HECA 2024

DUE 29th February 2024

[Reporting requirements under the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995: guidance for local authorities - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-english-energy-conservation-authorities-the-home-energy-conservation-act-1995)

Issued under the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995, asks local authorities (LAs) to **publish a report by 29 February 2024** outlining their plans to promote improved energy efficiency in their areas. The data submitted through these reports helps:

* inform policy thinking on energy efficiency
* build an ongoing picture of local and national energy efficiency policy delivery

**Name of Local Authority**

New Forest District Council

**Type of Local Authority**

District Council

**Name, job title and email address of official submitting report.**

**Sophie Tuffin, Greener Housing Deliver Manager.** **Sophie.tuffin@nfdc.gov.uk**

**Questions**

**Q1. Does your Local Authority have a current strategy on carbon reduction and/or energy efficiency for domestic properties?**

YES

**Q2. If yes, please provide a link.**

[Greener Housing Strategy 2022 to 2032 - New Forest District Council](https://www.newforest.gov.uk/greenerhousing)

Q3. NA

**Q4. In the last 2 years, what has been the cost (or estimated cost) of your energy efficiency and/or carbon reduction initiatives, schemes and services? Please consider the total cost of running and administering the scheme(s). Please input 0 if no schemes or initiatives has been implemented.**

Greener Housing Budget 1.2 million

**Q5. Which, if any, of the following outcomes have been achieved through your energy efficiency and/or carbon initiatives, schemes and services? Please select all that apply.**

* Energy savings
* Carbon savings
* Job creation
* Increased business competitiveness
* Alleviation of fuel poverty
* Improved health outcomes
* Investment in housing stock

**Q6. Do you provide or promote any advisory services to consumers on how to save energy?**

YES

**Q7. If yes, please select all that apply**

•Local Authority website

• Local advisory service

• Leaflets

• Social media

• Local energy hubs

• OTHER - Environment Centre Southampton & Hitting the cold spots.

**Q8. Have you conducted any assessment or analysis to understand the existing capacity in your local supply chain to support the decarbonisation of buildings by 2050?**

YES

**Q9. If you answered yes to question 8, please summarise any specific bottlenecks (or provide a link if this information has been published).**

More local courses to support young people. Greater awareness of opportunities within retrofit market and shortage of contractors operating and able to deliver within the constraints of PAS2035

**Q10. Which, if any, of the following actions are you taking to upskill and/or grow your local retrofit installer supply chain? Please select all that apply**

• Providing installer networking opportunities or other business support for growing companies.

• Careers advice or similar involving local businesses doing schools outreach to encourage young people into the sector.

• Other

NFDC is working with other authorities to identify areas of improvement. Inviting interested parties to active working groups which include providers of further education. Networking opportunities provide learning which will be used to support local supply chains. Our own retrofit programme supports local contractors.

**Q11. Do you provide advice for your residents and small businesses about how to pick an installer business or how to avoid being mis-sold inappropriate improvements?**

Yes

**Q12. Has there been any Trading Standards activity against energy efficiency or home retrofit businesses in your area due to mis-selling or otherwise poorly advising consumers about retrofit measures?**

• No – we are not aware of any issues

**Q13. If you received funding under Local Authority Delivery, Home Upgrade Grant or Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund, did availability of PAS 2030:2019 or MCS certified and TrustMark registered supply chain affect your ability to deliver**?

YES

**Q14. If you answered yes to question 13 please can you tell us, which parts of the supply chain were particularly affected (please select all that apply)?**

• All of the above

**Q15. If you answered yes to question 13 please can you tell us, what actions did you take to overcome those barriers (please select all that apply)?**

Other (please state)

We were able to find a local contractor able to deliver. The issue is the lack of competition, able to deliver whole house retrofit with experience of delivering PAS compliant projects and good quality retrofit. New Decarb frameworks appear to be full of large Tier 1 contractors which exclude local competition.

**Q16. Did you apply to the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) Wave 2.1?**

Yes, and successful in securing funding.

**Q17. Which, if any, of the following motivated you to apply for SHDF Wave 2.1? Please select all that apply.**

* Financial support for retrofit
* Tenant needs
* Expectations of future energy performance regulations

**Q18, 19, 20,21**

na

**Q22. How many of your social housing partners are you aware applied for the SHDF?**

Unsure

**Q23. Do you enforce the PRS MEES Regulations in domestic tenancies?**

YES

**Q24. Do you use the PRS MEES Exemption Register?**

NO

**Q25. Are you aware of the PRS MEES draft toolkit for supporting local authorities?**

Yes, but I haven’t used it

**Q26. In the past 2 years, how many domestic private rented properties have you engaged with in respect to enforcement of the PRS MEES Regulations?**

0

**Q27. In the past 2 years, how many domestic private rented properties have you found to be non-compliant?**

0

**Q28. In the last 2 years, how many non-compliant properties have been improved to EPC Band E after you have engaged with them?**

0

**Q29. How many compliance notices have you issued in the past 2 years for non-compliance of the PRS MEES Regulations?**

0

**Q30. What programmes, if any, do you have to promote domestic energy efficiency improvements for those who are able to pay? Please provide links to any relevant online materials.**

[Loading Plan Builder...](https://cosyhomesnewforest.planbuilder.co.uk/)

[Am I eligible for the programme? | Warmer Homes](https://www.warmerhomes.org.uk/eligibility)

[Group-buying for solar | Hampshire County Council (solartogether.co.uk)](https://solartogether.co.uk/hampshire/landing)

**Q31. Do you take any steps to raise awareness of the availability of private financing options (such as green mortgages) to fund retrofit works?**

• No, but we have plans to do this in the future

**Q32. Do you refer homeowners interested in energy efficiency to retail lenders offering green finance products?**

NO

Q33. Does your Local Authority have a Fuel Poverty Strategy?

Yes

[Greener Housing Strategy 2022 to 2032 - New Forest District Council](https://www.newforest.gov.uk/greenerhousing)

Q34 How do you identify fuel poor households? Please select all that apply and provide additional information if possible.

• Used local data sets on energy efficiency/housing

• Used local data sets on household income

• Campaigns to encourage potential households to reach out

**Q35. What actions are you taking to reduce fuel poverty in your area? Please select all that apply and provide additional information if possible.**

Delivery of government wide schemes such as the Home Upgrade Grant or Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund.

• Actions to increase financial support to low income or vulnerable households.

To development our recently launched CosyHomes New Forest to provide additional awareness of available help. Working with Warmer homes to promote locally funding, run a landlord forum to help engage lettings agents and local landlords on a range of subjects including retrofit and their benefits.

**Q36. Does fuel poverty interlink with your local authority’s overall Carbon Reduction Strategy**

The Greener Housing Strategy, considers fuel poverty in achieving net zero targets. Fuel poverty is considered at a district level, private homeowners and council owned stock, detailing areas of deprivation and health outcomes as homes achieve increased EPC and low carbon measures.

**Q37. NA**

**Q38. Does your local authority have access to good quality housing data for on-gas properties?**

Yes

**Q40. NA**

**Q41. Does your local authority have access to good quality housing data for off-gas properties?**

YES

**Q43. Did your local authority have a published Statement of Intent (SoI) for ECO flexibility eligibility under ECO3, during 2022?**

NO

**Q51. ECO4 commenced in July 2022, has your local authority published a Statement of Intent (SoI) for ECO flexibility eligibility under ECO4?**

YES

**Q53a. Do you directly engage with energy suppliers either for ECO Flex(or other domestic energy efficiency schemes?**

No

**Q55. Which route(s) do you envisage submitting referrals through under ECO4 Flex? Select all that apply.**

All four routes available

**Q56a. Do you provide smart metering advice when implementing energy efficiency improvements (including through grant schemes such as the Energy Company Obligation and the Home Upgrade Grant) in residential accommodation?**

**YES**

**Q57 NA**

**58a. Do you encourage landlords to promote smart meter uptake, e.g., landlord licencing schemes.**

YES

**Q60a. Do you arrange for smart meters to be installed by energy suppliers in vacant social housing premises?**

**YES**

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