

  Working in Partnership	HECA REPORT – North East Lincolnshire 2017 – 2019	
1. Overall picture on local delivery		
Carbon Management Plan	The Council committed to the Climate Local Initiative on 1st April 2016 An Energy Vision document was produced in 2016 Vision & Ambition: • By 2032 North East Lincolnshire will be nationally and internationally recognised as the UK's leading region for low carbon energy and the UK capital of the renewable energy industry • North East Lincolnshire will have developed a range of low-carbon high efficiency, renewable solutions to regenerate the region. This will deliver strategic and economic advantage for its business and affordable heat, power and cooling • The region's Energy Programme will have enough impetus that by 2050 North East Lincolnshire will not only be able to achieve its 80% carbon reduction target but will also be able to declare itself carbon neutral. Our Energy Vision 2016	Ongoing
Environmental Policy	North East Lincolnshire Council have an Environmental Policy Statement 2016, Please see link attached [PDF] Environment Policy Statement 2016 - North East Lincolnshire Council	Ongoing

Housing Strategy/ Housing Assistance Policy	The Place is committed to a number of outcomes, which build the basis for all our future plans and policies. These are; • Benefit from a strong Economy, Feel safe and are safe • Enjoy Good health and wellbeing, • Benefit from Sustainable communities, and; • Fulfil Their potential skills and learning. The Housing Strategy for the place is currently under review. In line with our main objectives, it sets out our four ambitions for the local authority over the coming years. These are to: • Build enough Homes; • Build the right homes in the right places; • Improve and make the best use of existing housing stock and assets, and to; • Build safe sustainable communities. During 2016, the Council updated its Housing Assistance Policy, to include Energy Repayments Loans, so the Council can maximise the use of the ECO funding. During 2017, the policy will undergo a major review, highlighting Fuel Poverty as one of its Key Priorities.	Currently under review. Target date for completion December 2017.
Wider Regeneration Ambitions	The Council have ambitions that areas of the Borough suffering from the following will be regenerated; • Anti-social behaviour • Low housing demand • Poor quality housing • Low aspiration and employment • Low levels of attendance in education Through a place based focus the relevant agencies are looking at the challenges faced by these areas, what important role housing has to play and how we can improve the quality of	

	the housing stock provided. These areas have some of the highest levels of fuel poverty, with the majority of housing stock pre 1919 terrace housing, solid wall construction and hard to treat, to improve the energy efficiency. Work is progressing to review how we the public sector can enable and facilitate improvement in living conditions and making homes more efficient. This includes building new homes, and exploring the opportunity to look at selective licensing and landlord accreditation.	
Links to Health Outcomes	The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for the area highlights fuel poverty as a key priority. The Council works in partnership with Health partners to improve the energy efficiency of home, making them more affordable to heat and ultimately improve health outcomes. The Housing Assistance Policy has been drafted to include health as a key priority. It is widely recognised that providing a warmer home can contribute towards reducing health costs. For example; cold living conditions contribute to falls in the home, with around 1 in 20 requiring hospital treatment for fractures in those aged 65 and over. Education is key to delivering change and our current service aims to improve our understanding of energy efficiency, both in the home and in schools. Our Volunteer programme is a vital opportunity to improve awareness and educate households to make changes. Partners are currently are co-delivering education in seven schools in the area, with my green investment. The education has been funded through the Northern Power Grid. Front line health professionals receive energy efficiency training and use the “Hotspot” card referral system, where a need is identified. The “Hotspots” system provides a referral system to; • Home Energy Assessment • Fire Service Home Assessment	

	• Benefits Review • Adapting residents home to enable independent living • Access to funding (for example ECO, Energy Providers Priority System or access to the winter fuel allowance). In addition, during winter months, the council in partnership with Health and third sector agencies come together to deliver the Older Persons Collaborative. They work within the community during winter months, to ensure that vulnerable older people have adequate heat and provisions. The “Hotspot” card referral scheme plays a major role as a quick and easy to use system.	
Links to our business and social enterprises and provide gateways through local advice agencies and services	North East Lincolnshire Council plays a key role in the Humber Local Enterprise Partnership and the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership, encouraging businesses to expand delivery of renewable energy in the place. The Council's strategic and regeneration delivery partner ENGIE is currently working in the Borough and with the Council to drive initiatives within the domestic and commercial markets. The Council supports social/community enterprises to improve take up of renewable energy within the domestic and commercial markets. This includes biomass in community buildings and Solar PV in commercial dwellings. The Council are supporting a partner to deliver Solar PV's on residential premises. The Council supports community energy schemes, meeting regularly to explore opportunities, to maximise opportunities for the schemes and take a strategic lead in how the schemes work together in the borough. Advice, support and training is provided to our agencies and services, regularly through our existing provision. For example; Centre4 provide a valuable service within the community. Staff have received energy efficiency training, which raises awareness to staff members working within the community. The energy team refer residents to Centre4 for a benefits review, where they are able to maximise income. The council offer a Hotspots card referral scheme along with training is provided by officers to third sector agencies and stakeholders.	
	Supporting Local Growth	

	The Council are exploring a number of opportunities to enable, facilitate and maximise the opportunity for local energy to be generated and provided. In addition to reducing carbon emissions in commercial and domestic properties, the Council have introduced electric vehicles into its own fleet to promote their use. The vehicles are branded with the Council's revamped logo, promoting carbon reduction within the borough "RENEWNEL".	
Heats Networks Delivery Unit	Having been successful in attracting government funding (HNDU) to deliver a heat network feasibility. To assist with this, the Council have appointed Element Energy as the consultant to undertake the Heat Mapping & Energy Master planning phase of the feasibility work, which is focused on identifying the areas of North East Lincolnshire which offer the greatest potential for a viable heat network. This will be completed by the end of May 2017. Should a heat network prove potentially feasible we will have access to capital funding (HNIP) to contribute to its commercialisation, construction & implementation. Once the feasibility work is completed and presuming the report states that a Heat Network is deliverable, the Council intend to apply for funding (HNIP) funding.	Ongoing
Heat Networks Investment Project	Reducing Energy Costs The Council is committed to increase the use of renewable energy, both in Commercial and Domestic properties. The Council transferred its housing stock in March 2009, to the registered housing provider Shoreline Housing Partnership. The Council will continue to work with the provider to maximise the use of renewable heat.	Ongoing
Solar PV	North East Lincolnshire Council are committed to assist the government to promote the feed in tariff and uptake off small scale renewable and low carbon technologies. The Council are leading by example and have introduced given their strategic and regeneration delivery partner, ENGIE a concession to fund, install, operate and maintain solar PV systems on six of its properties. Through this concession the emission of 141 tonnes of carbon dioxide have been avoided in North East Lincolnshire in the first 12 months. The concession has also delivered cost savings for the Council. The Council and ENGIE are keen to publicise these.	Ongoing
Smart Meters	On behalf of the Council, ENGIE have as part of the rollout of smart meters, undertaken training to assist further rollout of smart meters to encourage residents to engage in this agenda. The training provided will assist residents to embrace this change and learn how to use this	Ongoing

	technology to understand their energy usage better. On behalf of the Council, ENGIE are working closely with the energy providers to encourage broader roll out.	
Community Switch Campaigns	On behalf of the Council, ENGIE actively runs community switching campaigns in the Borough. On average around 350 homes switch to a cheaper tariff each year through the scheme. These include households who traditionally would be unable to navigate the process of switching. The officers make home visits to households to help them understand their energy bills, complete the registration process and make the registration on their behalf. Once the offer comes through, officers visit households to run through the offer and explain what it means to them. On average the scheme saves households around £200 per annum.	Ongoing
Reducing Fuel Poverty		
Setting the scene	The recent Joint Strategic Needs Assessment places a priority on dealing with Fuel Poverty in the Borough. It recognises the clear disparity between wards, where the more deprived wards are five times more likely to experience fuel poverty than those living in the wealthier suburbs.	Ongoing

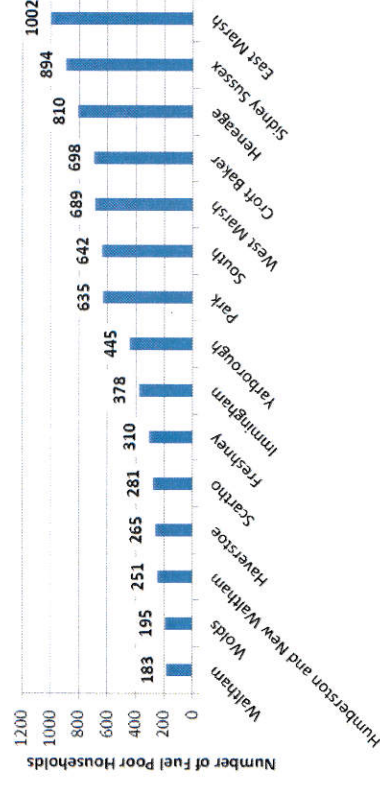


Figure 1 – Number of Households in Fuel Poverty by Ward level

In general North East Lincolnshire experiences higher levels of fuel poverty than the national average.

	Through its partnership with ENGIE, the Council has a dedicated resource to deliver a programme to reduce fuel poverty in the Borough. Whilst there is no overarching policy to deal with Fuel Poverty, tackling fuel poverty is highlighted in the forthcoming Housing Assistance Policy and the partnership is currently completing it's statement of intent for ECO Flexibility. The Housing Assistance Policy can be viewed following the link below. Originally approved in 2010 and revised in 2016, it now includes the new Energy Repayment Loans. The loans are repayable and will cover the cost of energy efficiency measures, gap funding between the eligible amount provided by ECO and the cost of the works. The Policy also determines the eligibility for each scheme. https://www.nelincs.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Housing-Assistance-Policy-Consultation-After-EIA-for-Cabinet-04-10-10.pdf	April 2017
Energy Company Obligation	From April 2017 the Council will determine intent to target fuel poor households under the Flexible Eligibility Scheme, in partnership North Lincolnshire Council. Over the last fourteen years, the two unitary authorities have worked in partnership to deliver energy efficiency in the borough, under the recognised branding SHEEP (South Humber Energy Efficiency Partnership). Over the years this has become a recognised banner in the borough, trusted by residents. The statement of intent will include all vulnerable households, irrespective of tenure.	Ongoing

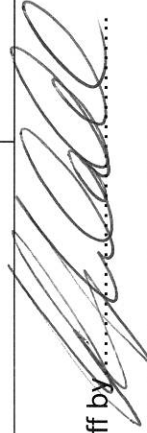
	This will give officers the opportunity to work with landlords of privately rented property, to encourage them to improve the energy efficiency of the homes they rent. Owner occupiers will be offered assistance in the form of a top-up loan, to enable measures to be installed. The new scheme will start from 1st April 2017 taking an area based approach. In 2013, the council commissioned the Building Research Establishment (BRE) to carry out a stock modelling survey. They survey highlighted areas worse affected by Fuel Poverty. It ranked the areas in order of, the area ranked highest, suffering from the worst effects of fuel poverty. This will determine which areas will be receive assistance first, working our way through to the lesser affected areas. To maximise the opportunity for residents to take up the offer, we will • hold promotional events within identified deprived wards • work with elected members • employ and train local volunteers to champion the scheme and; • work with all partners organisation/voluntary charity groups	April 2017
Current Service Delivery	North East Lincolnshire Council has dedicated officers, through its delivery partner, ENGIE to target those living in fuel poverty and responsible for delivering schemes within borough. We deliver schemes with external partners to maximise funding opportunities available to residents in North East Lincolnshire. The council have a framework to deliver Energy Efficiency schemes such as the Eco scheme. This has been secured in partnership with North Lincolnshire Council through the councils SHEEP (South Humber Energy Efficiency Partnership) scheme. This scheme targets the most fuel poor households within the borough. The local Stock Dwelling Study, completed by the BRE (2013), focused plotting those areas suffering most from the impact of fuel poverty. This helps the team to target action, in those	Ongoing

	wards highlighted as the worst affected. Recently, funding obtained through Warm Homes Campaign to raise awareness of fuel poverty, helped us target the most deprived wards, highlighted as suffering from high levels of fuel poverty. Health check cards are distributed to advice on what to look for. Households are provided with access to advice on fuel debt, advice on vital housing repairs, improving the energy efficiency of their home (including signposting to funding) and maximising benefits/income. Fuel switching scheme continues to play a big part in reducing household energy costs. North East Lincolnshire Council are part of the Big Community switch with Ichoosr collective switching. Households currently save on average save around £200 per annum. The service helps remove barriers so all households can access the service. This can be completing forms, helping understanding energy bills, sorting out fuel debt and explain what the deal offered can mean to them. This approach has worked successfully within the borough. Some residents have accessed the scheme, who otherwise would not have accessed switching. Most of these are elderly and being charged premium standard rates. Previously worked with Hull Warm Zones, to bring extra funding in the borough to the lower super output areas. Providing heating and insulation measure A mail drop to all residents in borough has been distributed through the Council Tax annual statement.	Ends March 2017
Future plans for service delivery	The Council are currently looking at more innovative ways to assist members of the community. On the 1 April 2017, the council's innovative "0-19 Agenda" programme, which is supported by the NSPCC will see officers from the Housing Team, taking up residence on the project. Officers will work closely with health professionals, social workers and the Police, working with households, who are often too afraid to work with us. The often live in the coldest homes, either without heating. These homes tend to be the least energy efficient, housing the most vulnerable families. The Housing Enforcement Team will work collaboratively with Landlords, to improve the energy efficiency of these homes, over and above any statutory duty they may	April 2017

	have. This will enable Landlords to get ready for the changes to minimum energy efficiency ratings due in 2018. In addition, the council has a dedicated resource who is competent/trained to offer families advice on managing their energy and deal with any fuel debt. This will be extended through a volunteer service and delivered throughout the borough. The councils volunteer service will expand our current provision. Volunteers will receive; • training to identify ways to improve energy efficiency in homes, • training to identify possible funding opportunities and sign post residents • training to identify fuel debt and how they can help residents • training to identify the hidden homes suffering from fuel poverty. For example; the elderly lady living in the large family home, who is unable to heat her home to a health living standard. Volunteers will be based in each ward and offer in insight into the community, officers are unable to access, through local knowledge. The council hope to access the hidden community who are struggling to heat their homes, who often feel embarrassed to ask for assistance. The Council and its partner ENGIE are exploring avenues to establish a Community Interest Company, specifically to fund measures and increase awareness of fuel poverty in the worst affected wards. The scheme intends to provide longer term support to families, improving housing conditions, energy management, enable residents to provide small energy efficiency measures and provide access to funding and maximising incomes. The scheme intends to work long term with families to help them embed behavioural change	September 2017
	Minimum energy efficiency standards in the privately rented sector The BRE stock condition survey evidenced that areas of the borough, worst affected by fuel poverty, were those areas with higher averages of privately rented property. Many properties in these areas have been poorly maintained and managed. The Council, through its partner ENGIE, drive the agenda to improve housing conditions in these areas. There is a dedicated team working with landlords to ensure (either informally or formally), that housing standards in general are improved in the borough. The most common hazard is Category 1, Excess Cold. This can be for a number of reasons, for example a	October 2017
Improving housing standards in the private rental sector		June 2017

	landlord introduces electric panel heaters instead of an economical heating system. Although these heaters are on a timer, they are usually expensive to use and can cause the householder to be afraid to switch them on. The decision to put the heaters in can often be an economical decision by the landlord, to reduce overall renovation costs. In these cases little consideration is often given to the end user. During 2017, private landlords will be targeted to improve the energy efficiency of homes, to reach minimum standards in 2018, ultimately reaching Band C by 2030. The Housing Enforcement Team, which sits within the Council's delivery partner, ENGIE will be proactively in the Borough, helping landlords to get ready for 2018. Landlords will be referred to the ECO scheme provider. Records will be maintained to ensure that properties failing to meet minimum standards, will be improved by the time the new standards come into force. During 2017, the Council with its partner ENGIE will start the process of implementing a Landlord Accreditation Scheme, which will highlight energy efficiency as a minimum standard. Work will also commence to review looking at implementing Private Sector Leasing in the most deprived areas.	
Zero Carbon Homes	North East Lincolnshire has high ambitions for growth, specified in the Local Plan. The plan proposes that the area will enable an additional 13,340 new homes in the borough. Applications to propose Zero Carbon Homes will be supported.	Ongoing
	Ambitions over the next two years	
	Over the next two years, the Council intends to promote North East Lincolnshire as one of the country's leading areas for renewable energy. The area is uniquely located, with a major natural resource "the Humber" seen as one of the major renewable areas in the country. With major providers for example; ENGIE, E.On, Dong, Siemens and Able already making progress and increasing employment in the area. The Council has ambitions over the next two years to enable and facilitate the following; increase the take up of renewable energy throughout the Borough including social housing, owner occupations and privately rented, and;	

	• reduce the effects of fuel poverty in the area The Council recently were awarded funding through the ERDF. This includes the development of a community shop to promote the energy efficiency work we currently carryout. The shop will promote current and future schemes within the community. Raising awareness that energy efficiency and carbon reduction affects everyone, not just the vulnerable. We all have our part to play reducing carbon emissions. This will be the start to change our culture, coming away from a reliance on fossil fuels and the way we view home energy.	
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Signed off by 

Position : Chief Executive – North East Lincolnshire Council