



ADUR & WORTHING
COUNCILS

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HECA REPORT 2019

(HOUSING ENERGY CONSERVATION ACT)

HECA REPORTING 2019

Introduction

The Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 ('HECA') requires all 326 local authorities ('LA's) 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 LA's area. This covers measures to improve properties in the owner-occupier, private rented sector, and social rented sector. 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.

These guidance notes are issued in accordance with the Secretary of State's powers under section 4 of the Act and are to alert LAs of amendments to the HECA reporting framework in advance of May 2019 when the next reports are due. In previous years, reporting rates have been disappointing, with 282 reports submitted in March 2015 out of 326 LAs, and only 151 in March 2017. The refreshed reporting system for 2019 streamlines the process and reduces LA reporting burdens. Newly structured around a series of questions and direct information points, the amended framework aims to support LAs to provide information and updates on the key energy efficiency topics of interest to BEIS Ministers. It will also enable LAs to provide a consistent picture of energy efficiency promotion and delivery across England within a standardized framework. Following the principles of open data, the department may publish the information in an open data format to allow wider access and interpretation of the data, while ensuring that such publication complies with the terms of GDPR.

HECA 2019 Reporting Requirements

The Report is to be divided by sections to capture information on a range of key themes:

Headline & Overview

- What main strategy and schemes LAs currently have to promote carbon reduction and/or energy efficiency, stakeholders involved and impact at a societal and economic level.

Communication

- How LA engage stakeholders (including consumers and businesses) to promote awareness of energy efficiency.

Green Local Supply Chain

- How LAs engage local businesses involved in the promotion of energy savings products and the societal benefits alongside any local economic impact this might have.

Private Rental Sector Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards

- How LAs enforce and promote awareness of the PRS Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards that came into force in April 2018.

Financial Support for Energy Efficiency

- Financial programmes used by LAs to promote energy efficiency.

Fuel Poverty

- How LAs identify those in fuel poverty and any initiatives used to address this.

The Energy Company Obligation (ECO)

- How LAs are using the recently introduced ECO 'flexible eligibility' programme to refer certain households in fuel poverty or with occupants on low incomes, who are vulnerable to the effects of cold homes, to ECO obligated suppliers for support.

Smart Metering

- How LAs promote awareness and uptake of smart metering.

All questions are optional, but responses highly encouraged. While reporting is focused on energy savings related to homes, you are welcome to provide additional information on energy efficiency improvements in non-domestic properties, but this is fully optional. There will be a final free response section permitting local authorities to discuss any additional activities which they feel are relevant.

Submission of HECA 2019 Reports

For the 2019 reporting year, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) is piloting the submission of reports via a digital platform, and for this year LAs will be asked to populate their HECA Report and submit materials via a SurveyMonkey submission. No other reporting material or submissions will be required. LAs continue to be required to publish their responses, and they can do this in whichever form they wish, so long as the published report contains relevant information submitted via the digital platform. It is not necessary for LAs to publish all the information submitted via the digital platform. Before the online survey is completed, the chief executive or director of the LA should approve the submitted content. If this approach proves effective and supports the engagement and compliance of a greater number of authorities than in recent previous years, BEIS will consider how this approach can be further improved for the 2021 reporting year.

The questions which LAs are asked to report on in the digital 'Survey' are listed below:

HECA Reporting 2019 Questions

Name of Local Authority: Adur & Worthing Councils

Type of Local Authority:

- District and Borough

Name and contact details of official submitting the report: Mary D'ARCY

Job title of official submitting the report: Director for Communities

Names of teams working on policy areas covered by this reporting tool:

- Sustainability
- Wellbeing
- Housing Management
- Environmental Health (housing)
- Technical Services
- Communications
- Economy & Place

Total number of staff working in above policy areas (by FTE):

Headline and Overview Questions

- 1 Does your Local Authority have a current strategy on carbon reduction and/or energy efficiency for domestic or non-domestic properties? (N)
- 2 If yes, please provide a link to your current strategy here:

Adur & Worthing Councils have committed to produce a Carbon Reduction Plan in 2019. The councils have also committed to the [UK100 Cities Pledge for 100% Clean Energy by 2050](#), and to report to [BEIS under their public sector Emissions Reduction Pledge 2020](#). These pledges were made in 2019 and 2018 respectively and are captured in the councils' Sustainability Framework: [Sustainable AW](#).

- 3 If no, are you planning to develop one? (Y)
As part of the next iteration of the Adur & Worthing Housing Strategy (2020) we will review how energy efficiency within Council owned properties can be promoted.
- 4 a. What scheme(s) has your local authority implemented in support of energy saving/carbon reduction in residential accommodation (such as owner-occupied, privately rented and social housing) or non-domestic properties since 2017? (if you have not implemented any scheme, please enter 'N/A')

LEAP - the Local Energy Advice Partnership

AWC was involved in setting up with the West Sussex Affordable Warmth Partnership, a LEAP scheme with participating West Sussex Local Authorities: Crawley BC, Mid Sussex DC, Horsham DC. [LEAP](#) is a Local Energy Advice Partnership run by Agility Eco offering an advice service and benefits for households in fuel poverty. The scheme was launched at Worthing Town Hall in October 2018 and will run for 3 years.

The service targets public and private residents (tenants and homeowners) in fuel poverty using wide eligibility criteria. The service runs through online or phone line referrals by frontline professionals or self-referral. The services offered include:

- home visits and advice on energy efficiency
- energy efficiency measures installed during the visit (valued up to £200)
- referrals for emergency central heating installation and further measures (e.g. ECO)
- referrals to other services & benefits checking (e.g. emergency central heating, fire safety checking)
- energy switching
- budgeting/debt advice through IncomeMax

RetrofitWorks – Warmer Sussex

Warmer Sussex is a BEIS grant funded pilot project 'to support the coordination of the supply chain for retrofitting energy efficiency measures at a local level'. The aim of the project is to develop and test different approaches to increase rates of energy efficiency improvements in non-fuel poor homes, particularly alongside renovation work, by providing support for local supply chain integration and project coordination.

RetrofitWorks leads a consortium of local organisations including local Citizens Advice, local authorities and community energy organisations across West Sussex, East Sussex and Brighton and Hove local authority areas.

Phase 1 received £182,855 from BEIS and delivered:

- an analysis of the Housing Stock across Sussex and tools for partners to use to interrogate this data and make recommendations to householders.
- market research to explore motivations for residents to retrofit their homes,
- engagement of supply chain and potential advocates (including third sector/charities) of the scheme
- investigation of potential financial schemes to help residents fund retrofit

Phase 2: This phase was awarded funding by BEIS in April. Approx £500,000 grant funding over two years (2019 -2020) to

- continue to develop the delivery model
- develop and market offer to households
- continue to develop network of advocates and supply chain

AWC will play a key role in helping to identify households to target, developing the offers, engaging with local organisations, residents and businesses to raise awareness and participation.

b. What scheme(s) is your local authority planning to implement in support of energy saving/carbon reduction in residential accommodation (such as owner-occupied, privately rented and social housing) or non-domestic properties in the next two years? (if you are not planning to implement any scheme, please enter 'N/A')

LEAP - the Local Energy Advice Partnership

The LEAP scheme will continue through to 2021 for residents in all tenures.

RetrofitWorks – Warmer Sussex

The RetrofitWorks scheme will continue until 2020.

Smarthubs project

(See Qn 31 for info on the iUK Smarthubs project). The Smarthubs project will continue until March 2021. It is expected that once the Detailed Delivery Plan is finalised, there will be a number of aspects of the smartgrid project benefitting fuel poor households. This might include installation of hybrid heat pumps, solar and battery storage in 250 homes across Adur & Worthing, reducing carbon and energy costs.

Adur Homes

Adur Homes will seek to directly improve the energy performance of its social housing stock, harnessing government fuel poverty grants for its council housing where possible to achieve the highest feasible energy efficiency standards in its council housing.

There is a programme currently of installing and upgrading central heating systems through Adur Council's capital works programme. As part of its general capital works programme the council reviews and aims to implement the recommended minimum standards for loft and cavity wall insulation, lagging, draft-proofing and heating systems under the government's fuel poverty programme. This includes ensuring minimum levels of insulation (including filling all cavity walls) and good central heating systems in all the borough's council housing.

Adur council proposes in its new build homes to take the significant opportunity for improving the average energy performance of the borough's housing through building all new housing to a very high energy efficiency standards. There is the opportunity to build best practice low carbon, and even zero carbon, homes that set the standard for the future and illustrate what sustainable homes look like.

- 5 What has been, or will be, the cost(s) of running and administering the scheme(s), including the value of grants and other support, plus any other costs incurred? Please provide figures and a brief narrative account if desired.

LEAP - the Local Energy Advice Partnership

RetrofitWorks – Warmer Sussex

Both of these schemes are zero cost to AWC.

Affordable Warmth Partnership, Framework for Action, Officer Role and Services

AWC is involved in the West Sussex Affordable Warmth Partnership. This partnership is involved in the delivery of the West Sussex [Fuel Poverty Framework for Action 2015-18](#).

The work across West Sussex on Fuel Poverty is led by a Fuel Poverty Coordinator role, funded by West Sussex Public Health contributions, which also funds the services delivered by the role. Service updates are reported to the West Sussex Affordable Warmth Partnership, made up of West Sussex LAs. The officer set up the West Sussex LEAP programme with Agility Eco for participating local authorities.

Fuel Poverty Coordinator role – main costs/activities

Fuel Poverty Coordinator/service	2018/19	2017/18
Employee costs (including salary, training, travel, phone, etc)	£39,931	£40,676 £46376 less contribution of £5700 for maternity cover (energy efficiency offer Arun)
Stay Well this Winter booklet	£2450 Print & postage: £2900 Ad income: £450	£6,992 Print & postage £5,592.75 Design/artwork: £300 Thermometer strips: £1,400 Ad income: £300
Income Maximisation Home Visitor Trial (Arun & Chichester CAB)	£1,043	£1,043
Emergency Heater Scheme	£3,526 Heaters £2,491 Delivery £1,035	£2,868 Heaters £1,308 Delivery £1,560
West Sussex Energy website (www.westsussexenergy.co.uk)	£3,646 Re-hosting & redesign: £3,000 Annual support & maintenance (to March 2020): £646	
TOTAL	£50,596	£51,579

Emergency Heater Referrals via the Fuel Poverty Coordinator role

LA - # households	2017/18	2018/19
AWC	3	3
Arun	28	10
Chi	8	4
Crawley	4	0
HDC	0	2
MSDC	3	4

6 What businesses, charities, third sector organisations or other stakeholders do you work with to deliver the scheme(s)?

Adur Homes

We work with local contractors and manufacturers to supply and install low energy technologies as part of our capital and maintenance programmes of Adur Homes properties, including LED lighting, energy efficient boilers, double glazing, Part L compliant and thermally efficient front entrance doors. We have also removed inefficient electric heating from approx. 60 homes and replaced this with new gas fired central heating using condensing combination boilers procured through the Your Energy Sussex (YES) Partnership.

Affordable Warmth Partnership on LEAP

AWC works with the West Sussex Affordable Warmth service and officer. As part of this and AWCs wider work on fuel poverty we partner with the following stakeholders:

- Going Local Social Prescribing Team, AWC
- Health professionals
 - All GP practices provided with copies of Stay Well this Winter booklets
 - All CCGs [Coastal West Sussex, Crawley, Horsham & Mid Sussex] promoting Home Energy Visits on websites and on patient communications in 2018/19
 - Home Energy Visits to be promoted in Hospital Patient Magazines (Chichester & Worthing)
- Frontline teams to be able to identify fuel poverty and refer households for support – including OTs, Social Workers, Community Support teams, Prevention Assessment teams, Children & Family Centres, CABs, Age UK, etc.
 - Training delivered in team meetings or dedicated training sessions
 - Training events to promote new home visitor service (LEAP)
 - Dedicated ‘professionals page’ added to website in 2018
- Key frontline and voluntary sector organisations
 - Newsletter published at least monthly during the heating season with info on help/support available sent to over 160 subscribers.

7 What has been the outcome of the scheme(s) (e.g. energy savings, carbon savings, economic impacts such as job creation and/or increased business competitiveness, societal impacts such as alleviation of fuel poverty and/or improved health outcomes etc.)? This does not have to be measured against national data or benchmarks, but rather focuses on the local authority’s own monitoring and evaluation.

LEAP - the Local Energy Advice Partnership

AWC achieved and moderately exceeded its target number of referrals in year 1 (the scheme was launched late in the year - October, and ran to April 2019). Referral targets were allocated based on proportion of fuel poor. Referrals across WS were as follows.

Local Authorities involved in the West Sussex LEAP programme	Referrals October 2018 - April 2019	Target Referrals
Overall	417	500
Adur & Worthing	182	180

Crawley	118	100
Horsham	55	100
Mid Sussex	55	120

During the October 2018 - April 2019 period the following was achieved:

Adur District Council:

Grand Total of Savings / New Income to date: £143,816.30

Note that totals for bill savings from following energy savings advice and the installed energy saving measures are counted over ten years, whereas new income from Income maximisation process is the anticipated new income generated in one year.

Outcomes from Energy Advice at Visits

	No. Visits	Unit Bill Saving	Total lifetime bill savings	Unit Carbon Saving	Total Carbon Savings
Energy Advice	76	£171.00	£12,996.00	0.675	51.3

Easy Measures Installed

Measure Type	Number fitted	Unit Bill Saving	Total bill savings	Unit Carbon Saving (t)	Total carbon savings (t)
Chimney balloons	0	£58.72	£0.00	0.232	0
Cylinder jackets fitted	0	£314.34	£0.00	1.241	0
Door brushes fitted	0	£58.72	£0.00	0.232	0
Doors draught-proofed	2	£58.72	£117.44	0.232	0.464
LED bulbs fitted	486	£131.60	£63,957.60	0.627	304.722
Letterbox brush	0	£58.72	£0.00	0.232	0
Radiators fitted with reflectors	120	£9.12	£1,094.40	0.036	4.32
Shower Aerator	9	£170.00	£1,530.00	0.671	6.039
TV Standby Plugs	33	£22.80	£752.40	0.109	3.597
Windows draught-proofed	15	£58.72	£880.80	0.232	3.48
Total Measures	665		£68,332.64		322.622

Income Max Results So Far

IncomeMAX Report Status	No. of Referrals	Yearly Increased Income Total (Estimated)	Yearly Increased Income Total (Confirmed so far)
Check complete INCOME INCREASED	2	£0.00	£5,958.00
Check complete NEW INCOME IDENTIFIED	18	£54,000.00	
Check complete NO NEW INCOME CASE CLOSE	4		
Closed - Unable to contact/action	1		
OPEN - Ent check required	21		

ECO Measure Results So Far

ECO Report Status	No. of Referrals	Total ECO Funding Secured	Total Top-up Funding Secured
Go ahead given	1	£259.20	£120.75
Installed by ECHO	1		
Referred to ECO partner	2		
Under assessment	1		

Total Tariff Savings Made

£2,529.66

Gas Tariff Switching

Gas switch completed	No Residents
	1
No better deal available	17
No gas at the property	2
No, doesn't want to	14
No, not the residents decision	2
No, will do later	20
Yes, new supplier	9
Yes, new tariff with same supplier	11

Electricity Tariff Switching

Energy switch completed	No Residents
	1
No better deal available	18
No, doesn't want to	15
No, not the residents decision	1
No, will do later	22
Yes, new supplier	9
Yes, new tariff with same supplier	10

Fire Safe and Well Referrals Identified and Referred

5

Worthing Borough Council

Grand Total of Savings / New Income to date:

£91,930.68

Note that totals for bill savings from following energy savings advice and the installed energy saving measures are counted over ten years, whereas new income from Income maximisation process is the anticipated new income generated in one year.

Outcomes from Energy Advice at Visits

	No. Visits	Unit Bill Saving	Total lifetime bill savings	Unit Carbon Saving	Total Carbon Savings
Energy Advice	43	£171.00	£7,353.00	0.675	29.025

Easy Measures Installed

Measure Type	Number fitted	Unit Bill Saving	Total bill savings	Unit Carbon Saving (t)	Total carbon savings (t)
Chimney balloons	1	£58.72	£58.72	0.232	0.232
Cylinder jackets fitted	0	£314.34	£0.00	1.241	0
Door brushes fitted	1	£58.72	£58.72	0.232	0.232
Doors draught-proofed	0	£58.72	£0.00	0.232	0
LED bulbs fitted	277	£131.60	£36,453.20	0.627	173.679
Letterbox brush	1	£58.72	£58.72	0.232	0.232
Radiators fitted with reflectors	36	£9.12	£328.32	0.036	1.296
Shower Aerator	9	£170.00	£1,530.00	0.671	6.039
TV Standby Plugs	11	£22.80	£250.80	0.109	1.199
Windows draught-proofed	10	£58.72	£587.20	0.232	2.32
Total Measures	346		£39,325.68		185.229

Income Max Results So Far

IncomeMAX Report Status	No. of Referrals	Yearly Increased Income Total (Estimated)	Yearly Increased Income Total (Confirmed so far)
Check complete NEW INCOME IDENTIFIED	15	£45,000.00	
Check complete NO NEW INCOME CASE CLOSE	1		
Closed - Unable to contact/action	7		
OPEN - Ent check required	11		

ECO Measure Results So Far

ECO Report Status	No. of Referrals	Total ECO Funding Secured	Total Top-up Funding Secured
Cancelled by ECHO	1		
Referred to ECO partner	1		

Total Tariff Savings Made

£252.00

Gas Tariff Switching

Gas switch completed	No Residents
No better deal available	12
No gas at the property	7
No, doesn't want to	13
No, will do later	10
Yes, new tariff with same supplier	1

Electricity Tariff Switching

Energy switch completed	No Residents
No better deal available	14
No, doesn't want to	16
No, not the residents decision	1
No, will do later	11
Yes, new tariff with same supplier	1

Fire Safe and Well Referrals Identified and Referred

4

8 What lessons have you learned from delivering this scheme(s)?

LEAP - the Local Energy Advice Partnership

Single biggest lesson is the importance of promotion in ensuring residents are aware of the scheme benefits. This requires continual ongoing promotion through all our council channels with all our local stakeholders and partners, but also web, press and social media channels. Of all these channels, the best is through direct recommendation of the service through 121 contact this may be through social prescribers, customer helplines or service desks, or direct contact with clients.

Local Communications Strategy

9 Does your local authority provide any advisory service to consumers (and businesses) on how to save energy? (Y)

10 If yes to question 10, please briefly outline how this is undertaken

LEAP - the Local Energy Advice Partnership

See answer to Qn 8

The LEAP service has been promoted heavily across Adur & Worthing. This includes:

- holding a promotion event to frontline professionals in October 2018 at Worthing Town Hall.

LEAP has been promoted 121 by AWC through

- social prescribing service Going Local
- Adur Homes customer services helpline
- the council's general Customer services helpline,
- all AWC customer helpdesks in civic buildings dealing 121 with residents
- Cllrs direct to constituent individuals and groups
- promotion (talks and leaflets) at events

Promotional information including leaflets and posters have been made available via:

- information on the council website, both the general energy efficiency and Adur Homes pages
- leaflets to Adur Homes new tenant in new tenant pack
- Info on the back on Adur Homes rent letters
- leaflets circulated and available at all council venues,
- posters on bus stops,
- leaflets in public places
- promotion by councillors and council officers
- promoted directly to council staff through posters and staff news newsletters
- to council partners and stakeholders
- through email to frontline staff including external partners, partners and businesses via networks and email

General promotion of

- Stay Well this Winter booklet – promotes energy efficiency and switching, with advice and signposting for help & support
- West Sussex Affordable Energy website – supplements booklet with further online resources and advice on reducing energy costs and switching
- Home Energy Visitor Services – provide telephone and/or home visits to help vulnerable households with switching.

Businesses

See answer to Question 20 (Utilise programme through West Sussex Sustainable Business Partnership)

11 How do you communicate or encourage energy saving amongst domestic consumers and/or local businesses? (if you do not, please enter 'N/A' and move on to the next section 'Local Green Supply Chains')

LEAP - the Local Energy Advice Partnership

See answers to 10 and 24.

Businesses

Any messaging to businesses is undertaken via the Place & Economy Team and its newsletters and events, and relationships with the Chamber of Commerce, Town Centre Initiatives and Business Improvement Districts.

See also answer to Question 20 (Utilise programme through West Sussex Sustainable Business Partnership).

Worthing Eco Open Houses (WEOH) 2018

WEOH is an event held every 2 years to promote energy and water saving measures and behaviour to residents. AWC supported the April 2018 event through participation and event promotion. The Civic Offices at Portland House were opened to the public and energy switching and other energy saving measures promoted. The 2018 event featured 14 venues and attracted 808 visitors, the highest number achieved at WEOH.

Local Green Supply Chains

12 Does your Local Authority promote the use of energy efficient products amongst consumers (and businesses)? (if you answer no please move onto the next section 'Private Rented Sector') (Y)

13 If yes to question 12, please briefly detail how this promotion work is undertaken.

Businesses

Any messaging to businesses is undertaken via the Place & Economy Team and its newsletters and events, and relationships with the Adur & Worthing Business Partnership, Chamber of Commerce, Town Centre Initiatives and Business Improvement Districts. See also answer to Question 20 (Utilise programme through West Sussex Sustainable Business Partnership).

14 What engagement (formal or informal) does your local authority have with local businesses/supply chains involved in promoting energy efficiency products or carbon reduction?

Businesses

Any messaging to businesses is undertaken via the Economy & Place Team and its newsletters and events, and relationships with the Chamber of Commerce, Town Centre Initiatives and Business Improvement Districts. See also answer to question 4 (Retrofitworks project) and Question 20 (Utilise programme through West Sussex Sustainable Business Partnership)

Domestic Private Rented Sector (PRS) Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards

The Minimum Energy Efficiency Regulations (the Regulations) apply to all privately rented properties in England and Wales. As of April 2018, all such properties are legally required to have an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) of at least an E before they can be let on a new tenancy. This requirement will then extend to all such properties by 1 April 2020, even if there has been no change in tenant or tenancy (please see BEIS's published guidance documents for the full details on the standard).

The PRS Regulations give enforcement powers to local authorities, and authorities are responsible for ensuring landlord compliance within their area.

15 Is your authority aware of the PRS Minimum Efficiency Standards which came into force in April 2018? (Y)

(if you answered no, please move on to the next section 'Financial Support for Energy Efficiency')

- 16 Which team within your authority is responsible for, or will be responsible for, leading on enforcement of the PRS minimum standard?

Private Sector Housing team

- 17 Please provide the contact details of the person leading this team.

*Bruce Reynolds, Private Sector Housing Manager,
bruce.reynolds@adur-worthing.gov.uk 01273 263098*

- 18 What method or methods does your authority use to communicate with landlords and tenants about the standards and other related issues?

Facilitates Private Landlords forum. Information on website. Advice given during site visits

- 19 Do you directly target landlords of EPC F and G rated properties? (N)
If yes, how? If no, please explain.

The work of the PSH team largely responds to complaints about housing conditions and enforcement under the Housing Act 2004 which has more effective enforcement powers MEES is used to validate or support decisions on the scoring of the Excess cold hazard

Financial Support for Energy Efficiency

- 20 What financial programmes, if any, do you have to promote domestic and non-domestic energy efficiency or energy saving? If applicable, please outline the sums, where such funding is sourced, and where it is targeted.
(If you do not have any financial assistance programmes, please enter 'N/A' and move onto the next section 'Fuel Poverty')

Domestic - Repair Grant Assistance

Two relevant schemes - Repair Grant Assistance can be used to make homes wind and weathertight and provide economic heating. Combined value of £110,000 to a maximum of £5000 per applicant. Safe and warm grants are discretionary disabled facility grants for heating, etc up to £5000 per applicant

Non Domestic - Business properties – WSSBP, Utilise Programme

AWC works with West Sussex Sustainable Business Partnership CIC. The West Sussex Sustainable Business Partnership (WSSBP) works across the County in

Partnership with all the District and Boroughs to deliver a wide range of Sustainability Support for small and medium sized enterprises(SME's). The Utilise Plus programme offers: grant funding for energy efficiency projects, events, energy saving workshops and energy audits to SMES. This is funded under Utilise Plus, started in January 2017 and will end in September 2019. £250,000 'capital' grants were issued to SMEs across the LEP area; £500,000 'capital' SME match funding; £250,000 'revenue' (for events, energy audits, staff costs, etc.) = £1,000,000 in total, of which we receive £500,000. Worth noting that Utilise Plus is throughout the Coast to Capital LEP, not just West Sussex.

As of 31st March 2019, the SBP have supported 85 organisations with grant funding and/or 12+ hours of 'non-financial' support (e.g. events or energy audits). Of this 85, 15 are SMEs in West Sussex. SBP have also supported SMEs to make an estimated, combined saving of 702 tonnes of CO₂e each year. Of this 702 tonnes, 35 tonnes will come from West Sussex SMEs specifically. Through grants, we have helped organisations to reduce their annual energy costs, on average, by 27%, including those in West Sussex.

Fuel Poverty

- 21 Does your local authority have a fuel poverty strategy? (Y)
If yes, please describe the scope of the strategy, and the support that is available for low income and vulnerable households to help tackle fuel poverty in your local area. Please also provide a link to your strategy if published.

West Sussex Fuel Poverty Strategy

AWC is involved in the West Sussex Affordable Warmth Partnership. This partnership oversees delivery of the West Sussex [Fuel Poverty Framework for Action 2015-18](#). The Framework is currently under review, AWC is closely involved this refresh.

- 22 What steps have you taken to identify residents/properties in fuel poverty? (enter 'N/A' if not appropriate)

AWC works with the West Sussex Affordable Warmth service and officer. This work includes the following activity to identify residents and properties in fuel poverty:

- **Developing links with health professionals**
 - All GP practices provided with copies of Stay Well this Winter booklets
 - All CCGs [Coastal West Sussex, Crawley, Horsham & Mid Sussex] promoting Home Energy Visits on websites and on patient communications in 2018/19
 - Home Energy Visits to be promoted in Hospital Patient Magazines (Chichester & Worthing)
- **Training frontline teams to be able to identify fuel poverty and refer households for support – including OTs, Social Workers, Community Support teams, Prevention Assessment teams, Children & Family Centres, CABs, Age UK, etc.**
 - Training delivered in team meetings or dedicated training sessions
 - Training events to promote new home visitor service (LEAP)
 - Dedicated 'professionals page' added to website in 2018
- **Developing and maintaining links with key frontline and voluntary sector organisations**
 - Newsletter published at least monthly during the heating season with info on help/support available sent to over 160 subscribers.

- Online mapping [tool developed using EPC and Mosaic data](#) to help locate households at risk of fuel poverty.
- There is also an opportunity to enhance Warmer Sussex/Retrofitworks tools to also be used to identify fuel poor households, as well as able-to-pay. (See Qn 4).

23 How does fuel poverty interlink with your local authority's overall carbon reduction strategy? (enter 'N/A' if not appropriate)

Adur & Worthing Carbon Reduction Plan

The scope of the 2019 Adur & Worthing Carbon Reduction Plan is currently being developed: how fuel poverty can be addressed as part of the decarbonisation process will be assessed within this.

24 a. What measures or initiatives have you taken to promote fuel cost reduction for those in fuel poverty?

LEAP - the Local Energy Advice Partnership

The LEAP service has been promoted heavily across Adur & Worthing. See answer to Question 7 and 10 for details.

Energy Switching

Energy Switching is promoted through the LEAP service. LEAP switching data for relevant LAs over the period October 2018-April 2019 below .

	Total potential bill savings	Av potential bill saving	# switches during visit (households)	No better deal (households)
Adur & Worthing	£1,652	£150	11	25
Crawley	£2,947	£196	8	20
Horsham	£742	£106	5	11
Mid Sussex	£1,185	£148	4	16

The Sussex Tariff offered by Your Energy Sussex (YES)

AWC works with Your Energy Sussex (YES) which is a local, not-for-profit energy supplier offering competitively-priced gas and 100% renewable electricity to residents in West Sussex, East Sussex and Brighton & Hove. A set of local tariffs were launched by YES in February 2018 to encourage more people in the county to compare their energy costs, switch and save money as industry figures point to a significant percentage of customers who have either never switched or do so rarely and could be paying too much for their gas and electricity.

The service is supplied under a 'white label' agreement between West Sussex County Council and Robin Hood Energy, the licensed energy company owned by Nottingham City Council.

YES currently have 3864 customers (at April 2019) across Sussex (see breakdown by West Sussex LAs below) and are continuing to grow steadily through low and no-cost promotion by the 12 supporting Sussex local authorities.

District/Borough	Customers on supply up to 30 April 2019	
	<i>No. customers</i>	<i>% of total</i>
<i>Adur & Worthing</i>	320	8.3
<i>Arun</i>	611	15.8
<i>Chichester</i>	164	4.2
<i>Crawley</i>	390	10.1
<i>Horsham</i>	255	6.6
<i>Mid Sussex</i>	237	6.1

Within its first year of operation, YES acquired a large enough customer base to cover its modest set up costs and now, in year two, will begin to use the surplus it generates to build a Fuel Poverty Fund which will be used to support projects targeted at residents who are struggling to pay their bills. This will be distributed across the LAs.

YES has a competitive pre-payment meter tariff and encourages PPM customers to move to credit meters where appropriate. YES proactively contacts customers to move them off more expensive standard variable tariffs and on to more competitively fixed price tariffs.

b. If you have taken measures or initiatives to promote fuel cost reduction for those in fuel poverty, what partnership with business or energy providers have you undertaken?

LEAP - the Local Energy Advice Partnership

This service is delivered in Partnership with Agility Eco through Energy Company contributions.

RetrofitWorks

This is a consortium of local organisations including local Citizens Advice, local authorities and community energy organisations across West Sussex, East Sussex and Brighton and Hove local authority areas.

The Sussex Tariff - YES

Your Energy Sussex encourages customers with an electricity account to sign up for a Smart meter as part of the government roll-out. Customers are encouraged to complete an online request form and will be contacted with an installation date when installers are planning to be in their area.

Warm Homes Discount through YES

There has been 1 customer in Adur & Worthing receiving the Warm Homes Discount through YES in 2018-19.

The Energy Company Obligation

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 recently introduced ECO “[flexible eligibility](#)” (ECO 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 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.

- 25 Has your local authority published a Statement of Intent (Sol) for ECO flexibility eligibility? (Y)
If yes, please include a link to your Sol below.

An LA Flex Statement of Intent (SOI) has been produced. This is available on the council website, Home [energy efficiency, grants and offers page](#), under the ‘National Affordable Warmth Scheme’ section.

- 26 Please use the following space to provide any further information you feel might be of benefit to BEIS, in helping us to understand ECO Flex delivery in more detail. For example, the number of declarations signed versus the number of households helped.

Since January 2018, 22 households across West Sussex have benefited from a declaration being issued, enabling them to receive an ECO measure. The households have been evenly spread across the local authorities, with the majority of referrals for Insulation measures (such as loft or cavity wall), with others being supported with a heating improvement such as a replacement boiler or first time central heating. In the 9 months after publishing the SOI, only 8 referrals were received of which 5 were declined. Revised eligibility criteria were agreed by the Affordable Warmth Partnership in Sept 2018 – this included increasing the household income thresholds and adjusting the energy efficiency criteria. Subsequently, 18 referrals were received, all of which resulted in Declarations being issued. None of the previously declined referrals became eligible, as while those households qualified under the Income and Energy Efficiency criteria, they did not qualify under the Health criteria. Of the 22 households benefiting from ECO, 2 were in Adur & Worthing, 1 received a heating measure, and 1 an insulation measure.

The number of households that could be helped was very low until income thresholds were adjusted above the BEIS recommended levels, and more in line with higher living costs in area

Smart Metering

- 27 Please provide a brief statement outlining your current or planned approach to: Engage and support your residents (including those in vulnerable circumstances or with pre-payment metering) to promote take up of smart meters and achieve associated benefits (e.g. ability to control energy use, identify best value tariffs)? Please detail any work undertaken or planned with local/community groups, housing associations, micro businesses, Smart Energy GB under their Partnership Programme and energy suppliers.

As part of our development of new homes within the Housing Revenue account we will seek to promote energy efficiency and smart metering as outlined in other parts of this return.

- 28 Please provide a brief statement outlining your current or planned approach to: Integrate your approaches to delivering energy efficiency improvements in residential accommodation with the opportunities presented by the installation of smart meters, drawing upon materials from the [Smart Meter Energy Efficiency Materials Project](#) or other sources of independent information.

See answer to 27

- 29 Please detail any:
Resources/ support (e.g. services, funding) available to residents who have had an appliance(s) condemned for safety reasons and cannot afford to replace it (e.g. during visual safety checks conducted during their smart meter installation or otherwise).

Repair Grant Assistance available to homeowners on means-tested benefit, or Safe and Warm Grants for disabled applicants. Up to £5000 per application. In addition, PSH enforcement work in private rented sector to ensure that heating is efficient, effective and economic.

- 30 Please detail any:
Existing relationships with energy suppliers to help ensure that the opportunities presented by vacant properties under your control are effectively utilised (i.e. gaining access to install a smart meter).

To be developed

Future Schemes or Wider Initiatives

- 31 Please outline any future schemes or wider initiatives not covered above that your local authority has carried out or is planning to undertake to improve the energy efficiency of residential accommodation or businesses in your area, for example, within your Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Energy Strategy (if you do not plan any future schemes currently, please enter 'N/A').

Innovate UK project Smart Local Energy Systems (SLES): the Smarthubs Project

Background

- Government has awarded £13m to a consortium backed by West Sussex County Council (WSCC) to deliver a £40m project on smart energy. This will deliver a portfolio of transport, power and heat projects.
- WSCC aim to deliver the majority of the projects in Adur & Worthingramme: [Prospering from the Energy Revolution](#), for a 3 year demonstrator project launching 2019, ending 2022.

Smarthubs: 8 interlocking smart energy projects

SMARTHUBS will bring together energy, heat and transport systems to deliver innovative solutions addressing barriers to low carbon growth, providing affordable energy, benefiting consumers and improving future energy resilience.

The Smarthubs consortium are exploring ways this project could be integrated with Adur Homes and Worthing Homes, to help alleviate fuel poverty.

Greater Brighton Economic Board

AWC are partners on the [Greater Brighton Economic Board](#) (GBEB), a City Region that is home to 400,000 jobs across 40,000 businesses. GBEB, as a wider economic functional area, has released ambitious plans to reduce water use by more than a third and create a zero carbon energy system by 2050. AWC are key partners in this vision, with Southern Water the lead partners (Uk Power Networks, Environment Agency, the universities of Brighton and Sussex are also involved).

The aims include:

- Create a 'resilient, zero carbon and smart system by 2050' in Greater Brighton, while reducing household bills and fuel poverty.
- Reduce average daily water use to 80 litres per person by 2050, down from the current level of about 130 litres.

AWC, with and through GBEB, will be drawing up exact detail on how to achieve these aims in the coming year, however is expected that smart technology, community finance schemes and educational measures will feature. The latest update was presented to the Board on 29th January 2019 - [papers can be found here](#).

This strategic workstrand also aligns with [Coast to Capital LEP's Strategic Economic Plan \(Gatwick 360\)](#), notably Priority 3 'investing in sustainable growth'. This plan highlights the need to:

- *identify areas that will benefit from environmental investment*
- *be an active partner to Government in the development of the 25 Year Environment Plan*
- *Finalise the Energy South2East strategy (combing with Enterprise M3 and SELEP)*
- *Investigate a regulated market place for investment into natural assets and services*
- *Bring together local authorities, utility providers and business partnerships to identify potential for development standards for water and waste use and management.*