the pilot helped inform the Fuel Poverty Strategy.	Learning from the pilot will be used where necessary.
<b>(iv) A time frame for delivery and national and local partners</b>		
Our local Registered Provider energy efficiency partner is Ascham Homes	Ascham Homes came back into the Council in 2015/16. The department joined the Housing Strategy and Investment team to form Waltham Forest Housing.	N/A as WFH now sits in-house.

Commitment made in 2014/15	Progress made in 2015/16 – 2016/17	Ambition for 2017/18 – 2018/19
<p>Ascham Homes will pilot and then consider roll out of educational information to Ascham Homes tenants to raise awareness about use of heating controls and reduced consumption</p>	<p>Using funding from the Warm Homes Discount via Scottish Power, we installed Connect Smart Control units in around 40 tenants' homes. These units help the tenants to use their heating controls more efficiently and reduce their energy consumption. We developed online and offline energy saving advice and signposting materials for residents and Council tenants. We delivered fuel poverty training sessions to all frontline staff in Waltham Forest Housing so that they can identify fuel poor households and provide assistance to tenants where possible.</p>	<p>We will continue to send out reminders to frontline staff about the local services available and the other ways staff can support residents. We will consider running new training sessions for frontline staff.</p>
<p>Ascham Homes will consider implementation of individual billing to tenants on communally heated estates to increase control for tenants and reduce consumption</p>	<p>We designed and developed the 3 Saints Fuel Switch Project, which is currently in delivery stage. 131 WFH residents will have heat meters and in-flat display units installed in their properties as part of the Project. The heat meters will enable residents to pay for their exact consumption in real time, and the monitors will allow the residents to monitor their usage in real time. They will be able to make comparisons against the previous day / week, etc. This will encourage a more sustainable use of energy. WFH identified another large estate (Avenue Road which has 265 units) for a potential fuel switch project. A desktop feasibility study was carried out to discover the implications of replacing the existing electric system with a new communal heating system. RE:NEW was commissioned to carry out a desktop study to assess the performance of the communal heating systems in our estates.</p>	<p>We will continue to deliver the 3 Saints Fuel Switch Project. We will progress the feasibility work to determine whether it is viable to carry out a fuel switch project to the Avenue Road Estate.</p>
<p>LBWF will continue to be part of the Local Government Association (LGA) Climate Local initiative with its annual reporting regime (subject to funding and continued prioritisation)</p>	<p>We have continued to be part of the LGA Climate Local initiative. The Waltham Forest "Climate Local" Action Plan 2014-16 is available on our website.</p>	<p>We will continue our work as part of the LGA Climate Local initiative.</p>

Commitment made in 2014/15	Progress made in 2015/16 – 2016/17	Ambition for 2017/18 – 2018/19
<p>LBWF will continue to explore joint sub-regional working with neighbouring boroughs and organisations where appropriate</p>	<p>We took part in a solar panel and battery storage installation pilot project on Council housing with Camden and Islington councils. The project was partly funded by National Energy Action.</p> <p>We were part of a successful multi-borough bid to the British Gas Energy Trust led by Groundwork London. The 'WARMTH' project ran from May 2016 to February 2017 in WF and Groundwork's 'Green Doctors' delivered home visits to 186 vulnerable residents to help them reduce their energy bills.</p> <p>We are an active member of the Association of Local Energy Officers (ALEO) and support ALEO's work.</p>	<p>We will continue to work in partnership and bid for external funding with other local authorities and organisations to deliver energy efficiency schemes whenever opportunities arise.</p>



Signed: Martin Esom, Chief Executive, London Borough of Waltham Forest