

HECA Reporting 2019 Questions v1.00

The questions which LAs are asked to report on via the digital 'Survey' are as follows:

Name of Local Authority: <i>Rutland</i>		
Type of Local Authority:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District/Borough/City Council • County Council • <i>Unitary Authority</i> • London Borough • Metropolitan Borough 		
Name and contact details of official submitting the report: <i>James Faircliffe, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HP</i>		
Job title of official submitting the report: <i>Housing Strategy and Enabling Officer</i>		
Names of teams working on policy areas covered by this reporting tool: <i>Planning Policy, Building Control, Environmental Health, Social Care.</i>		
Total number of staff working in above policy areas (by FTE) broken down by team if possible: <i>Estimated 1.0 FTE for HECA activities.</i>		
Headline and Overview Questions		
1	Does your Local Authority have a current strategy on carbon reduction and/or energy efficiency for domestic or non-domestic properties?	<i>Y</i>
2	If yes, please provide a link to your current strategy here: <i>For Home Energy</i> https://www.rutland.gov.uk/my-community/environment/energy-switching/ <i>For non-domestic properties, the approach was approved at full Council on 14 October 2019.</i>	
3	If no, are you planning to develop one?	<i>(Y/N) N/A</i>
4	a. What scheme(s) has your local authority implemented in support of energy saving/carbon reduction in residential accommodation (such as	

	owner-occupied, privately rented and social housing) or non-domestic properties since 2017? (if you have not implemented any scheme, please enter 'N/A')
<p><i>Free text response to question 4a - please outline in no more than 200 words</i></p> <p><i>Our main scheme is our partnership with LEAP (Local Energy Advice Programme), which is a free service that visits people at home with the aiming of providing affordable warmth to people of all tenures. LEAP and the Council also refer into the national ECO initiatives. The home improvement agency also assists with this.</i></p> <p><i>For non-domestic properties, the approach was approved at full Council on <u>14 October 2019</u>.</i></p>	
	b. What scheme(s) is your local authority planning to implement in support of energy saving/carbon reduction in residential accommodation (such as owner-occupied, privately rented and social housing) or non-domestic properties in the next two years? (if you are not planning to implement any scheme, please enter 'N/A')
<p><i>Free text response to question 4b - please outline in no more than 200 words</i></p> <p><i>We are planning to continue to work with LEAP and the home improvement agency and to refer into national schemes.</i></p> <p><i>For non-domestic properties, the approach was approved at full Council on <u>14 October 2019</u>.</i></p>	
5	What has been, or will be, the cost(s) of running and administering the scheme(s), such as the value of grants and other support made available, plus any other costs incurred (such as administration) as desired? Please provide figures and a brief narrative account if desired.
<p><i>Free text response to question 5 - please outline in no more than 100 words</i></p> <p><i>We have estimated the overall staff cost of HECA-related activity for the Council and its shared Environmental Health service as 1.0 FTE. The Council generally connects customers to funding provided by third parties, via its shared service provider, its home improvement agency or LEAP. This does not include time spent on non-domestic properties carrying out the approach approved by full Council on <u>14 October 2019</u>.</i></p>	
6	What businesses, charities, third sector organisations or other stakeholders do you work with to deliver the scheme(s)?
<p><i>Free text response to question 6 - please outline in no more than 100 words</i></p> <p><i>We work with LEAP and a wide range of other partners including Citizens Advice, Age Concern, housing associations, the home improvement agency and many teams within the Council.</i></p> <p><i>For non-domestic properties, the approach was approved at full Council on <u>14 October 2019</u>.</i></p>	

7	<p>What has been the outcome of the scheme(s) (e.g. energy savings, carbon savings, economic impacts such as job creation and/or increased business competitiveness, societal impacts such as alleviation of fuel poverty and/or improved health outcomes etc.)?</p> <p>This does not have to be measured against national data or benchmarks, but rather focuses on the local authority's own monitoring and evaluation.</p>
<p><i>Free text response to question 7 - please outline in no more than 200 words</i></p> <p><i>In December 2012, 65% of owner-occupied dwellings, 58% of private rented and 84% of social rented were energy rated A to D. By September 2016, these figures had improved to 70%, 60% and 89% respectively. The figures do not include new build dwellings.</i></p> <p><i>The proportion of households in fuel poverty in Rutland had reduced from 10.6% in 2014 to 8.0% in 2017.</i></p> <p><i>The Council signed the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change in 2007, committing the Council to working with partners to address Climate Change including the reduction of carbon emissions. Government figures show that domestic CO₂ emissions in Rutland (essentially arising from domestic fuels either at the power station or when burnt at home) have fallen from 87,539 tonnes in 2009 to 65,775 tonnes in 2017, a reduction of 25%. This means that the Council has met its target of reducing carbon emissions in the housing sector by 24% on 2009 levels by 2027. We will continue to work with a wide range of partners to reduce emissions and address the consequences of climate change. For further details, please see the meeting of full Council on <u>14 October 2019</u>.</i></p>	
8	<p>What lessons have you learned from delivering this scheme(s)?</p>
<p><i>Free text response to question 8 - please outline in no more than 100 words</i></p> <p><i>That private sector partners, accessing their own national funding, can play a very effective role in visiting people in their own homes to provide energy advice and access to switching and grants. One lesson learned is that a single launch event is not enough to achieve widespread knowledge of a scheme and that a number of approaches over a few months is needed to embed the scheme locally. Funding uncertainty can also be a problem, as advice schemes generally rely on annual funding and a change of provider can sometimes cause a significant break in service. For non-domestic properties, the approach was approved at full Council on <u>14 October 2019</u>.</i></p>	
<p>Local Communications Strategy</p>	
9	<p>Does your local authority provide any advisory service to consumers (and businesses) on how to save energy? Y</p>

HECA Reporting 2019 – Guidance for Local Authorities

10	If yes to question 10, please briefly outline how this is undertaken (or enter 'N/A' if appropriate)
<p><i>Free text response to question 10 - please outline in no more than 100 words</i></p> <p><i>The Council's Environmental Health shared service provider (Peterborough City Council), LEAP and the home improvement agency provides energy advice on behalf of Rutland County Council. For non-domestic properties, the approach was approved at full Council on <u>14 October 2019</u>.</i></p>	
11	How do you communicate or encourage energy saving amongst domestic consumers and/or local businesses? (if you do not, please enter 'N/A' and move on to the next section 'Local Green Supply Chains')
<p><i>Free text response to question 11 - please outline in no more than 100 words</i></p> <p><i>This is through LEAP, the Council's environment health shared service provider, the media, the home improvement agency, the Council's website and ad hoc events. For non-domestic properties, the approach was approved at full Council on <u>14 October 2019</u>.</i></p>	

Continued overleaf

Local Green Supply Chains		
12	Does your Local Authority promote the use of energy efficient products amongst consumers (and businesses)? (if you answer no please move onto the next section 'Private Rented Sector')	Y
13	If yes to question 12, please briefly detail how this promotion work is undertaken.	
<p><i>Free text response to question 12 - please outline in no more than 100 words</i></p> <p><i>This is through LEAP, the Council's environment health shared service provider, the media, the home improvement agency and the Council's website and ad hoc events. <u>For non-domestic properties, the approach was approved at full Council on 14 October 2019.</u></i></p>		
14	What engagement (formal or informal) does your local authority have with local businesses/supply chains involved in promoting energy efficiency products or carbon reduction?	
<p><i>Free text response to question 14 - please outline in no more than 100 words</i></p> <p><i>There is information on the Council's website.</i></p>		
Domestic Private Rented Sector (PRS) Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards		
<p>The Minimum Energy Efficiency Regulations (the Regulations) apply to all privately rented properties in England and Wales. As of April 2018, all such properties are legally required to have an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) of at least an E before they can be let on a new tenancy. This requirement will then extend to all such properties by 1 April 2020, even if there has been no change in tenant or tenancy (please see BEIS's published guidance documents for the full details on the standard).</p> <p>The PRS Regulations give enforcement powers to local authorities, and authorities are responsible for ensuring landlord compliance within their area.</p>		
15	Is your authority aware of the PRS Minimum Efficiency Standards which came into force in April 2018? (if you answered no, please move on to the next section 'Financial Support for Energy Efficiency')	Y
16	Which team within your authority is responsible for, or will be responsible for, leading on enforcement of the PRS minimum standard?	
<p><i>Free text response to question 16</i></p> <p><i>The Council's environment health shared service provider (Peterborough City Council).</i></p>		

17	Please provide the contact details of the person leading this team.	
<p><i>c/o Mark Loran, Senior Environmental Services Manager, mloran@rutland.gov.uk telephone: 01572 758430.</i></p>		
18	What method or methods does your authority use to communicate with landlords and tenants about the standards and other related issues?	
<p><i>Free text response to question 18 - please outline in no more than 100 words</i></p> <p><i>A letter was sent to significant local landlords / agents in Spring 2015 notifying them of the changes regarding energy requirements for private sector housing. Advice is given to landlords and tenants through the Council's shared service environmental health provider.</i></p>		
19	Do you directly target landlords of EPC F and G rated properties? If yes, how? If no, please explain.	(Y)
<p><i>Free text response to question 19 - please outline in no more than 100 words</i></p> <p><i>Access to the Landmark EPC dataset up to 2018. F & G rated properties have been identified and a targeted communication with questionnaire to landlords and managing agents is being planned. An educational/advisory approach will be adopted ahead of any potential enforcement action for non-compliance. An individual Landmark check is also carried out prior to any reactive property inspection following a complaint about property condition or management standards. This approach mirrors the process adopted by Peterborough City Council who are part of the BEIS Enforcement & Compliance Study on MEEES in the Private Rented Sector.</i></p>		
<p>Financial Support for Energy Efficiency</p>		
20	<p>What financial programmes, if any, do you have to promote domestic and non-domestic energy efficiency or energy saving? If applicable, please outline the sums, where such funding is sourced, and where it is targeted.</p> <p>(If you do not have any financial assistance programmes, please enter 'N/A' and move onto the next section 'Fuel Poverty')</p>	

HECA Reporting 2019 – Guidance for Local Authorities

Free text response to question 20 - please outline in no more than 200 words

Q20. Rutland County Council operate the LEAP scheme funded through the Warm Homes Discount Industry Initiative and is administered on behalf of Rutland County Council by Peterborough City Council and AgilityEco. LEAP eligibility also qualifies residents for ECO Flex, ECHO boilers and the HEART Scheme. Peterborough City Council was successful in a consortium bid to the Warm Homes Fund administered by Affordable Warmth Solutions which received just under £5million of funding over a 3 year period. This provides central heating and connection to the gas network when a property has inefficient and expensive electric storage and panel heater. Rutland County Council can also benefit from this assistance as a LEAP partner with PCC.

Continued overleaf

Fuel Poverty		
21	<p>Does your local authority have a fuel poverty strategy?</p> <p>If yes, please describe the scope of the strategy, and the support that is available for low income and vulnerable households to help tackle fuel poverty in your local area. Please also provide a link to your strategy if published.</p>	Y
<p><i>Free text response to question 21 - please outline in no more than 300 words</i></p> <p><i>The Council's 2013 HECA Further Report and the 2017 Progress Report are at https://www.rutland.gov.uk/my-community/environment/energy-switching/</i></p>		
22	<p>What steps have you taken to identify residents/properties in fuel poverty? (enter 'N/A' if not appropriate)</p>	
<p><i>Free text response to question 22 - please outline in no more than 200 words</i></p> <p><i>The Council has targeted properties in a number of ways, including using the national HECA dataset and other stock information to identify properties with solid walls. Marketing has also identified vulnerable households with the help of a number of partner organisations.</i></p>		
23	<p>How does fuel poverty interlink with your local authority's overall carbon reduction strategy? (enter 'N/A' if not appropriate)</p>	
<p><i>Free text response to question 23 - please outline in no more than 200 words</i></p> <p><i>It is an intrinsic part of the Council's overall approach, as shown in the papers for full Council for <u>14 October 2019</u>.</i></p>		
24	<p>a. What measures or initiatives have you taken to promote fuel cost reduction for those in fuel poverty? (enter 'N/A' if not appropriate)</p>	
<p><i>Free text response to question 24a - please outline in no more than 200 words</i></p> <p><i>Promotion of switching, energy-saving advice and access to grants through housing association partners, the home improvement agency and LEAP.</i></p>		
	<p>b. If you have taken measures or initiatives to promote fuel cost reduction for those in fuel poverty, what partnership with business or energy providers have you undertaken? (enter 'N/A' if not appropriate)</p>	

<p><i>Free text response to question 24b - please outline in no more than 200 words</i></p> <p><i>We are in partnership with LEAP (Local Energy Advice Programme), which is a free service that visits people at home with the aiming of providing affordable warmth to people of all tenures. LEAP and the Council also refer into the national ECO initiatives.</i></p>	
<p>The Energy Company Obligation</p>	
<p>The Energy Company Obligation (ECO) is an obligation on energy suppliers aimed at helping households cut their energy bills and reduce carbon emissions by installing energy saving measures. Following the Spring 2018 consultation, the Government set out in its response that ECO3 will fully focus on Affordable Warmth – low income, vulnerable and fuel poor households.</p> <p>The recently introduced ECO “flexible eligibility” (ECO Flex) programme allows LAs to make declarations determining that certain households in fuel poverty or with occupants on low incomes and vulnerable to the effects of cold homes, can be supported by ECO obligated suppliers under the Affordable Warmth element of ECO. LAs involved are required to issue a Statement of Intent that they are going to identify households as eligible and the criteria they are going to use. There must be a declaration that the LA has been consulted on the installation of measures in a home.</p>	
25	<p>Has your local authority published a Statement of Intent (Sol) for ECO flexibility eligibility?</p> <p>If yes, please include a link to your Sol below.</p>
	Y
<p>Link to Sol: here (at bottom of link).</p>	
26	<p>Please use the following space to provide any further information you feel might be of benefit to BEIS, in helping us to understand ECO Flex delivery in more detail. For example, the number of declarations signed versus the number of households helped.</p>
<p><i>Free text response to question 26 - please outline in no more than 200 words</i></p> <p><i>The ECO Flex criteria used are similar to the normal criteria for the LEAP project, which still allows an additional number of households to be helped.</i></p>	
<p>Smart Metering</p>	
27	<p>Please provide a brief statement outlining your current or planned approach to:</p> <p>Engage and support your residents (including those in vulnerable circumstances or with pre-payment metering) to promote take up of smart meters and achieve associated benefits (e.g. ability to control energy use, identify best value tariffs)? Please detail any work undertaken or planned</p>

	<p>with local/community groups, housing associations, micro businesses, Smart Energy GB under their Partnership Programme and energy suppliers.</p>
<p><i>Free text response to question 27 – please outline in no more than 150 words.</i></p> <p><i>Advice is given via the LEAP scheme where appropriate.</i></p>	
<p>28</p>	<p>Please provide a brief statement outlining your current or planned approach to:</p> <p>Integrate your approaches to delivering energy efficiency improvements in residential accommodation with the opportunities presented by the installation of smart meters, drawing upon materials from the Smart Meter Energy Efficiency Materials Project or other sources of independent information.</p>
<p><i>Free text response to question 28 – please outline in no more than 150 words.</i></p> <p><i>Advice is given via the LEAP scheme where appropriate.</i></p>	
<p>29</p>	<p>Please detail any:</p> <p>Resources/ support (e.g. services, funding) available to residents who have had an appliance(s) condemned for safety reasons and cannot afford to replace it (e.g. during visual safety checks conducted during their smart meter installation or otherwise).</p>
<p><i>Free text response to question 29 – please outline in no more than 150 words.</i></p> <p><i>Advice is given via LEAP or the Council’s environmental shared service as appropriate. This includes access to potential external funding sources. Where there are safeguarding concerns, we ensure that proactive support is given which may include emergency heating.</i></p>	
<p>30</p>	<p>Please detail any:</p> <p>Existing relationships with energy suppliers to help ensure that the opportunities presented by vacant properties under your control are effectively utilised (i.e. gaining access to install a smart meter).</p>

Free text response to question 30 – please outline in no more than 150 words.

The Council transferred its housing stock to Spire Homes in 2009.

Future Schemes or Wider Initiatives

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

Free text response to question 31 - please outline in no more than 500 words

Suitable, warm housing is also key to the Sustainability and Transformation Plan's "home first" model as this helps people to remain at home for longer, or to be discharged home more quickly. The improvement of household energy efficiency has multiple benefits from reducing residents' energy bills, improving comfort levels and health and well-being of residents within their homes, alleviating fuel poverty and reducing carbon emissions.

The Council will continue to work with LEAP, the home improvement agency and other partners (including public health), to combat fuel poverty and to promote the use of new technologies.

If you need a version of this document in a more accessible format, please email enquiries@beis.gov.uk. Please tell us what format you need. It will help us if you say what assistive technology you use.