

**Home Energy Conservation Act (1996)**  
**Bracknell Forest Council**  
**Report ending March 2017**

Topics	Details	Timing
<b>Local energy efficiency ambitions and priorities</b>		
Fuel Poverty	Based on 2016 data from Department of Energy & Climate Change, households in fuel poverty on the Low Income High Cost Indicator were 5.1% for Bracknell Forest compared to 8.1.% for South East England and 10.6% for England. We are targeting our work to those in most need with the aim of maintaining or reducing this where possible working with Welfare & Housing Service and Forest Care.	Current
External Wall Insulation	We have approximately 2,000 solid walled houses in the Borough comprising Wimpey no-fines, bridge flats, and solid brick houses. We also have about 1,000 mobile homes, mainly heated by LPG. These hard-to treat homes are our top priority. The solid walled properties have been offered Green Deal Schemes for external wall insulation with 700 homes now insulated and 65 park homes now completed.	Ongoing
Energy Rating	We have an objective in our Equality Scheme “All of Us” to reduce the number of homes with an Energy rating under 50 from a January 2012 baseline of 3,320 by 2.5% p.a. By February 2017 we had reduced this figure to 1,4478 a decrease of 43%.	Ongoing
Data	We are continually improving our home energy data by increasing the number of entries in our Elmhurst home energy database across all tenures by 5% p.a., currently 41,246 of 49280 (84%) this percentage has been influenced by the number of new builds since 2014. The average energy rating remains at 65.41.	Ongoing
Energy Switching	New priorities to focus aspects of work on are those at risk of fuel poverty, with a project to focus on energy switching. We aim to be working with food banks, Age Concern and Citizen Advice Bureau among other agencies to identify households, working with Welfare & Housing and Forest Care. Also to seek and apply for funding to help stimulate residents into undertaking energy improvement	Starting 2017

Planning	<p>measures.</p> <p>Consult on planning applications for compliance with agreed policies on renewable energy to ensure new homes meet these requirements which also has a benefit of reducing the energy bills of potential new occupiers.</p>	From 2016
<b>Measures we are taking to significantly improve the energy efficiency of our residential accommodation</b>		
Green Deal & ECO	<p>We have identified and targeted our low energy rated properties with solid walls for works under Green Deal Communities Project for energy improvements with 287 properties in the private sector installing 487 energy improvements</p> <p>Bracknell Forest Homes, our largest social landlord has insulated all of its Wimpey no fines properties totalling 248 utilising ECO funding.</p>	Ended March 2016
Flexible Home Improvement Loans	<p>Our Flexible Home Improvement Loans are often used towards energy improvements; they are available to home owners over 60 at low interest rates for home improvements including energy improvements.</p>	Ongoing
Feed in tariffs	<p>The reduction to feed in tariffs have reduced residents interest, however we have over 1368 installations (2.77% of households) registered by OFGEM to date (March 2017), this represents a 50% increase in last years. We have one domestic wind turbine and one Combined Heat &amp; Power unit and several solar photovoltaics installations in Local Authority buildings including schools and community centres.</p>	Ongoing
Energy Performance Certificates	<p>In 2013, we purchased 20,000 records to update and increase our knowledge of energy consumption in the borough. We are concerned regarding the quality of this data and have raised these to Department of Business, Energy &amp; Industrial Strategy.</p> <p>We are now waiting for Landmark to clarify when the next batch data can be obtained at no cost, this was to be available in Autumn 2016 but still outstanding, this will to enable us to build on our database further.</p>	Ongoing

ECO2	Seeking to bid for Local Authority Flexible Eligibility ECO funding and work with installers and utilities for the benefit of our vulnerable residents, whether they are home owners or private sector landlords.	from April 2017
Energy Switching	Promotion of Energy Switching with emphasis on the most vulnerable, working with individuals and workshops to demonstrate the ease of and benefits of switching.	April 2017
Warm Homes Discount	Raising Awareness of Warm Homes Discount Scheme to owners of Park Homes and those on pre payment meters.	Dec 2016
<b>Working with National &amp; Local partners</b>		
	Working in collaboration with Climate Berkshire regarding their European bid in relation to domestic dwellings and or installation of renewable energy	Dec 2017
	To work with local contractors, installers and utility companies to deliver flexibility eligibility funding subject to available funds if bids are successful.	2017
	Collaborative working with Association of Local Energy Officers regionally and nationally and National Energy Action.	Ongoing

Signed off by



Timothy Wheaden

Chief Executive, Bracknell Forest Council