

## **Home Energy Conservation Act 1995**

Progress Report 2013-15 on behalf of the

The Nottingham and Derbyshire

**Local Authority Energy Partnership** 

(LAEP)

and

**Broxtowe Borough Council** 



**March 2015** 

### **Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Local Authorities' Energy Partnership (LAEP)**

The LAEP is a non-statutory partnership of all 20 councils across Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, established in 1996 and continues to provide an excellent model of how councils can work together for mutual benefit.

This report covers collective activities across the following 14 LAEP housing authorities:

#### **Nottinghamshire Derbyshire** Bassetlaw District Council Amber Valley Borough Council Broxtowe Borough Council **Bolsover District Council** Gedling Borough Council Chesterfield Borough Council Mansfield District Council **Derbyshire Dales District Council** Newark and Sherwood District Council **Erewash Borough Council** Rushcliffe Borough Council High Peak Borough Council North East Derbyshire District Council South Derbyshire District Council

Partnership activities are delivered via a membership service and a communications service which are funded through separate subscriptions. Councils benefit from support, information and communication services and collaborate on carbon reduction, affordable warmth and sustainable energy projects, sharing expertise and best practice.

Each council is represented on the Officer Working Group (OWG) which runs the partnership and funds are held by Derbyshire County Council.

### **LAEP Chair's introduction**

The production of this report by our Partnership, which complements the individual reports of our member councils, is an example of how our long-standing collaboration has provided huge benefit and exceptional value to our partners over the years.

In increasingly challenging times for local government, this report provides evidence of how our partnership is striving to maximise the economic, social and environmental benefits to our councils and residents through its work on home energy conservation and affordable warmth.

Phil Keynes Team Manager, Energy and Carbon Management Nottinghamshire County Council

### **HECA** reporting

The LAEP has a collective ambition to reduce carbon dioxide and fuel poverty across the area and acknowledges the legal requirements for local government to improve the energy efficiency of residential accommodation as outlined in the Climate Change Act 2008.

The LAEP supports the aims of the 2001 UK Fuel Poverty Strategy to eradicate fuel poverty in England as far as reasonably practicable by 2016 and the new statutory target published in 2012 to "ensure that as many fuel poor homes in England as is reasonably practicable achieve a minimum energy efficiency rating of Band C by 2030". The LAEP also looks forward to the imminent publication of the new Fuel Poverty Strategy for England which will set out DECC's approach to delivering the target and milestones.

All LAEP district and borough councils submitted 2013 HECA reports and have links to them on their websites.

This HECA progress report is presented in three sections and provides an update on trends, strategies and initiatives since 2013 as LAEP councils work together to reduce domestic carbon dioxide emissions and fuel poverty:

		Pages
1.	Baseline information across Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire	3 – 9
2.	LAEP HECA Report 2013-15	10 - 15
3.	Broxtowe Borough Council HECA Report 2013-15	16 - 24

### 1. BASELINE INFORMATION

Baseline information on key issues enables local authorities to gauge the impact of collective and individual initiatives

- 1.1 Levels of fuel poverty
- 1.2 Domestic fuel consumption
- 1.3 Domestic carbon dioxide emissions
- 1.4 Energy Company Obligation funded measures
- 1.5 Green Deal measures

The following data has been collated from documents placed on the Department of Energy and Climate Change's website

### 1.1 Levels of fuel poverty

Between 2010 and 2012 a new way of calculating the number of households in fuel poverty was introduced, temporarily running in parallel with the original definition.

In 2010 the **10% definition** was used whereby a household was in fuel poverty if it needed to spend more than 10 per cent of its income on fuel to maintain an adequate level of warmth.

From 2012 a new **Low Income High Cost** (LIHC) definition was applied which considers a household to be in fuel poverty if they have required fuel costs that are above average (the national median level) and, were they to spend that amount, they would be left with a residual income below the official poverty line.

Across Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire between 2010 and 2012 there was a small fall in the number and % of households in fuel poverty in most district and borough areas, using the original 10% definition. Using the new Low Income High Cost definition results in **fewer people being categorised as being in fuel poverty** so the total number of and % of households in fuel poverty is shown as much lower.

The following table shows levels of fuel poverty in all the district and boroughs in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire in 2010 and 2012 (both definitions used in 2012 for comparison), taken from <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fuel-poverty-sub-regional-statistics">https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fuel-poverty-sub-regional-statistics</a>

	2010	2012	2012	2010	2012	2012
FUEL POOR HOUSEHOLDS	10% definition		Low Income High Cost definition	10% definition		Low Income High Cost definition
Local Authority		nber of fue household		% Fuel	poor ho	useholds
Amber Valley	9,918	9,610	7,078	19.1	17.9	13.2
Bolsover	6,564	5,635	4,153	20.6	16.8	12.4
Chesterfield	9,191	8,028	6,217	20.0	16.8	13.0
Derbyshire Dales	7,483	9,314	4,917	24.4	29.6	15.6
Erewash	8,429	7,783	6,287	17.5	15.7	12.6
High Peak	7,027	8,248	5,281	17.8	20.7	13.3
NE Derbyshire	7,876	7,656	5,239	18.6	17.4	11.9
South Derbyshire	5,867	6,077	4,393	15.5	15.3	11.0
Bassetlaw	9,334	9,341	6,193	19.7	19.2	12.7
Broxtowe	7,825	7,260	5,736	16.5	15.2	12.0
Gedling	8,085	7,754	5,522	16.2	15.4	11.0
Mansfield	8,782	7,738	5,796	19.9	16.9	12.6
Newark & Sherwood	9,221	9,504	6,311	18.9	19.1	12.7
Rushcliffe	6,818	7,471	5,367	14.8	16.0	11.5

### 1.2 Domestic fuel consumption

The tables below show domestic gas and electricity consumption figures from 2010 and the most recent available figures from 2013, taken from

https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/gas-sales-and-numbers-of-customers-by-region-and-local-authority and

	20	10	2013		
DOMESTIC GAS CONSUMPTION	Total (GWh)	Average Household (kWh)	Total (GWh)	Average Household (kWh)	
Amber Valley	808.3	15,861	742	14,422	
Bolsover	773.3	15,482	439	13,788	
Chesterfield	607.6	15,312	611	13,107	
Derbyshire Dales	469.2	15,218	409	16,026	
Erewash	745.8	15,897	653	13,411	
High Peak	674.4	14,691	577	15,349	
North East Derbyshire	442.5	17,637	620	14,914	
South Derbyshire	717.9	14,919	495	13,960	
Bassetlaw	779.4	16,544	555	13,658	
Broxtowe	629.5	16,971	678	14,270	
Gedling	692.1	15,855	714	14,915	
Mansfield	674.1	15,852	647	14,230	
Newark and Sherwood	669.4	16,383	622	14,327	
Rushcliffe	759.5	17,719	707	16,226	

DOMESTIC	20	10	2013		
ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION	Total (GWh)	Average Household (kWh)	Total (GWh)	Average Household (kWh)	
Amber Valley	225.2	4,251	215.6	4,025	
Bolsover	211.3	3,915	121.9	3,665	
Chesterfield	125.4	3,688	161.6	3,425	
Derbyshire Dales	188.2	5,078	146.1	4,683	
Erewash	168.7	4,049	184.8	3,747	
High Peak	155.5	4,215	161.0	4,042	
North East Derbyshire	195.1	3,945	162.4	3,725	
South Derbyshire	208.8	4,348	163.4	4,058	
Bassetlaw	167.8	4,373	198.7	4,086	
Broxtowe	168.5	3,813	179.2	3,755	
Gedling	217.9	4,212	199.8	3,987	
Mansfield	168.4	3,840	163.3	3,588	
Newark and Sherwood	205.5	4,452	208.8	4,194	
Rushcliffe	167.2	4,322	196.6	4,203	

### 1.3 Domestic carbon dioxide emissions

The tables below show the domestic carbon dioxide emissions per capita in tonnes  $CO_2$  in 2010 and 2012, the most recent figures available.

DERBYS	Year	Industry and Commercial	Domestic	Transport	Total
			Per capita to	onnes CO <sub>2</sub>	
Amber Valley	2010	3.2	2.6	1.9	7.7
	2012	3.1	2.5	1.8	7.4
Bolsover	2010	6.9	3.1	4.6	14.6
	2012	6.6	2.9	4.5	14.1
Chesterfield	2010	2.3	2.5	1.5	6.4
	2012	2.5	2.4	1.4	6.4
Derbyshire Dales	2010	4.1	2.8	3.4	10.3
	2012	4.1	2.7	3.3	10.1
Erewash	2010	2.1	2.4	2.3	6.8
	2012	1.8	2.3	2.3	6.4
High Peak	2010	26.6	2.5	1.7	31.0
	2012	25.5	2.4	1.7	29.7
NE Derbyshire	2010	2.3	2.6	2.5	7.3
	2012	2.0	2.5	2.4	6.9
South Derbyshire	2010	3.6	2.5	3.3	9.4
	2012	3.3	2.4	3.2	8.9
DERBYS TOTAL	2010	6.1	2.6	2.5	11.2
	2012	5.8	2.5	2.5	10.8

NOTTS	Year	Industry and Commercial	Domestic	Transport	Total
			Per capita to	onnes CO <sup>2</sup>	
Bassetlaw	2010	2.9	2.6	3.3	8.9
	2012	3.0	2.4	3.2	8.8
Broxtowe	2010	2.8	2.4	2.7	7.9
	2012	2.1	2.3	2.6	7.1
Gedling	2010	2.2	2.5	1.0	5.7
	2012	2.1	2.4	0.9	5.5
Mansfield	2010	1.7	2.7	1.2	5.6
	2012	1.6	2.7	1.1	5.4
Newark & Sherwood	2010	4.3	2.5	3.5	10.2
	2012	4.0	2.4	3.5	9.8
Rushcliffe	2010	2.0	2.5	2.2	6.9
	2012	1.9	2.4	2.2	6.6
NOTTS TOTAL	2010	2.6	2.6	2.2	7.5
	2012	2.5	2.5	2.2	7.2

The table below show the domestic carbon dioxide emissions per capita in tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> from 2005 to 2012 within the influence of local authorities, the most recent figures available.

All data is taken from <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/local-authority-emissions-estimates">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/local-authority-emissions-estimates</a>

	Year	Industry and Commercial	Domestic	Transport	Total
Broxtowe	2005	1.8	2.7	1.4	5.9
	2006	1.8	2.6	1.4	5.8
	2007	1.9	2.6	1.4	5.8
	2008	2.0	2.5	1.4	5.9
	2009	1.8	2.3	1.3	5.4
	2010	2.2	2.4	1.3	5.9
	2011	1.8	2.1	1.3	5.2
	2012	1.6	2.3	1.2	5.1

### 1.4 Energy Company Obligation funded measures

A new obligation on energy utility companies replaced the previous Carbon Emissions Reduction Target (CERT) at the end of March 2013. The Energy Company Obligation Phase 1 (ECO1) runs from April 2013 to March 2015.

The ECO programme provides funding for energy efficiency measures for households in hard to treat properties and vulnerable or low income households who struggle to achieve affordable warmth.

The data below shows the number of ECO funded measures installed since the beginning of ECO to 30th September 2014 and has been compiled from

https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/green-deal-energy-company-obligation-eco-and-insulation-levels-in-great-britain-quarterly-report-to-september-2014 Tables 1.11a) and d).

### **ECO OBLIGATION measures**

	Carbon Saving Target (CSO)	Carbon Savings Community (CSCO)	Affordable Warmth (HHCRO)	Total no. ECO measures delivered	All households	ECO measures per 1,000 households*	Households in receipt of ECO measures per 1,000
ENGLAND	311,600	175,591	309,600	796,791	22,542,903	35.3	28.7
E MIDLANDS	21,763	10,646	29,080	61,489	1,935,710	31.8	25.1
Derbyshire	3,535	742	4,598	8,875	338,213	26.2	20.6
Amber Valley	457	131	744	1,332	53,573	24.9	19.0
Bolsover	258	166	748	1,172	33,264	35.2	26.9
Chesterfield	831	132	712	1,675	47,180	35.5	28.8
Derbyshire Dales	114	34	169	317	31,197	10.2	7.5
Erewash	575	203	800	1,578	49,330	32.0	24.5
High Peak	270	43	470	783	39,821	19.7	17.2
NE Derbyshire	645	32	541	1,218	43,588	27.9	22.5
South Derbyshire	385	1	414	800	40,260	19.9	14.9
Nottinghamshire	4,408	1,490	5,106	11,004	340,212	32.3	25.2
Bassetlaw	498	271	750	1,519	48,631	31.2	24.4
Broxtowe	410	2	643	1,055	47,724	22.1	16.6
Gedling	671	40	755	1,466	50,096	29.3	22.1
Mansfield	619	543	1,022	2,184	45,520	48.0	36.9
Newark&Sherwood	1,236	266	592	2,094	49,778	42.1	34.9
Rushcliffe	458	2	331	791	46,771	16.9	12.7

<sup>\*</sup> More than one measure installed in some homes

### **Measures installed**

Information on which measures have been installed is not available down to local authority level. However, on a national scale government statistics show a marked decline in the rate of loft and cavity wall insulation (from all sources including ECO and Green Deal) coinciding with the switch from CERT to ECO, as illustrated in the table below, taken from <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/green-deal-energy-company-obligation-eco-and-insulation-levels-in-great-britain-quarterly-report-to-september-2014">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/green-deal-energy-company-obligation-eco-and-insulation-levels-in-great-britain-quarterly-report-to-september-2014</a>

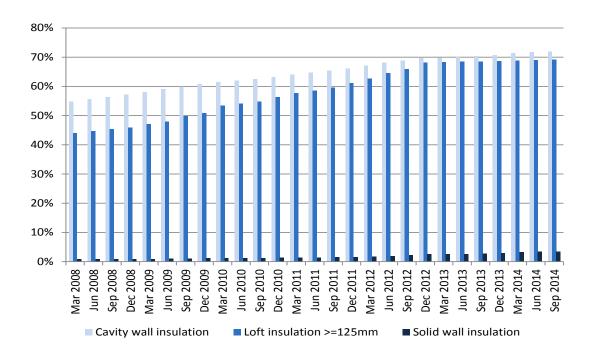


Table: Percentage of properties with insulation in Great Britain, March 2008 to September 2014

### 1.5 Green Deal measures

Green Deal statistics are currently only available from DECC at a regional level. A breakdown by administrative area should be available for the next quarterly release, due on 19/03/14. Data below taken from <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/green-deal-energy-company-obligation-eco-and-insulation-levels-in-great-britain-quarterly-report-to-september-2014">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/green-deal-energy-company-obligation-eco-and-insulation-levels-in-great-britain-quarterly-report-to-september-2014</a> Table 1.7).

	Green Deal Assessments	Households	GD Assessments per 1,000 households
England	288,999	22,542,903	12.8
North East	16,177	1,145,559	14.1
North West	51,658	3,046,753	17.0
Yorkshire and Humber	38,004	2,262,423	16.8
East Midlands	30,067	1,935,710	15.5
West Midlands	44,047	2,332,802	18.9
East	24,657	2,484,620	9.9
London	22,857	3,383,918	6.8
South East	37,077	3,638,436	10.2
South West	24,455	2,312,682	10.6

Green Deal Assessments lodged by region, up to 30th September 2014

### **2.0 LAEP HECA REPORT 2013-15**

### 2.1 Boiler replacement scheme (2013)

In December 2012 DECC awarded over £2 million to the LAEP to tackle fuel poverty as part of a nationwide local authority competition. This was the third largest grant awarded, despite stiff competition and a significantly oversubscribed fund, demonstrating the advantage of working in partnership for the benefit of all local residents.

Funding was shared between fourteen district and borough councils across the two counties and was invested in new boilers, heating systems and insulation to help vulnerable residents keep warm and well in winter.

Installations began in January 2013 and were completed by end April 2013, an average of 50 per local authority area. The success of the project was the result of fantastic team

"I recently had a new boiler installed after having no heating or hot water for a number of years. For the first time my 18 month old daughter can have a proper hot bath rather than kettles in the sink."

**Chesterfield resident** 

work by officers from LAEP councils who worked hard to identify eligible households and deliver measures within the very tight timescales.

In total the LAEP delivered **729 energy efficiency measures** to households, comprising:

- 511 'G' rated boilers were replaced with 'A' rated boilers
- 143 new heating systems were installed
- 85 properties received loft and/or cavity wall insulation
- Many properties received enabling works
- 36 boilers and heating systems repaired
- 2 renewable energy systems were installed in off gas properties

These measures translate into energy bill savings for householders in the region of £220,000 per year. This equates to approximately 7,140 tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup> per year

### 2.2 Health and housing research project (2013)

Evaluation of the boiler scheme outlined in 2.1 revealed that around 38% of assisted households included someone suffering from a long term health condition made worse by a living in a cold home. It also found that many fuel poor households were not eligible for the fully funded affordable warmth element of ECO either because they were not on eligible benefits or because the works required on their heating systems were non-standard or extensive.

In an extension to the original boiler replacement project and to further investigate these issues, DECC approved a request from the LAEP to use project underspend to identify and assist fuel poor households with a long term health condition.

"My husband and I had both been in hospital, very poorly, and came out when the snow was bad. It was too cold to stop here; we could only come home once the boiler had been replaced."

**Newark resident** 

This work was carried out from May to

September 2013 across Notts and Derbys. Evaluation showed that out of 29 households assisted, 25% met the ECO affordable warmth benefits eligibility criteria

but were still unable to have energy efficiency improvement works carried out without making a personal contribution of between £1000 and £1500. This is due to the non-standard nature of the works required and the impact this has on the amount of ECO funding available. Non-standard works include:

- Properties with only secondary heating such as coal fires or electric bar heaters
- Solid fuel (coal) back boilers, wood burners or LPG boilers in off gas properties
- Partial and full sets of storage heaters.

The research highlighted the inability of the current ECO affordable warmth programme to fully fund energy efficiency measures for some of the most vulnerable householders, leaving some of them paying up to 30% of their income on fuel bills.

### 2.3 Derbyshire Healthy Home programme (2014 - ongoing)

The results of the health and housing research project (2.2) have been applied to a new health and affordable warmth programme. Derbyshire Public Health have commissioned the LAEP to develop and deliver the 'Derbyshire Healthy Home' programme across the county, providing £188k revenue funding per year for two years.

The programme is combining information on health, housing and income at a household level to target fuel poor householders with long term health conditions made worse by a cold home. The aim is to reduce the incidence of Excess Winter Deaths and the cost to the NHS of the impact of cold related illnesses, particularly 'non-elective' (emergency) admissions to A&E. Due to data protection and patient privacy issues, GP surgeries will write to target households inviting them to contact the LAEP project team for assistance.

Whilst accurate targeting should ensure that most householders assisted are eligible for affordable warmth ECC (HHCRO), some homes will require additional funding to enable improvements to go ahead, as outlined in 2.2. DECC agreed in January 2014 to allow LAEP to carry forward the final balance from the original boiler replacement project funds to top up capital works associated with this project; Derbyshire's share is around £114k.

National Grid has recognised the project's innovative approach with an award of £40k to establish a hardship fund to further assist vulnerable householders

The project will assist households from February 2015 to August 2016. Outcomes will be rigorously monitored and evaluated and if successful funding is likely to continue, albeit at a lower level. DECC is very interested in this approach in terms of shaping delivery of fuel poverty and health related support services through local authorities.

### 2.4 Potential for a health and housing project in Nottinghamshire (2015)

The Nottinghamshire LAEP authorities are looking closely at how the Derbyshire Public Health project develops and will invest their share of the underspend referred to in 2.3 (around £90k), to address fuel poverty and health related issues in a similar way.

Exploratory discussions with Nottinghamshire Public Health and CCGs in the county demonstrate a desire to collaborate on this issue. Provisional project ideas involve working closely with CCGs to engage one GP Practice in each district who would identify their most resource intensive patients with cold-sensitive long term conditions. Existing resources would enable councils to address the affordable warmth needs of at least 5 households identified in this way, even if none were HHCRO eligible. Rigorous

monitoring by the CCG on the impact of interventions on health outcomes would be needed to justify the release of funding to enable project continuity.

### 2.5 LAEP Green Deal Pioneer Places (2013-14)

In January 2013, the LAEP successfully bid to DECC to fund a proposal to create demand for the Green Deal across Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. Four LAEP councils received funding to run pilot Green Deal projects each council targeted promotions at different housing types:

- Amber Valley Borough Council (Derbys): The private rented sector
- Chesterfield Borough Council ( " ): Mixed hard-to-treat properties
- Newark and Sherwood District Council (Notts): Off gas homes, high council tax
- Rushcliffe Borough Council ( " ): Large homes, old boilers, range of finance options

	Green Deal	Assessments	Green Deal Plans		
	Target	Completed	Target	Completed	
Amber Valley	100	27	50	0	
Chesterfield	100	26	50	0	
Newark	100	11	50	8	
Rushcliffe	100	72	50	50	

The project evaluation report was issued in July 2014. In total, 136 properties had a Green Deal Assessment carried out compared with an initial target of 400. The project aimed to convert 50% of assessments into plans and achieved 43% (58 plans). The lower than expected results were influenced by:

- Low levels of public awareness about the Green Deal
- Slow return of assessments to householders leaving no time to offer plans within project time frame
- The Golden Rule not being met due to vague estimates in the Assessments and higher than expected installation costs due to 'other works'.

Keeping customers engaged throughout the complex process proved very difficult; Green Deal Assessors sometimes proved unreliable and this led the project to question the effectiveness of the Green Deal Assessor verification process.

### 2.6 LAEP ECO scheme development (2013)

In early 2013 the LAEP considered establishing an area wide ECO scheme, to provide residents in private sector housing with a reliable offer from a trustworthy source in a similar way to the Warmstreets scheme that the LAEP set up under CERT. Two comprehensive briefings were produced for managers outlining the opportunities and options available.

One option LAEP considered was to develop a local not-for-profit intermediary or energy agency which would maximise ECO funding drawn into the area. It would be sustained by turning local knowledge, housing data and referral networks into high quality leads for the obligated parties in return for a referral fee. With the utilities under pressure to discharge their ECO obligations as cost effectively as possible, the efficiencies resulting from engaging with 14 councils through the LAEP network should also be reflected in a good offer for LAEP residents.

Endorsing or promoting the offer from any utility to residents requires a tendering process to identify a partner. As a first and informal step in this selection process, the seven largest energy utilities were invited to a LAEP meeting in July 2013 to outline what they could offer a two county partnership. British Gas, SSE, EON, Scottish Power and EDF attended and outlined their priorities to the LAEP.

Unfortunately it became clear that the focus of all utility companies at this stage in the first ECO phase was external solid wall insulation in areas of concentrated social housing due to the potential for the largest carbon savings; there was very little on offer in terms of loft and cavity wall insulation or heating installations in the private sector.

Cuts in ECO targets later in 2013 undermined this potential funding stream so the LAEP put these plans on hold.

### 2.7 LAEP Green Deal Communities bid (2013-14)

DECC launched a new £20m Green Deal Communities scheme for local authorities in late July 2013 to help households benefit from the Green Deal on an area basis; this quadrupled to £80m in the autumn.

Based on its success detailed in 2.1, the LAEP decided to apply for this funding with the understanding that its previous intentions to engage Green Deal and ECO Provider(s) outlined above would be incorporated into these new plans.

The meeting with utilities referred to in 2.6 was also used to help develop a LAEP bid to this fund. As outlined, the utilities' focus was on social housing where they could bank carbon as cheaply as possible through high volumes and high take up. However, there was some potential for a LAEP scheme for private sector 'right to buys' to be incorporated into their broadly social housing schemes. Unfortunately none had a good offer for SWI for one-off private sector homes.

The LAEP submitted a final bid in December 2013 for over £2m on behalf of 14 district councils and Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire County Councils, for a retrofit scheme in each districts to treat a total of 500 properties. In line with DECC guidance the majority of funding was to subsidise the cost of SWI to both attract matched ECO funding from energy utility companies and to ensure that the remaining

"LAEP's bid was ambitious and well designed and would have helped each council to roll out private sector solid wall insulation schemes in their areas."

Jane Thomas, Private Sector Housing Manager, Chesterfield

cost payable by the householder was eligible for Green Deal finance. The key element of the bid was to combine effective community engagement with evidence-based targeting using LAEP's housing and householder database.

This involved a very significant commitment of LAEP resources, including extensive efforts to establish a framework of ECO providers/contractors to deliver the scheme through either Efficiency East Midland's existing framework and through a tender placed by the LAEP on the public sector procurement platform, Source Derbyshire. The latter proved very difficult to achieve as it was obviously not possible to realistically define, or confirm, the total value of the tender contract prior to receiving funding.

64 proposals were submitted in total and unfortunately the LAEP bid was unsuccessful. Feedback from DECC indicated that in particular they did not have confidence that an ECO provider had been secured to deliver the scheme.

### 2.8 The LAEP Communications Service (ongoing)

The community focused communications service is funded by an optional £1500 p.a. subscription per authority. The service provides advice and information on energy efficiency, sustainable energy and affordable warmth directly to communities, schools, local authority staff, businesses and the general public on behalf of the LAEP.

The Communications Service has been collectively procured by Marches Energy Agency (MEA) through Service Level Agreements (SLA) since 2009 and provides a level and quality of delivery that would have been unaffordable for individual councils. Fifteen LAEP authorities participated between 2013 and 2015. A core service provides:

- A public facing website <a href="www.everybodys-talking.org">www.everybodys-talking.org</a> providing information on energy efficiency, sustainable energy, affordable warmth and community activity
- A twitter account with more than 170 followers
- **Monthly E-Bulletins** sent to more than 300 people representing more than 85 community groups and around 100 public and third sector organisations
- An 'Ask Me a Climate Question' Service which allows community groups to request up to half a day's desk-based research from MEA. The service received 24 enquiries in 2013-14 and 18 by 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 2015
- LAEP annual Eco Open Homes Event aims to inspire householders to make eco improvements to their homes by visiting others who have already done so. In March 2013, 12 homes and other buildings in the area open their doors to more than 90 visitors; in 2014, 325 people visited 17 properties and the event is planned again for May 2015. The event has its own website: www.everybodys-talking.org/ecohomes

An additional tailored service enables councils select additional services which best meet their needs: the most

popular is visits by the Fantastic Home, a mobile energy efficiency

exhibition, three times during the year to offer energy efficiency advice at community fairs, fetes, festivals, market days and busy shopping areas (see photos). Other activities have included presentations at Landlord Forums, workshops at community conferences, workshops for local authority staff, and briefings for elected members. In 2013-14, 1424 people engaged with the Fantastic Home vehicle.

MEA also seeks funding for other projects in the area and during 2013-14 secured funding totally £28,130 for other energy efficiency focused work in the area.





### 2.9 Looking Ahead 2015-17

LAEP plans and aspirations during the next HECA period:

- Deliver, monitor, improve and evaluate Derbyshire Warm Homes programme
  with a view to secure continued revenue funding for staff beyond the current
  project time frame of September 2016. The LAEP will further engage with the
  CCGs in Derbyshire to demonstrate the impacts of affordable warmth
  interventions on health outcomes and costs, aiming to secure NHS funding in
  future for preventative support for high risk patients.
- Design, agree and secure funding and support for a Nottinghamshire health and housing programme, working closely with CCG and Public Health colleagues.
- Strive to offer affordable warmth support to a larger proportion of vulnerable fuel
  poor households not just those with existing health conditions, through
  innovative funding and partnership arrangements, building on the success and
  expertise gained through the health and housing programmes.

For further information about the contents of this report, please contact:

Andrew Pooley, Local Authority Officer, Broxtowe Borough Council, Andrew.pooley@broxtowe.gov.uk, 0115 9177777

or

Rina Jones, LAEP Manager, Rina.jones@derbyshire.gov.uk, 01629-536130

# 3. Broxtowe Borough Council Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 Update Report 2013 – 2015

This report presents information about strategies and initiatives employed by Broxtowe Borough Council to reduce domestic carbon dioxide emissions and fuel poverty in the borough. Domestic properties include owner occupied, privately rented and social housing. This is the update report March 2015 covering work completed in 2013/14 and 2014/15, ambitions for 2015 to 2017 and partnership work we are engaged in.

At present we are reviewing a number of strategic documents in 2015 including the Housing and Climate Change Strategy which will both help direct work over the next few years to improve the energy efficiency of domestic homes in Broxtowe. Additional actions will be added to the next HECA update report in 2017. The new Cutting the Cost of Keeping Warm - Fuel Poverty Strategy for England, which was released in March 2015, will also be used to help inform actions to be taken in Broxtowe to help tackle this important issue.

Ruth Hyde OBE,

Runthau

**Chief Executive, Broxtowe Borough Council** 

This report will be posted on the council website and copies made available upon request. Any enquires about the content of the report should be:

emailed to: andrew.pooley@broxtowe.gov.uk or phone: 0115 9173742

sent to:

Andrew Pooley
Energy and Sustainability Manager, Estates Section
Directorate of Housing, Leisure and Property Services
Broxtowe Borough Council
Council Offices
Foster Avenue
Beeston
Nottingham NG9 1A

### 3.1 Introduction to Broxtowe

### a) Housing Stock in Broxtowe

(Source: Profile of Broxtowe July 2014 http://www.broxtowe.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=24763&p=0)

Broxtowe's household numbers are projected to increase by 8.8% between 2011 and 2021, from 46,907 households to 51,050. This is a projected increase of 4,143 households. This projected increase is marginally above that for the whole of Nottinghamshire, including the city of Nottingham. However, it is below the projected increase for the whole of England which is estimated at 10%. Broxtowe has more homes in owner occupation, than the national average.

### b) Accommodation Type – Households

(Source: Strategic Housing Market Assessment Update 2009)

Detached - 36% Semi-detached - 36%

Terrace -17% Flats - 11%

### c) Dwelling Stock by Tenure, 2011 (Source: Profile of Broxtowe July 2014)

Owner Occupied 73.2%
LA Dwelling Stock 8.95%
Housing Association/other registered social landlord 2.2%
Privately Rented 15.66%

### d) Broxtowe Borough Council Social Housing Stock

March 2015 total Broxtowe Borough Council Housing Stock (not including temporary accommodation) was 4541.

Flats – 2166 0 beds (bedsits) 11, 1 bed 1182, 2 bed 957, 3 bed 16

Bungalows – 677 1 bed 463, 2 bed 206, 3 bed 8

Houses – 1698 2 bed 351, 3 bed 1285, 4 bed 61, 6 bed 1

In the social rented sector Broxtowe has achieved the target of all social housing meeting the national Decent Homes Standard. The strategic aim of the Council is to continue to meet the Decent Homes Standard through maintenance of high quality stock condition information and annual planned major works programmes and invest in the Broxtowe Standard.

### e) Population (Source: Profile of Broxtowe July 2014)

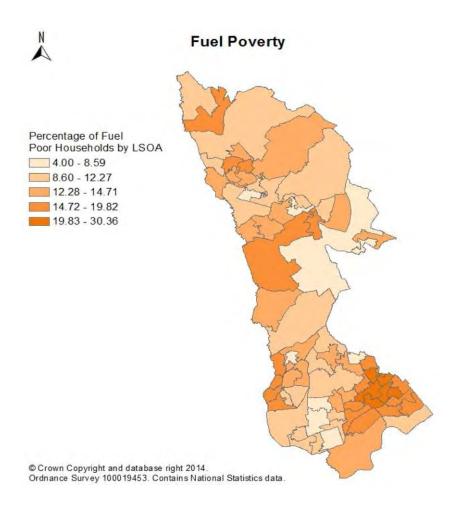
Broxtowe's population was 109,487 at the time of the Census in March 2011. There are 21 wards in Broxtowe. The ward with the highest number of people is Eastwood South, with a population of 9,139. Awsworth has the lowest number of residents with 2,204 Broxtowe has the highest population density in the county, excluding the city of Nottingham. There is an average of 1,350 people per square kilometre. Broxtowe has a high proportion of people aged over 65 with 19.15% of the population in this age group compared with a national average of 16.45%. The borough's population is projected to increase by 7.6% between 2011 and 2021

### f) Deprivation (Source: Profile of Broxtowe July 2014)

Broxtowe is a relatively affluent area with low unemployment, good quality housing and high levels of skills and educational attainment. This relative affluence masks a number of localised pockets of deprivation in the borough. Parts of the Eastwood South and Chilwell West wards are in the top 20% of the most deprived areas in the country. Indices of Deprivation is produced and periodically updated by the Department for Communities and Local Government. At the local authority level, Broxtowe experiences the second lowest level of deprivation of the districts in Nottinghamshire taken from the Indices of Deprivation produced in 2010. It is ranked as the 219 most deprived district in England (out of 326, where a ranking of 1 = most deprived, and a rank of 326 = least deprived).

### **g) Fuel Poverty** (Source: Profile of Broxtowe July 2014)

Under the new 2013 definition of fuel poverty, a household is said to be in fuel poverty if they have required fuel costs that are above average (the national median level). Were they to spend that amount they would be left with a residual income below the official poverty line. Broxtowe's average of 14% is equivalent to that for the county. The data is prepared by the Department of Energy and Climate Change. At the ward level in Broxtowe, nine wards have higher average levels of fuel poverty than the borough average. The highest average levels of fuel poverty are experienced in three of the Beeston wards – Beeston West (22.7%), Beeston Central (21.9%) and Beeston North (19.8%). Higher than average levels of fuel poverty are also found in the wards of Stapleford South West (16.1%), Beeston Rylands (16%), Chilwell East (15.9%), Attenborough (15.2%), Eastwood South (15%) and Brinsley (14.7%).



### 3.2 Partnership working

Broxtowe Borough Council recognises the importance of working in partnership to deal with improving the energy efficiency of homes in Broxtowe and how people manage their energy usage. The list below represents some of the key partnerships the Borough is involved in:

- a) Nationally Broxtowe Borough Council have received support and worked with the Department of Energy and Climate Change and Local Government Information Unit.
- b) Regionally Broxtowe is a member of the East Midlands Carbon Action Network and support Climate East Midlands.
- c) The Council is a member of the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Local Authority Energy Partnership. Work completed with this partnership has included significant funding bids detailed in the Section 2.
- d) The Council is a member of the Nottinghamshire Climate Change Partnership which is made up of all Nottinghamshire local authorities.
- e) The Council runs the Broxtowe Borough Partnership (see: <u>Broxtowe Borough Partnership website</u> for further information) which aims to make Broxtowe a better place to live in working with local organisations. The partnership is made up of different task groups and one of these is the Environment Task Group with priorities covering reducing CO<sub>2</sub> and fuel poverty in domestic properties. Partners include organisations such as Greening Beeston group, Nottingham Energy Partnership, Nottinghamshire County Council, First Contact and Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust. The Environment Task Group meets 3 or 4 times a year and has a yearly action plan.
- f) The Council has worked closely with the Nottingham Energy Partnership on a number of projects following on from the completion of the CERT funded Broxtowe Warm Zone area based cavity and loft insulation installation scheme.
- g) Nottinghamshire Social Housing Forum is a meeting of councils and housing associations to share good practice.
- h) Nottingham Strategic Housing Group is a central meeting for discussing projects county wide, joint funding and looking at issues such as the new Care Act.
- i) The Council support the Homelessness Forum with Gelding and Rushcliffe Councils.
- j) Broxtowe Borough Council manages an Older Persons Sub-Group for Broxtowe which includes many of the organisations working with Older People. This group understand the issue of fuel poverty and the need to look at improving the energy efficiency of housing in Broxtowe.
- k) The Council meet with other landlords who have properties within the borough and allocate their properties through the HomeSearch system. This is through the Registered Providers Group.

### 3.3 Work Completed 2013 – 2015

This section is an update on work carried in Broxtowe over the last two years under key headings identified in the 2013 HECA report. This compliments work carried out in partnership with the LAEP outlined in section 2.

### a) Fuel Poverty/Energy Use

- A Winter Warmth project has been run in 2013/14 and 2014/15 and has included a small boiler repair scheme, lending out electric oil filled radiators, information leaflets and thermometers given out and training opportunities.
- Through work with First Contact in Broxtowe the Greater Nottingham Healthy Housing Service has been promoted. This service is funded by NHS Nottinghamshire County Council/Nottingham City and run by the Nottingham Energy Partnership. The services aim is to support vulnerable people and to take the most deprived private sector households in Greater Nottingham out of fuel poverty, which in turn achieves improved energy efficiency in the home, improved health, housing standards being raised and the quality of life of the households.
- Broxtowe Borough Council have promoted the LAEP Community Climate Action in Broxtowe and Everybody's talking about Climate Change website and services that are offered through it to the community.
- Two energy saving presentations have been given at Community Action Team meetings in Broxtowe. These are residents meetings chaired by local Councillors.
- Greening Beeston are a very active community run group whose aim is to make Beeston more sustainable and green. They are supported by the Council and go to numerous events and run activities promoting energy saving to the community on a vearly basis.
- Broxtowe Borough Council has been promoting the Nottinghamshire Climate Change Partnership energy switching tool. This has included promoting it at events, giving 1600 leaflets to tenants and putting leaflets in public places.
- Broxtowe Borough Council Energy Team have attended/supported numerous events in 2013 and 2014 for example:
- Awsworth Party on Rec
- Luncheon clubs
- Climate Week event Giltbrook retail park Estate Clean up events
- Sheltered housing scheme/open days
- Kimberley Church
- **Beeston Carnival**
- Greening Brinsley/Green Deal
- **Eastwood Sure Start**

- -Stapleford Carnival
- Green Buddy staff events
- Town Centre events
- ECO Homes Event 2013 and 2014
- Beeston Community Cohesion event
- Landlords Forum
- A number of funding bids have been put in to run a Volunteer Home Energy Check project in Broxtowe in Eastwood but they were unsuccessful.
- In partnership with the Greater Nottingham Healthy Housing Service run by the Nottingham Energy Partnership, Marches Energy Agency and funding from the Big Energy Saving Network two events were held in Broxtowe, March 2015. The events promoted switching, energy saving and training others. The training event was

attended by volunteers and staff from the Citizen Advice Bureau Eastwood and Beeston, Volunteer Action Beeston and Broxtowe Borough Council staff.

### b) Energy Efficient Measures

A number of actual energy efficient installations were carried out in Broxtowe over the last two years and advice given.

 Broxtowe Borough Council completed the Broxtowe Warm Zone area wide loft and cavity insulation scheme in May 2013 in partnership with the Nottingham Energy Partnership.

### Headline Results included:

- 16,896 Home Energy Assessments
- 4,682 CERT insulation installs (loft and or cavity wall insulation)
- 1,214 retro-fit water saving installs
- 205 DIY energy saving measures installed
- Average annual fuel bill saving of £203
- Promotion of energy efficient measures at events and through advice over the phone, one to one and via email correspondence.
- Broxtowe Borough Council has continued to carryout energy efficient improvement programmes on its social housing stock which are listed below. The council, are also working through a programme of removing Finlock Guttering on properties when the opportunity arises to remove the cold bridge which causes condensation and cold issues.
  - 0 2013/14

Gas central heating systems (SEDBUK 'A') 654
Loft and Cavities 29
(loft and cavity just picking up the odd few missed houses)

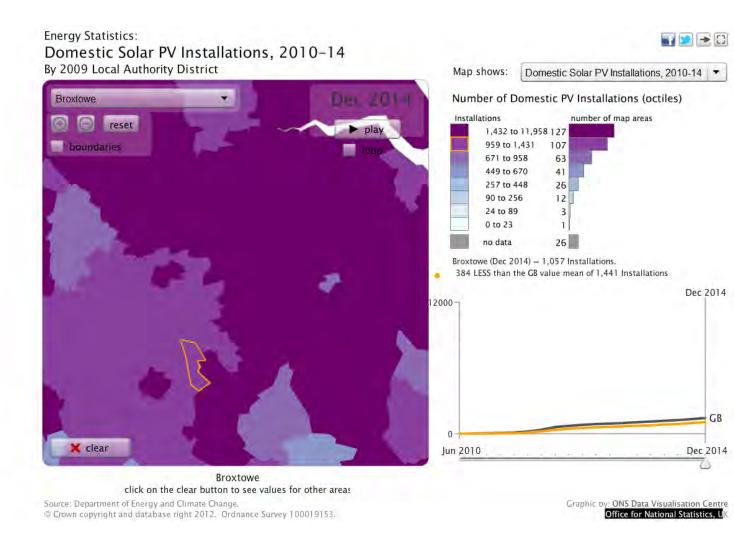
0 2014/15

Gas central heating systems (SEDBUK 'A') 600
Lofts and Cavities 92
(loft and cavity just picking up the odd few missed houses)
External solid wall insulation 63 properties

- The council has completed a programme of work to install double glazing windows to all of its housing stock.
- The Private Housing team at Broxtowe Borough Council have had a small grant to install UPVC double glazed doors to private owner occupier's homes which comes to an end in 2015. 18 doors have been replaced so far. The aim of this is to improve the security, warmth and look of homes for older people who are vulnerable.

### c) Renewables

- Solar PV installations in Broxtowe Below data available from DECC on the number of solar panel installations in Broxtowe compared to the national mean.



- Broxtowe Borough Council has fitted 161 solar PV panels to the main Council offices building in Beeston, in Dec 2014 and will promote this in 2015 to encourage business and domestic take up of solar panels.
- In Broxtowe Severn Trent have installed a wind turbine which is over 100m tall just off the main highway A610 through Broxtowe and into the City of Nottingham. This is visible from a very wide area in North Broxtowe and helps raise the awareness of renewable energy to the wider public.
- General promotion of solar PV and the renewable heat incentive at events, through the website, advice over the phone and via email.
- Installation of solar PV and ground source heat pumps on a number of new build social housing and flats in 2013 and 2014.

### d) Green Deal

- Green Deal event held in Brinsley in partnership with the Brinsley Greening Group in November 2013.
- A presentation was given at the Landlords Forum March 2014 on the benefits of Green Deal/ECO.
- Green Deal event with the Greening Campaign held at Beeston Town Hall with approx. 60 people attending, April 2013.
- Promoted the Green Deal Home Improvement Fund with the Nottingham Energy Partnership December 2014 and March 2015 in the Beeston Area of Broxtowe.
- Green Deal advice to residents at numerous events in 2013/14 and 2014/15 such as the Stapleford Carnival, Awsworth Party on the Rec.
- Green Deal advice to members of the public via phone/reception/email.
- Promotion of Green Deal on the Broxtowe Borough Councils website.
- Two Council Officers received Green Deal Training April 2013 through the LAEP.
- Promoted Green Deal to employees at Green Buddy event March 2014.
- Promotion of Green Deal to the Broxtowe Borough Partnership Environment Task group and Climate Change Working group.
- Green Deal presented to the Beeston Central Community Action team.
- March 2015 promoting free cavity and reduced loft installation with the Nottingham Energy Partnership to residents of Broxtowe.
- Investigated a number of possible Green Deal projects with external organisations but unable to get off the ground due to the wrong postcode areas, schemes in Broxtowe not being big enough for solid wall, change in Green Deal targets/reduced carbon, resource issues.
- Involved with LAEP in Green Deal projects see section 2.5, 2.6 and 2.7.

### e) Health Related Projects

In the winters of 2014 and 2015 Broxtowe with the Nottingham Energy Partnership ran a winter warmth campaign in Broxtowe. This followed on from the 2013 Winter Warmth campaign and the previous Warm Homes Healthy Peoples Fund 2011/12 campaign, which was in partnership with NHS Nottinghamshire. The work carried out has included repair of boilers, lending out electric oil filled radiators, energy advice, home energy checks, giving out thermometers and leaflets. The projects aim is to focus on avoidable winter deaths and fuel poverty achieving affordable warmth for families in Nottinghamshire.

### f) New Affordable and more energy efficient homes

The condition of homes has a fundamental impact on the health and well-being, educational attainment, employment opportunities and safety of those who live within them. Broxtowe are working through an affordable housing plan ensuring these properties are built to high standards. This work is nearing completion and includes:

- approximately 144 new units of affordable accommodation at seven sites
- approximately 20 will be owned and managed by the council
- 88 will be owned and managed by Nottingham Community Housing Association

- 10 of which will be specifically built to accommodate residents with learning difficulties
- Six sites will be built out in two phases and completion expected 2015.

Further information can be found through this link: <a href="http://www.broxtowe.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=28566&p=0">http://www.broxtowe.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=28566&p=0</a>

### 3.4 Ambitions 2015 – 17

These are the current ambitions Broxtowe want to achieve during the next HECA reporting period and it includes the LAEP ambitions in section 2.9. of this report. These ambitions are not an exhaustive list and can be added to especially with the Broxtowe Housing and Climate Change strategies being reviewed in 2015 and need to take into account the 2015 Fuel Poverty Strategy.

- To sign up to the Climate Local Declaration in 2015 as not completed yet.
- To continue to produce a yearly Broxtowe Borough Partnership Environment Task group
  action plan including actions tackling fuel poverty and improving the energy efficiency of
  homes in Broxtowe. As part of this to target more vigorously the areas identified as having
  the most fuel poverty households. Ideas include presenting to all Community Action teams
  promoting energy saving and working with Sure Starts in Broxtowe promoting energy
  efficiency in the home.
- Continue to collect relevant housing data to be able to measure improvements made in both social and private housing stock.
- To work closely in partnership with the Older Peoples Group on projects which address
  improving the energy efficiency of homes of vulnerable people and all the other associated
  benefits such as improving health.
- To continue to work with partners and look for opportunities to have all cavities and lofts insulated in the borough, where practicable, by 2020.
- Broxtowe Borough Council recognises that the take up of renewables in Broxtowe is below
  the local and national average. The Councils ambition is to increase the take up of
  renewables in the borough. The Council is planning to hold one or two events to promote
  the take up of domestic and business solar PV panels in 2015/16 and to do further
  promotion through different media including the Broxtowe Matters newsletter, which goes
  to every household in the borough. The Council will look the possibility of a larger solar PV
  scheme for domestic housing.
- The Council will continue to promote the Green Deal/ECO/Green Deal Home Improvement Fund at events, advice, and in partnership with other organisations.
- To continue to promote to Private Landlords opportunities to improve their properties using the FIT/RHI/Green Deal. To attend the Broxtowe Landlords Forum.
- The Private Housing Team at Broxtowe Borough Council will continue to give advice to
  private householders, private tenants and landlords on schemes available to them to help
  make their homes more energy efficient. Their work includes carrying out enforcement of
  category 1 hazard being excess cold.
- Continue to promote energy switching with Nottinghamshire Climate Change Partnership and look for more opportunities.
- The Council will complete a programme of all the doors in its owned housing stock to be UPVC double glazed and continue to maintain the Decent Homes standard in all of these properties. The benefits are reducing drafts in the home and improving security.
- The Council will continue to carry out a solid wall insulation programme.
- The Council is looking at the feasibility of a solar PV scheme for its social housing stock.