

Bracknell Forest Council Home Energy Efficiency Report		
Q no.	Question	Answer
Q1	Does your LA have a current strategy on carbon reduction and/or energy efficiency for domestic properties?	YES
Q2	If yes, provide a link:	Climate change strategy action plan Bracknell Forest Council (bracknell-forest.gov.uk)
Q3	If no, are you planning to develop one, and in what timeframe?	N/A
Q4	In the last 2 years, what has been the cost (or estimated cost) of your energy efficiency and/or carbon reduction initiatives, schemes and services? Please consider the total cost of running and administering the scheme(s). Please input 0 if no schemes or initiatives has been implemented	For the 2021/22 and 22/23 financial years the council had one full-time dedicated Domestic Energy Officer. They worked solely on domestic and/or carbon initiatives. The 22/23 cost of that post was £38.2kp.a.
Q5	Which, if any, of the following outcomes have been achieved through your energy efficiency and/or carbon initiatives, schemes and services? Please select all that apply.	
	Energy Savings	YES
	Carbon Savings	YES
	Job creation	
	Increased business competitiveness	
	Alleviation of fuel poverty	YES
	Improved health outcomes	YES
	Other - please specify	
Q6	Do you provide or promote any advisory services to consumers on how to save energy?	YES
Q7	If Yes, select all that apply:	
	LA website	YES
	LA service	NO
	Find Ways to Save Energy in your Home gov.uk website	NO
	Find Ways to Save Energy in your Home gov.uk phoneline	NO
	Leaflets	YES
	Soc Media	YES
	Local Energy Hubs	YES
	Other - please specify	
Q8	Have you conducted any assessment or analysis to understand the existing capacity in your local supply chain to support	NO

	the decarbonisation of buildings by 2050?	
Q9	N/A	
Q10	Which, if any, of the following actions are you taking to upskill and/or grow your local retrofit installer supply chain? Please select all that apply	YES
	Supporting training provision at local training providers	YES
	Supporting FE colleges to improve facilities or train trainers or otherwise enable better delivery of retrofit training.	NO
	Providing installer networking opportunities or other business support for growing companies.	YES
	Careers advice or similar involving local businesses doing schools outreach to encourage young people into the sector	YES
	None of the above	
	Other - please specify	
Q11	Do you provide advice for your residents and small businesses about how to pick an installer business or how to avoid being mis-sold inappropriate improvements?	YES
Q12	Has there been any Trading Standards activity against energy efficiency or home retrofit businesses in your area due to mis-selling or otherwise poorly advising consumers about retrofit measures?	YES
	Yes – there has been action taken on a regular basis	
	Yes - but rarely	Action has been taken against a company installing solar panels. In other surrounding authorities action has been taken regarding spray foam insulation and removals.
	No – resourcing constraints have curtailed potential activity	
	No – we are not aware of any issues	
Q13	If you received funding under Local Authority Delivery, Home Upgrade Grant or Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund, did availability of PAS 2030:2019 or MCS certified and TrustMark	YES

	registered supply chain affect your ability to deliver?	
Q14	If you answered yes to question 13 please can you tell us, which parts of the supply chain were particularly affected (please select all that apply)?	
	Installer of insulation	
	Installers of windows/doors	
	Installers of heat pumps	
	Retrofit Assessors	
	Retrofit Coordinators	
	All of above	
	Other - please specify	This funding was administered by managing agents appointed by Greater South East Net Zero Hub. We therefore do not know the specific answers to the above.
Q15	If you answered yes to question 13 please can you tell us, what actions did you take to overcome those barriers (please select all that apply)?	
	Marketing to drive supply chain interest	
	Use of frameworks or a local DPS to reach more businesses	
	Supporting training and upskilling more generally	
	Using a main contractor and requiring them to source suitably certified supply chain (either through contracting or training up their own staff)	
	Delivering in-house e.g. by upskilling existing social housing maintenance teams, directly employing retrofit coordinators etc	
	Other - please specify	This funding was administered by managing agents appointed by Greater South East Net Zero Hub. We therefore do not know the specific answers to the above.
Q16	Did you apply to the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) Wave 2.1?	
	Yes, and successful in securing funding	
	Yes, and not successful in securing funding	
	No	NO
	Don't Know	

Q17	Which, if any, of the following motivated you to apply for SHDF Wave 2.1? Please select all that apply	N/A
	Financial support for retrofit	
	Technical support for retrofit	
	Tenant needs	
	Expectations of future energy performance regulations	
	Other – please tell us your motivation(s) for applying	
Q18	Which, if any, of the following barriers prevented you from applying to SHDF Wave 2.1?	
	Application window too short	
	Too much information needed at application	
	Don't own enough stock	YES
	Not enough capacity	
	Too costly	
	Not enough info	
	Don't Know	
	Other - please tell us what prevented you from applying?	
Q19	Have you carried out/planned to carry out any retrofit work in absence of SHDF funding?	YES
Q20	If yes, how is this funded/how would this be funded?	
	Internal funding	YES
	Funding from other Government schemes	YES
	Other	
	Don't Know	
Q21	If no, what is/are the main reason(s) for not planning to carry out any retrofit work? Please select all that apply.	N/A
	Lack of funding	
	Lack of internal resource	
	Lack of capacity	
	Lack of technical support	
	Retrofit work is not a priority	
	Other	
	Don't Know	
Q22	How many of your social housing partners are you aware applied for the SHDF?	1
Q23	Do you enforce the PRS MEES Regulations in domestic tenancies?	NO

Q24	Do you use the PRS MEES Exemption Register?	NO
Q25	Are you aware of the PRS MEES draft toolkit for supporting local authorities?	
	Yes, and I've used it	
	Yes, but I haven't used it	YES
	No	
Q26	In the past 2 years, how many domestic private rented properties have you engaged with in respect to enforcement of the PRS MEES Regulations?	0
Q27	In the past 2 years, how many domestic private rented properties have you found to be non-compliant?	0
Q28	In the last 2 years, how many non-compliant properties have been improved to EPC Band E after you have engaged with them?	0
Q29	How many compliance notices have you issued in the past 2 years for non-compliance of the PRS MEES Regulations?	0
Q30	What programmes, if any, do you have to promote domestic energy efficiency improvements for those who are able to pay? Please provide links to any relevant online materials.	Solar Together https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/housing/energy-efficiency-home/grants-and-subsidies/solar-together-bracknell-forest
Q31	Do you take any steps to raise awareness of the availability of private financing options (such as green mortgages) to fund retrofit works?	
	Yes	
	No, but we have plans to do this in the future	
	No	NO
Q32	Do you refer homeowners interested in energy efficiency to retail lenders offering green finance products?	
	Yes	
	No, but we have plans to do this in the future	
	No	NO

Q33	Does your Local Authority have a Fuel Poverty Strategy?	No, Bracknell Forest Council does not have a fuel poverty strategy. Whilst there is not a separate fuel poverty strategy the council has a wider financial hardship action plan, which encompasses fuel poverty. As part of the action plan, we utilise a system called LIFT which uses multiple datasets to identify households experiencing financial hardship. One of these indicators is fuel poverty.
Q34	How do you identify fuel poor households? Please select all that apply and provide additional information if possible	
	Used local data sets on energy efficiency/housing	YES
	Used local data sets on household income	YES
	Campaigns to encourage potential households to reach out	YES
	Other	
Q35	What actions are you taking to reduce fuel poverty in your area? Please select all that apply and provide additional information if possible.	
	Delivery of government wide schemes such as the Home Upgrade Grant or Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund.	YES
	Actions to increase financial support to low income or vulnerable households	YES
	Other	
Q36	Does fuel poverty interlink with your local authority's overall Carbon Reduction Strategy?	NO
	If yes, can you please explain how it does this?	
	If no, is this something you might consider doing or are there barriers to doing this?	We may consider this in the future, but resource and capacity are a barrier.
Q37	If your local authority did not apply for funding from the Local Authority Delivery scheme, please indicate which barrier(s) prevented you from applying.	
	Lack of capacity	
	Lack of capability	
	Lack of awareness	
	Other - please specify	
Q38	Does your local authority have access to good quality housing data for on-gas properties?	YES

Q39	If no, please specify what is lacking.	
Q40	If your local authority did not apply for funding from the Home Upgrade Grant, please indicate which barrier(s) prevented you from applying.	N/A
	Lack of capacity	
	Lack of capability	
	Lack of awareness	
	Other - please specify	
Q41	Does your local authority have access to good quality housing data for off-gas properties?	YES
Q42	If no, please specify what is lacking.	N/A
Q43	Did your local authority have a published Statement of Intent (Sol) for ECO flexibility eligibility under ECO3, during 2022?	YES
Please answer the following questions to help us to understand LA Flex delivery in more detail during the course of 2022:		
Q44	How many declarations were issued for low-income vulnerable households during ECO3?	1054
Q45	How many declarations were issued for Fuel Poor households under ECO3?	69
Q46	How many declarations were issued for in-fill under ECO3?	None
Q47	What was the highest income cap published in your Sol?	£35K
Q48	If you have used an income over £30k gross, what reason did you give?	Located in the Sout East of England, where average household incomes are considerably higher.
Q49	Did you charge for declarations to be signed?	NO
Q50	If so, please state how much and how you decided on this figure.	N/A
Q51	ECO4 commenced in July 2022, has your local authority published a Statement of Intent (Sol) for ECO flexibility eligibility under ECO4?	YES
Q52	If 'No' are there any specific barriers preventing you, from publishing and participating in the scheme?	N/A
Q53	Do you directly engage with energy suppliers either for ECO Flex(or other domestic energy efficiency schemes)?	NO

Q54	If yes, please provide the name of the scheme and indicate whether this is an LA, Supplier, DESNZ or other organisational run scheme (please specify)	N/A
Q55	Which route(s) do you envisage submitting referrals through under ECO4 Flex? Select all that apply	
	All four routes available	YES
	Route 1	
	Route 2	
	Route 3	
	Route 4	
<i>The following questions refer to smart metering advice. Please provide any additional details where possible.</i>		
Q56	Do you provide smart metering advice when implementing energy efficiency improvements (including through grant schemes such as the Energy Company Obligation and the Home Upgrade Grant) in residential accommodation?	NO
Q57	If no, please explain why not, and what plans will be put in place to implement this.	Scheme installers advise residents on this matter.
Q58	Do you encourage landlords to promote smart meter uptake, e.g., landlord licencing schemes.	NO
Q59	If no, please explain why not, and what plans will be put in place to implement this	No, and no plans to encourage smart meter uptake through the regulatory mechanisms currently in place.
Q60	Do you arrange for smart meters to be installed by energy suppliers in vacant social housing premises?	NO
Q61	If no, please explain why not, and what plans will be put in place to implement this	No, and no plans to encourage smart meter uptake through the regulatory mechanisms currently in place.