



# Rutland County Council

## **HECA Progress Report for Rutland**

**March 2015**

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## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Government, using guidance issued under the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 (HECA), asked councils to prepare and submit a 'HECA further report' by 31 March 2013 setting out the energy conservation measures that they consider practicable, cost-effective and likely to result in significant improvement in the energy efficiency of residential accommodation in their area. Councils are then expected to submit progress reports on the original 'further report' every two years until 31 March 2027, which also provide an opportunity to modify the original targets if necessary.
- 1.2 The Council's HECA Further Report 2013 is at [http://www.rutland.gov.uk/climate\\_change/council\\_action/heca\\_further\\_report\\_2013.aspx](http://www.rutland.gov.uk/climate_change/council_action/heca_further_report_2013.aspx) This provided a sound basis for the new HECA programme. Delivery since 2013 is reported in the Action Plan update in section 4 of this Progress Report. We have also updated some actions to reflect changes in funding streams and in Government priorities. We have taken into account the proposals in 'Cutting the cost of keeping warm – a consultation to prepare for a new fuel poverty strategy for England', published by the Government in July 2014. We have also taken into account their letter to Council Chief Executives dated 22 January 2015. We note that there are initiatives in the new Fuel Poverty Strategy for England to reduce fuel poverty in homes which do not currently have a gas supply. This can be a problem in the more rural areas of Rutland.

## 2.0 Fuel poverty

- 2.1 Through the Energy Act 2013, the Government has changed the definition of fuel poverty in England to the Low Income High Costs Indicator (LIHC). Using LIHC, a household is considered to be fuel poor 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.
- 2.2 The table immediately below shows the performance against both the new LIHC target used for England and the superseded target. (The latter is still used for UK-wide monitoring.) The figures are published by the DECC approximately 2 years after the period covered.

*Proportion of households that are fuel poor in Rutland*

	2010 (used for 2013 HECA Further Report)	2011	2012
Superseded definition for England	15.5%	18.4%	17.3%
New LIHC definition	Not available	13.6%	11.9%

- 2.3 The key actions/measures to alleviating fuel poverty and improve household energy efficiency identified in the HECA Further Report 2013 are to:
1. Increase energy efficiency of homes through:
    - a. Installation of energy efficiency infrastructure improvements
    - b. Householders changing to more energy efficient behaviours
  2. Increase household incomes ensuring householders are aware of any benefits they are eligible for;
  3. Reduce household debt by providing advice to assist with financial literacy and ensuring householders understand their energy bills;
  4. Ensure residents are a low cost tariff which is appropriate for their energy needs.
- 2.4 The Council recognises the threat cold or damp homes can pose to vulnerable people, through depression, stroke, heart disease and pneumonia. These can contribute to excess winter deaths. Fuel poverty can also affect the health and educational attainment of children. Rutland's Health and Wellbeing Board includes combatting fuel poverty as part of their 'Wider Determinants of Health' priority. This is emphasised in the Director of Public Health's Annual Report produced as part of the Council's public health duties. It is also a priority for the Council's Child Poverty Strategy, Housing Strategy and Private Sector Housing Renewal Policy.
- 2.5 The Government's [public health outcomes indicators](#) are grouped into four domains. Three of these are relevant to fuel poverty and are shown below in **bold**, with the 14 indicators actually addressed by the bid listed underneath them.

- **Improving the wider determinants of health**
  - fuel poverty
  - children in poverty
  - school readiness
  - pupil absence
  - sickness absence rate
  - social isolation
  
- **Health improvement**
  - child development at 2 - 2½ years
  - self-reported wellbeing
  - falls and injuries in people aged 65 and over
  
- **Healthcare public health and preventing premature mortality**
  - mortality from all cardiovascular diseases (including heart disease and stroke)
  - mortality from respiratory diseases
  - health-related quality of life for older people
  - hip fractures in people aged 65 and over
  - excess winter deaths.

2.6 The Council works closely with a range of partners to combat fuel poverty, including the Rutland Citizens Advice Bureau regarding debt and welfare advice. A number of oil bulk buying clubs also cover Rutland. These measures can help Rutland residents heat their homes to adequate levels affordably and reduce their energy use, thereby reducing the cost of their energy bills and reducing carbon emissions, whilst also improving the local environment.

2.7 We will continue to work to increase awareness and education of those in fuel poverty, educating them on wise use of energy, energy efficiency strategies, assisting families to reduce their fuel bills.

### 3.0 Energy efficiency of properties in Rutland

- 3.1 When a property is sold or rented, it has to have an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) which are recorded on a national database. The EPC provides an energy efficiency rating for a property on a scale of 1 to 100, based on the reduced Standard Assessment Procedure (rdSAP). These are then placed into bands, with 'A' having the best performance and 'G' the poorest.
- 3.2 The table below shows the approximate EPC ratings for the housing stock in Rutland. Unlike Government statistics, these have been weighted by tenure to adjust for the fact that rented and new build properties are more likely to have had EPC assessments than existing owner-occupied properties (which may have been last sold before certificates were required).

Property Ownership	EPC Rating in 2012							Total
	rdSAP 92+	rdSAP 81-91	rdSAP 69-80	rdSAP 55-68	rdSAP 39-54	rdSAP 21-38	rdSAP 1-20	
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
Sale of existing dwellings	0	193	2,650	4,458	2,634	1,103	260	11,298
New dwellings	5	172	103	1	0	0	0	281
Rental (private / tied)	0	102	732	788	700	371	118	2,811
Rental (social)	0	196	829	432	204	59	20	1,740
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>663</b>	<b>4,314</b>	<b>5,679</b>	<b>3,538</b>	<b>1,533</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>16,130</b>

Source: HECA Background Paper for Rutland (December 2012) Table 6.5 (EPC data from Landmark), weighted by CLG Live Table 100 for 2012 and Census tenure figures to provide estimated ratings for stock as a whole.

- 3.3 The table below shows a steady improvement in EPC ratings for properties assessed in Rutland since 2010.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
2010 assessments	0%	6%	24%	36%	21%	10%	3%
2012 assessments	0%	12%	24%	38%	18%	6%	1%
1/7/13 to 30/6/14 assessments	0%	14%	21%	42%	17%	5%	1%

Calculated from DECC Live Table D1.

## 4.0 Revised HECA Action Plan

4.1 Our 2013 HECA further report provided us with a sound baseline position and showed the Council's ambition for tackling fuel poverty, which remains the case. We have now revised our Action Plan to reflect the Government's latest approach to fuel poverty and to ensure that our targets are clear and focused. This Action Plan is shown below and will be the focus of our future progress reports.<sup>1</sup>

### 4.2 Local energy efficiency ambitions and priorities

4.3 The Council signed the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change in 2007, committing the Council to working with partners to address climate change and combat fuel poverty. The DECC figures for CO<sub>2</sub> consumption from domestic sources per person has fallen from 2.8 tonnes in 2005 to 2.6 tonnes in 2010 and 2.5 tonnes in 2012. The table in section 2 shows the reduction in fuel poverty since 2011.

2015 ACTION	DELIVERY	TIMING	CURRENT STATUS
1.3 Seek to reduce domestic carbon emissions in Rutland by 34% from 1990 levels [by 2020] OR We will seek to reduce carbon emissions in the housing sector by 24% on 2009 levels by 2027	RCC Public Protection	2020 or 2027	HECA data shows that home energy efficiency in Rutland improved by 17.0% in 1996 to 2004. The DECC's standard dataset for domestic CO <sub>2</sub> emissions in Rutland began in 2005 and performance is listed just above this table.
1.5 Ensure that as many fuel poor homes as reasonably practicable achieve a minimum energy efficiency rating of...  Band E by 2020 Band D by 2025 Band C by 2030	RCC Public Protection and all partners, including energy companies and national Government.	2020, 2025 and 2030 respectively.	EPC performance is shown in section 3 of this Progress Report.

<sup>1</sup> (The Action numbers correspond to those in Appendix 1. Appendix 1 shows in detail the progress against the actions from the 2013 further report for reference purposes, in line with the Government's HECA guidance.)

#### 4.4 Data and assessment

2015 ACTION	DELIVERY	TIMING	CURRENT STATUS
2.1 Improve the energy efficiency of residential housing by provision of Household Energy Audits	RCC Public Protection and Energy Action for Rutland (partner beyond June 2015 to be confirmed).	Ongoing	Around 300 energy audits carried out since September 2012 up to October 2014. A further 150 audits will be carried out by July 2015. A health referral process is included.
2.2 Improve the energy efficiency of residential housing by provision of Electricity Monitoring Kits to encourage energy efficient behaviour	RCC Public Protection and Rutland Library Services.	Ongoing	Loan kits are available through libraries and have been promoted locally. It is envisaged that this target will be retained until the 2019 HECA Progress Report, as the roll-out of smart meters should be complete by 2020.
4.4 Monitor the uptake of renewable technologies and the Feed-in Tariff scheme in the county of Rutland through data available from the Ofgem database for the Feed-in Tariff and from the Council's Building Control and/or Planning Permission records	RCC Planning Policy	Ongoing	At June 2014, there were 529 domestic photovoltaic installations and 2 domestic wind turbines in Rutland with FIT (source DECC). Building Control Records show 2 Building Regulation applications for solar panels completed in 2013/14, compared with 4 in 2012/13 and 17 in 2011/12.
5.3 Monitor the uptake of renewable heat technologies in the county of Rutland through data available from the Renewable Heat Incentives scheme register (when available) and from the Council Building Control and/or Planning Permission records.	RCC Planning Policy	Ongoing	As of July 2014, 15 householder RHPP vouchers had been redeemed and 8 non-domestic RHI installations had been accredited. Building Control information is given at 4.4 above.

2015 ACTION	DELIVERY	TIMING	CURRENT STATUS
7.1 Establish and maintain data on the energy efficiency rating of residential accommodation within the county of Rutland, including data from the Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) Registry	RCC Places Directorate and appointed partner	Ongoing	Data collected and being updated.

#### 4.5 Public information and promotion

2015 ACTION	DELIVERY	TIMING	CURRENT STATUS
Provide information to residents and (where applicable) businesses on: (3.3) the Green Deal; (3.4) ECO; (5.1) available renewable heat technologies, the domestic Renewable Heat Incentive and microgeneration through the Green Deal; (7.2) DirectGov's EPC advisor tool	RCC Public Protection and appointed partner	Ongoing	Information shared as appropriate through links on the Council's website, information networks and customer advice. Range of information will be expanded, primarily through links on the Council's website and customer advice.
4.3, 5.2 Provide additional guidance and advice on the range of renewable technologies available, including technologies and methods of installation which will be more suitable for consideration on Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas	RCC Places Directorate	Ongoing	Council's website provides a link to the Planning Portal's Interactive House, which provides guidance. Further information in Policies SP18 and SP20 of the Site Allocations Development Plan Document and Conservation Area Appraisals. Relevant Building Regulations information is on the Council's website. Future emphasis is on linking to third party good practice information.

#### 4.6 Information and promotion for developers and landlords

2015 ACTION	DELIVERY	TIMING	CURRENT STATUS
6.1 Provide developers with information and links to guidance on low carbon and sustainable design and construction	RCC Places Directorate	Ongoing	Information will be provided primarily through links to good practice.
7.3, 8.3 Raise awareness of the requirement for rented properties to meet minimum energy efficiency standards [normally EPC E rating], as required under the Energy Act 2011 and subsequent policy, ahead of the adoption date to encourage private sector landlords to complete required works before April 2018.	RCC Public Protection and appointed partner	April 2016	Initial publicity will be in place by March 2015.
8.1 We will work with our local landlords to increase energy efficiency activity in all areas through education and via landlord communications.	RCC Public Protection and appointed partner	Ongoing	Seeking to embed this approach.

#### 4.7 Measures taken by the Council to improve energy efficiency

4.8 A wide range of initiatives are used in Rutland to encourage and facilitate energy efficient behaviour, the promotion of initiatives including the Green Deal and those arising from the Energy Companies Obligation (ECO). These have been progressed in a broad partnership context, which has included Rutland County Council, Change Agents UK, Voluntary Action Rutland, First Contact Rutland, Rutland Citizens Advice Bureau, Age UK Leics Shire & Rutland, the Rural Community Council, Spire Homes and Rutland Together (the Local Strategic Partnership). These worked together through Energy Action for Rutland (EAFR) and the Rutland Fuel Poverty Hub. The Council's new Community Agents service will identify people living in fuel poverty, highlighting any issues for them and providing sign-posting and referrals. The Council also works closely with energy companies and funding bodies.

2015 ACTION	DELIVERY	TIMING	CURRENT STATUS
8.2 Where necessary we will continue to use our enforcement powers under the Housing Act 2004 where serious hazards are identified following a Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) assessment, to require landlords to rectify the excess cold hazard in their property.	RCC Public Protection and appointed partner.	Ongoing	Used as/if needed.
9.2 Identify persons on benefits who may qualify for and encourage take up of the ECO	RCC and appointed partner	Ongoing	Latest mailshot carried out by Energy Action for Rutland focused on solid walled properties of modest size, in addition to broader agency (including health) and self-referrals and will include people on benefits. Previous mailshots focused on people on benefits.
9.3 Identify target areas and prioritise roll out	RCC and appointed partner	Ongoing	Priorities currently more focused on many clusters of similar properties (e.g. private sector solid wall) rather than areas. See also 9.2 above. Without detracting from the broader countywide work, some publicity will be targeted at homes in the West End regeneration area in Oakham.
9.4 Determine any synergies with other refurbishment work and other Local Authority objectives (e.g. area regeneration, ECO Carbon Saving Communities obligation)	RCC Places Directorate, appointed partner and RPs	Ongoing	Derwent Drive flats added to gas network. Some solid wall properties to be replaced with new build to higher energy standards (subject to planning). Some solid wall properties being replaced.
9.5 Investigate with Registered Providers of social housing (RPs) any possible roll out in their housing stock	RCC Places Directorate, appointed partner and RPs	Ongoing	Joint information sharing and signposting takes place. Expectation is that RPs should be proactive.

2015 ACTION	DELIVERY	TIMING	CURRENT STATUS
9.6 Work with local housing providers to delivery of area-based energy efficiency improvements	RCC Places Directorate, appointed partner and RPs	Ongoing	Area based work has taken place in Derwent Drive, with the installation of gas & gas heating. Expectation is that RPs should be proactive.
9.7 Work with RPs to encourage the take up of the Green Deal and any synergies with other refurbishment work and other Local Authority objectives	RCC Places Directorate, appointed partner and RPs	Ongoing	Potential for Green Deal to benefit the properties and customers involved is limited. Expectation is that RPs should be proactive.
10.1 Promote switching suppliers, which may be individual or collective as appropriate / available.	RCC Public Protection and appointed partner	Ongoing	Individual switching promoted where appropriate, but limited scope for savings especially where on a card meter etc.

## APPENDIX 1 Progress on the 2013 HECA Action Plan

ACTIONS FROM HECA FURTHER REPORT 2013	Resources	Delivery	Timing	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION FOR PROGRESS REPORT
i) LOCAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY AMBITIONS AND PRIORITIES					
Local Energy Efficiency Ambitions and Priorities	<p>We have committed to the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change (being relaunched as Climate Local), see <a href="http://www.rutland.gov.uk/climate_change/council_action/climate_change_action_plan.aspx">www.rutland.gov.uk/climate_change/council_action/climate_change_action_plan.aspx</a></p> <p>Our current performance on emissions and fuel poverty is a 8.3% reduction in per capita [person] CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from 2005 to 2010 to 2.2 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> from domestic sources [DECC Local Authority Emissions Statistics 2010 (DECC, 2012c)] and 15.5% fuel poor households [DECC Fuel Poverty Statistics] therefore:</p>		<p>Jan 2007</p> <p>Nov 2012</p>	<p>The Council is relying on its own policy targets set in the light of Government policy and on the Nottingham Declaration.</p> <p>The DECC per person CO<sub>2</sub> emission figures for Rutland have been revised since the HECA Further Report. They fell from 2.8 tonnes in 2005 to 2.6 tonnes in 2010, a reduction of 6.8% (based on the unrounded figures). This has since fallen to 2.5 tonnes in 2012, a reduction of 8.0% since 2005.</p> <p>The updated fuel poverty statistics are shown in the table in section 2 above.</p>	<p>The Council has signed the Nottingham Declaration and will rely on our own action plans and partnership working (taking into account Government targets and legislation), rather than the signing of further national pledges which are sometimes changed over time.</p>

ACTIONS FROM HECA FURTHER REPORT 2013		Resources	Delivery	Timing	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION FOR PROGRESS REPORT
i) LOCAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY AMBITIONS AND PRIORITIES						
1.1	Sign the Climate Local Commitment, incorporating actions on household energy efficiency	RCC Council		2012 onwards	See above.	See above. Target to be deleted.
1.2	Sign the Local Authority Fuel Poverty Commitment	RCC Council		2012 onwards	See above.	See above. Target to be deleted.
1.3	Seek to reduce domestic carbon emissions in Rutland by 34% from 1990 levels [by 2020] OR We will seek to reduce carbon emissions in the housing sector by 24% on 2009 levels by 2027	RCC Public Protection (RCC PPr)		2020 OR 2027	HECA data shows that home energy efficiency in Rutland improved by 17.0% in 1996 to 2004. The DECC's standard dataset for domestic CO <sub>2</sub> emissions in Rutland began in 2005 and are listed at the top of this table.	We will seek to deliver at least one of the targets indicated, assisted by the initiatives in this plan.
1.4	We will seek to eradicate fuel poverty in Rutland, as far as reasonably practicable, by 2016, and have established plans to work towards this by 2014 including continuation and development upon the Energy Action for Rutland project	RCC PPr; Energy Action for Rutland (EAFR)		2016	This national target has been removed by Government. Although the Council has been reworking with partners on a range of initiatives, it is clear that it was not realistically deliverable. We have replaced this with new target 1.5 below.	This national target has been removed by Government. Target to be deleted.

ACTIONS FROM HECA FURTHER REPORT 2013			Resources	Delivery	Timing	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION FOR PROGRESS REPORT
i) LOCAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY AMBITIONS AND PRIORITIES							
	1.5	<p><b>NEW TARGET FOR 2015</b> Ensure that as many fuel poor homes as reasonably practicable achieve a minimum energy efficiency standard of...</p> <p>Band E by 2020 Band D by 2025 Band C by 2030</p>	RCC PPr and all partners, including energy companies and national Government.		2020, 2025 and 2030 respectively.	EPC performance is shown in section 3 of this Progress Report.	New target for 2015 HECA Progress Report, based on Government's new approach.

ACTIONS FROM HECA FURTHER REPORT 2013			Resources	Delivery	Timing	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION FOR PROGRESS REPORT
i) MEASURES WE ARE TAKING TO RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS OF RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION							
Energy Efficiency Advice and Education	We will undertake preparatory work to remove barriers to the Green Deal:						
	2.1	Improve the energy efficiency of residential housing by provision of Household Energy Audits	RCC PPr; EAFR (partner beyond June 2015 to be confirmed). Public health grant.		Ongoing	Around 300 energy audits carried out since September 2012 up to October 2014. A further 150 audits will be carried out by July 2015.	The Council has funded an extension of the service until early July 2015 and is seeking to fund a service beyond then if appropriate.
	2.2	Improve the energy efficiency of residential housing by provision of Electricity Monitoring Kits to encourage energy efficient behaviour	RCC PPr; EAFR; Rutland Library Services		Ongoing	Loan kits are available through libraries and have been promoted locally.	It is envisaged this target will be retained until the 2019 HECA Progress Report, as the roll-out of smart meters should be complete by 2020.
	2.3	Improve the energy efficiency of residential housing by provision of Energy Efficiency Advice Guides to encourage energy efficient behaviour through the use of Smart Meter In-House Displays	Guide print costs & promotions	RCC PPr; EAFR		2014	The Council's website links to the Energy Saving Trust's website, which provides information on Smart Meters.

ACTIONS FROM HECA FURTHER REPORT 2013		Resources	Delivery	Timing	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION FOR PROGRESS REPORT	
i) MEASURES WE ARE TAKING TO RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS OF RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION							
Green Deal and Energy Companies Obligation (ECO)	We will undertake preparatory work to remove barriers to the Green Deal:						
	3.1	Determine role in the Green Deal	RCC Council/Cabinet/SMT		Apr 2013	Set out in presentation to Parish Council Forum on 28/1/13 – promotion and partnership working. Green Deal information on Council's website and advice given to customers as appropriate.	Target has been met and can be deleted.
	3.3	Provide information on Green Deal to residents and local businesses through website, displays, information via networks, press releases, advice alongside energy audits or other contact	RCC PPr; EAFR		Oct 2012 onwards	Information shared as appropriate, including through Council's website, information networks and customer advice.	Target to continue, with flexibility over contact methods.
	3.4	Provide information on Energy Companies Obligation (ECO) to residents through website, displays, information via networks, press releases, advice alongside energy audits or other contact	RCC PPr; EAFR		Oct 2012 onwards	The Council has promoted ECO and the visibility of this will be increased by March 2015.	Target to continue, with flexibility over contact methods.

ACTIONS FROM HECA FURTHER REPORT 2013		Resources	Delivery	Timing	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION FOR PROGRESS REPORT	
ii) MEASURES WE ARE TAKING TO RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS OF OUR RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION							
Feed in Tariffs scheme	4.1	Encourage the uptake of renewable technologies and the Feed-in Tariff scheme by promoting the benefits of PV installations and other renewable energy technologies and the availability of microgeneration installations through the Green Deal	RCC PPr; EAFR		By 2014	This has been promoted through partnership working and advice. The Council's website has a link to the Energy Saving Trust, with further information.	Target met and can be deleted. Targets 3.3 and 5.1 are similar.
	4.2	To monitor the Council's planning policy regarding the installation of renewable technologies	RCC Planning Policy		By 2014	SPD adopted Nov 2012. SAP DPD found sound by Inspector August 2014. In 2013/14, 4 planning applications were approved for either solar panels (including an 8MW solar farm) or wind turbines, compared with 7 in 2012/13.	Monitoring in place. Target met and can be deleted.
	4.3	Provide additional guidance and advice on the range of renewable technologies available, including technologies and methods of installation which will be more suitable for consideration on Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas	RCC Places Directorate		By 2014	Council's website provides a link to the Planning Portal's Interactive House, which provides guidance. Further information in Policies SP18 and SP20 of the Site Allocations Development Plan Document and Conservation Area Appraisals. Relevant	Target to continue, with future emphasis on linking to third party good practice information.

ACTIONS FROM HECA FURTHER REPORT 2013			Resources	Delivery	Timing	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION FOR PROGRESS REPORT
ii) MEASURES WE ARE TAKING TO RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS OF OUR RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION							
						Building Regulations information is on the Council's website.	
4.4	Monitor the uptake of renewable technologies and the Feed-in Tariff scheme in the county of Rutland through data available from the Ofgem database for the Feed-in Tariff and from the Council's Building Control and/or Planning Permission records	RCC Planning Policy		Oct 13 onwards		At June 2014, there were 529 domestic photovoltaic installations and 2 domestic wind turbines in Rutland with FIT (source DECC). Building Control Records show 2 Building Regulation applications for solar panels completed in 2013/14, compared with 4 in 2012/13 and 17 in 2011/12.	Target to continue.

ACTIONS FROM HECA FURTHER REPORT 2013		Resources	Delivery	Timing	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION FOR PROGRESS REPORT	
ii) MEASURES WE ARE TAKING TO RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS OF OUR RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION							
Renewable Heat Premium Payment	5.1	Provide information on available renewable heat technologies, the availability of the domestic Renewable Heat Incentive and the availability of microgeneration installations through the Green Deal (from summer 2013) to residents, businesses and developers via the Council's website, promotion via press releases and displays upon the launch of the Renewable Heat Incentive scheme, and information within planning application forms, by sign-posting to national websites in order to maintain up-to-date information.	RCC PPr		Jun 2013 onwards	This has been promoted through partnership working and advice. The Council's website has a link to the Energy Saving Trust, with further information.	Target to continue, with flexibility over contact methods.
	5.2	Provide additional guidance and advice on the range of renewable technologies available, including technologies and methods of installation which will be more suitable for consideration on Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas	RCC Places Directorate		By 2014	Council's website provides a link to the Planning Portal's Interactive House, which provides guidance. Further information in Policies SP18 and SP20 of the Site Allocations Development Plan Document and Conservation Area Appraisals. Relevant Building Regulations information is on the Council's website.	Target to continue, with future emphasis on linking to third party good practice information.

ACTIONS FROM HECA FURTHER REPORT 2013			Resources	Delivery	Timing	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION FOR PROGRESS REPORT
ii) MEASURES WE ARE TAKING TO RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS OF OUR RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION							
	5.3	Monitor the uptake of renewable heat technologies in the county of Rutland through data available from the Renewable Heat Incentives scheme register (when available) and from the Council Building Control and/or Planning Permission records.	RCC Planning Policy		Autumn 2012 onwards	As of July 2014, 15 householder RHPP vouchers had been redeemed and 8 non-domestic RHI installations had been accredited. Building Control information is given at 4.4 above.	Target to continue.

ACTIONS FROM HECA FURTHER REPORT 2013			Resources	Delivery	Timing	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION FOR PROGRESS REPORT
ii) MEASURES WE ARE TAKING TO RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS OF OUR RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION							
Zero Carbon Homes	To ensure all our new built homes are zero carbon by 2016 [where required by Building Regulations] we propose to:						
	6.1	Provide developers with information and links to guidance on low carbon and sustainable design and construction	RCC PPr; RCC Building Control; RCC Planning Policy		Apr 2016	This will be promoted through the Agents Forum and our website.	Target to continue, with delivery moved forward as 'Ongoing'.
	6.2	Determine whether the Council will develop a local Allowable Solutions Policy and project list, to be in place for the release of the 2016 Building Regulations	RCC		Mar 2015	The Government's response to the 'Next steps to zero carbon homes – Allowable Solutions' emphasises that this will operate under a national framework,	Target met and can be deleted, as determined that a local policy specifically for Allowable Solutions is not a needed. Where applicable, the abatement of carbon requirements on-site may sometimes be affected by planning requirements. The Council will consider this during the Local Plan

ACTIONS FROM HECA FURTHER REPORT 2013			Resources	Delivery	Timing	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION FOR PROGRESS REPORT
ii) MEASURES WE ARE TAKING TO RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS OF OUR RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION							
						although councils can participate in its delivery.	review and also whether informal or formal guidance is needed.
Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs)	7.1	Establish and maintain data on the energy efficiency rating of residential accommodation within the county of Rutland, including data from the Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) Registry	RCC PPr; EAFR		Ongoing	Data collected and being updated.	Target to continue.
	7.2	Provide information on the DirectGov's EPC Adviser Tool to residents and local businesses through website, displays, information via networks, press releases, advice alongside energy audits or other relevant contact	RCC PPr; EAFR		Oct 2012 onwards	Will be publicised on the website by March 2015.	Target to continue, with flexibility over contact methods.
	7.3	Raise awareness of the requirement for rented properties to meet minimum energy efficiency standards, as required under the Energy Act 2011 and subsequent policy, ahead of the adoption date to encourage private sector landlords to complete required works before April 2018.	RCC PPr; EAFR		Apr 2017	Initial publicity will be in place by March 2015.	Target to continue, with delivery moved forward to Apr 2016.

ACTIONS FROM HECA FURTHER REPORT 2013		Resources	Delivery	Timing	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION FOR PROGRESS REPORT
ii) MEASURES WE ARE TAKING TO RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS OF OUR RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION						
Minimum standards in the private rental sector	8.1	We will work with our local landlords to increase energy efficiency activity in all areas through education at landlord forums and via landlord communications.	RCC PPr; EAFR	2013	Seeking to embed this approach, but little local interest in a landlord forum.	Target to continue, but without requiring a landlord forum.
	8.2	Where necessary we will continue to use our enforcement powers under the Housing Act 2004 where serious hazards are identified following a Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) assessment, to require landlords to rectify the excess cold hazard in their property.	RCC PPr	2013	Used as/if needed.	Target to continue.
	8.3	We will raise awareness of any proposed introduction of a minimum energy efficiency standard for private rented sector housing [normally EPC E rating] from 2018 under the Energy Act (EU 2002)	RCC PPr; EAFR	2012 onwards	This will be publicised locally by March 2015.	Target to continue.
	8.4	The Council will inspect all houses in private rented sector that the Council places homeless people at, to ensure basic levels of energy efficiency are met. Alternatively Council to require submission of EPC for all homeless housing before being let.	RCC PPr	2013 onwards	Unfortunately, range of private sector properties available to homeless households is very limited, although the general standard is generally satisfactory.	Target to be deleted. Will be covered in due course by the new standard for private rented housing.

ACTIONS FROM HECA FURTHER REPORT 2013		Resources	Delivery	Timing	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION FOR PROGRESS REPORT
ii) MEASURES WE PROPOSE TO COST EFFECTIVELY DELIVERY ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS IN RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION [WHICH MAY BE] BY USING AREA BASED/STREET BY STREET ROLL OUT						
Area-based / street-by-street approach [where appropriate]	9.1	Identify local partners for area based energy measures	RCC PPr; EAFR	Ongoing	Current approach is focused largely on targeting people who are fuel poor and clusters of similar properties (e.g. private sector solid wall), rather than on an area basis.	Target to be deleted, as the main approach will not be area based.
	9.2	Identify rural persons on benefits who may qualify for and encourage take up of the ECO	RCC PPr; EAFR	Ongoing	Mailshots by EAFR.	Target to continue, but covering both rural and urban areas. Detailed approach may vary over time.
	9.3	Identify target areas and prioritise roll out	RCC PPr; EAFR	Ongoing	Priorities currently more focused on many clusters of similar properties (e.g. private sector solid wall) rather than areas.	Without detracting from the broader countywide work, some publicity will be targeted at homes in the West End regeneration area in Oakham.
	9.4	Determine any synergies with other refurbishment work and other Local Authority objectives (e.g. area regeneration, ECO Carbon Saving Communities obligation)	RCC PPr; EAFR	Ongoing	Derwent Drive flats added to gas network. Some solid wall properties to be replaced with new build to higher energy standards (subject to	Target to continue.

ACTIONS FROM HECA FURTHER REPORT 2013		Resources	Delivery	Timing	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION FOR PROGRESS REPORT
ii) MEASURES WE PROPOSE TO COST EFFECTIVELY DELIVERY ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS IN RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION [WHICH MAY BE] BY USING AREA BASED/STREET BY STREET ROLL OUT						
					planning). Some solid wall properties being replaced.	
9.5	Investigate with Registered Providers of social housing (RPs) any possible roll out in their housing stock	RCC PPr; EAFR		Ongoing	Joint information sharing and signposting takes place.	Target to continue, but expectation is that RPs should be proactive.
9.6	Work with local housing providers to delivery of area-based energy efficiency improvements	RCC PPr; EAFR		Ongoing	Area based work has taken place in Derwent Drive, with the installation of gas & gas heating.	Target to continue, but expectation is that RPs should be proactive.
9.7	Work with RPs to encourage the take up of the Green Deal and any synergies with other refurbishment work and other Local Authority objectives	RCC PPr; EAFR; RSLs		Ongoing	Potential for Green Deal to benefit the properties and customers involved is limited.	Target to continue, but expectation is that RPs should be proactive.

ACTIONS FROM HECA FURTHER REPORT 2013		Resources	Delivery	Timing	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION FOR PROGRESS REPORT	
iii) NATIONAL AND LOCAL PARTNERS							
Partnership working	10.1	We are working with local partners via Energy Action for Rutland project and looking at economies of scale with Melton Borough Council and Peterborough City Council e.g. Collective Switching. Energy companies are invited to work with us for ECO-funded projects, including CSCo-funded projects for rural areas. Other possible partnerships with local businesses will be explored.	RCC PPr; EAFR; Energy Companies		By 2015	Individual switching promoted where appropriate, but limited scope for savings especially where on a card meter etc.	Future approach is to promote switching, which may be individual or collective as appropriate / available.
	10.2	Our local partners in the Energy Action for Rutland and Rutland Fuel Poverty Hub include Change Agents UK, Voluntary Action Rutland, First Contact Rutland, Rutland Citizens Advice Bureau, Age UK Leics Shire & Rutland, and Rural Community Council, Spire Homes and Rutland Together, Local Strategic Partnership	RCC PPr; EAFR		Ongoing	Successful project delivered, which is currently being reconfigured due to funding changes.	The specific delivery approach will vary over time and some partners may change. The Council remains committed to working with a wide range of partners to combat fuel poverty. We will work with the new Community Agents service to identify people living in fuel poverty, highlighting any issues for them and providing sign-posting and referrals. A health referral process will be included.
	10.3	There is estimated to be the opportunity to improve energy efficiency of domestic properties in Rutland under the three ECO Schemes and from measures to properties which are not eligible for the draft ECO Scheme to a value of around £42.8 million*.	Energy Companies; Green Deal Providers; Householders; Businesses		Jan 2013 onwards	The Council promotes ECO and other initiatives.	10.3 deleted as not really a target, but a statement of the value of measures needed theoretically at a particular time. Section 1 includes overall targets for improvements and other targets cover promotion (with 3.4 specifically covering

ACTIONS FROM HECA FURTHER REPORT 2013		Resources	Delivery	Timing	CURRENT STATUS	RECOMMENDATION FOR PROGRESS REPORT
iii) NATIONAL AND LOCAL PARTNERS						
						ECO).
10.4	There is estimated to be the opportunity to improve energy efficiency of domestic properties in Rutland under the three ECO Schemes to a total value of around £35.4 million* (Per scheme: £31.8m* CERo; £3.6m* CSCo; £3.6m* HHCRo).	Energy Companies; Householders		Jan 2013 onwards	The Council promotes ECO initiatives.	10.4 deleted as not really a target, but a statement of the value of measures needed theoretically at a particular time. 3.4 covers the promotion of ECO and section 1 includes overall targets for improvements.
10.5	Work with partners to encourage the uptake and installation of renewable heat technologies, by providing information on available renewable heat technologies and the availability of the domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (from summer 2013) to partner organisations, partnership forums (including the Fuel Poverty Hub and relevant theme groups of Rutland Together), and information within planning application forms, by sign-posting.	RCC PPr; EAFR		Mar 2013 onwards	The Council obtained DECC funding for solar panels. Advice given. The Council's website links to the Energy Saving Trust's website, which provides further information.	Deleted as there are similar targets in the action plan. 10.5 also refers to specific initiatives which may vary over time.

Signed off by Helen Briggs



Position

Chief Executive – Rutland County Council

## APPENDIX 2

## Glossary

**Allowable Solutions** are small, medium or large scale carbon-saving projects which are run by an Allowable Solutions provider. They provide an off-site solution for developers who are not able to meet applicable on-site carbon compliance requirements.

**Cabinet** – Rutland County Council’s Cabinet or ‘executive’ where many decisions are made.

‘**Carbon**’ – used loosely as shorthand for Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>).

**Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)** is a gas which is produced when anything organic is burnt (including coal, gas and oil, either directly or where these are used for generating electricity). It does not have any direct health effect but it plays a significant role in adding to the greenhouse effect.

**CERo - Carbon Emissions Reduction Obligation** – one of the Government’s ECO initiatives. CERo is available to all households and not just those on low incomes.

**Climate Local** – an initiative, promoted by the Local Government Association, which is a development of the Nottingham Declaration. It has not been signed by the majority of councils and it is not a priority for RCC.

**Conservation Area** – a designated area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.

**CSCo- Carbon Saving Communities obligation** – one of the Government’s ECO initiatives. It is aimed at relatively poor areas nationally, so is unfortunately of limited relevance for Rutland.

**DECC - Department of Energy and Climate Change**, a Government department.

**ECO – Energy Companies Obligation**, a Government initiative whereby investment from energy companies is used to provide energy efficiency improvements.

**Energy Action for Rutland (EAFR)** – a project run by the charity Change Agents UK in partnership with the Council and others to tackle fuel poverty in Rutland.

**Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) Registry** – a national database where EPC scores are recorded.

**Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs)** are required to be completed for each property at the point of sale, rent or build under the EU Directive on the Energy Performance of Buildings 2002/91/EC (EU 2002). The EPC provides an energy efficiency rating on a scale of 1 to 100, based on the reduced Standard Assessment Procedure (rdSAP). These are then placed into bands, with 'A' having the best performance and 'G' the poorest.

**Energy Saving Trust** – a charitable social enterprise providing advice on energy efficiency.

**EU 2002** – see Energy Performance Certificates.

**FIT – Feed-in Tariff** – a Government sponsored initiative whereby householders with eligible renewable sources connected to the national electricity grid are paid for the electricity they feed in for use elsewhere.

**Fuel Poverty (or fuel poor)** - sometimes used broadly to describe situations where households cannot afford to keep warm at home, but see LIHC (Low Income High Costs Indicator) for the Government's current official definition for England.

**Green Deal** – a Government sponsored scheme where providers offer energy efficiency investments to householders and then recoup payments through their energy bills.

**Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS)** – a risk assessment procedure for residential properties. If the hazard of excess cold is identified and judged to be likely to cause harm to a person living there, due to the heating system being broken, inadequately installed, or inefficient or if the house is poorly insulated, the Council is sometimes required to take enforcement action.

**HECA - Home Energy Conservation Act 1995** - this is the legislation under which this report is produced.

**HECA Further Report** – a report by councils produced in 2013 which was required by Government Guidance issued under HECA.

**HECA Progress Report** – a report (this document) which Council are required to submit to Government by 31 March 2015 to show their progress towards the targets in the HECA Further Report. It also provides an opportunity to revise targets if necessary. HECA progress reports must be submitted every two years until 2027.

**HHCRo - Home Heating Cost Reduction Obligation** – one of the Government's ECO targets. HHCRo is also known as the 'Affordable Warmth' target.

**LIHC – Low Income High Costs Indicator**, the Government's new definition of fuel poverty in England.

**Listed Building** – a protected historic building which is on the National Heritage List for England.

**Microgeneration** – on-site small scale renewable and low carbon generation technologies.

**Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change** – a commitment signed by all of the councils in the East Midlands committing them to working with partners to address climate change and combat fuel poverty.

**Ofgem – the Office of Gas and Electricity Markets** - a Government body which regulates the companies which run the gas and electricity networks. It takes decisions on price controls and enforcement, acting in the interests of consumers and helping the industries to achieve environmental improvements.

**Per capita** – per person.

**Photovoltaic (PV)** – a system which converts sunlight to electrical power.

**RCC – Rutland County Council** – the Council with responsibility for housing which produces this document.

**RCC Public Protection (RCC PPr)** – Rutland County Council’s Public Protection team (operated under contract by Peterborough City Council).

**rdSAP / reduced Standard Assessment Procedure** – see Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs).

**Renewable** – where an energy source is used which is easily replaceable once used (as opposed to oil or gas). Common renewable sources are solar and wind energy.

**Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI)** – a national Government-sponsored scheme which assist with the installation of renewable energy technology. It has ‘domestic’ and ‘non-domestic’ versions, depending on whether it is for a home or business premises.

**Renewable Heat Premium Payment (RHPP)** - a national scheme which assisted with the installation of renewable energy technology. It has been replaced by the RHI.

**RP - registered provider** of social housing, usually a housing association.

**Rutland Fuel Poverty Hub** – a partnership including EAFR, the Council and a range of other community and public sector organisations.

**Rutland Together** - the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP). The LSP was established in August 2002 to bring together all of those people and bodies whose work impacts on the lives of local people.

**SAP DPD – Site Allocations and Policies Development Plan Document**, part of the statutory development plan for Rutland. It identifies specific sites for development and sets out detailed development planning policies.

**Sign-posting** – where an organisation is not able to provide a service themselves, so directs a customer to somewhere which can provide the service.

**Smart meter** – a smart meter sends an electronic meter reading to the energy supplier. It also includes a home digital display to keep track of the amount and cost of energy used.

**SMT** – Rutland County Council's Strategic Management Team.

**Solid wall properties** – where properties which have external walls which do not have two layers and a cavity (gap) in between. Solid walls properties are harder than normal to insulate, because there is no cavity to place the insulation in.

**SPD – Supplementary Planning Document** - document which expands on policies in the statutory development plan.

**Switching** – where consumers change the company they purchase their gas and/or electricity from, usually with the intention of purchasing fuel more cheaply. Switching can be 'individual', or 'collective' where a large number of consumers switch at the same time.

**Tenure** – the ownership type of a home – e.g. owner-occupied, private rented, social/affordable rented, shared ownership.