

Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council

Affordable Warmth Action Plan 2016-20

Objective 1: Encourage behavioural change to reduce energy use

Reference	Action	Outcome	Lead and Key Partners	Key Milestones	Target Date
1.1	Review and update the information provided by Affordable Warmth Steering Group and partners on energy efficiency	Residents are able to reduce their energy consumption through effective energy management.	Affordable Warmth Steering Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information and advice offered by Affordable Warmth Steering Group, members and partners is readily available to residents. Information is reviewed and updated on a regular basis. 	December 2016
1.2	Review the availability of face-to-face advice to residents across the borough to ensure a collaborative approach is taken.	Residents are able to reduce their energy consumption through effective energy management.	Affordable Warmth Steering Group Public Sector Third Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remit and scope of energy advisors is clarified. Signposting to available services is communicated to residents and partners. 	December 2016
1.3	Deliver appropriate fuel poverty training to practitioners, housing, health and social care staff.	Front line staff are able to identify a fuel poor household or household at risk of fuel poverty, and refer into a service for support	Cheshire West and Chester Council Affordable Warmth Steering Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training provision is identified and funded. Front line staff who may benefit from the training identified. 	March 2017
1.4	Work with energy suppliers to ensure all homes receive a	Residents will be aware of the impact of their energy use in relation to their fuel cost.	Cheshire West and Chester Council Affordable Warmth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data on Smart meters installation is made available. 	March 2017

	smart meter by 2020		Steering Group Energy Companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborative working with energy companies is established on promoting roll out of smart meters. 	Ongoing
1.5	Develop a support package for school and community energy champions	Energy champions are encouraged and empowered to provide energy advice	Affordable Warmth Steering Group Schools Third Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Package available online to download. School and community champions identified. 	March 2017

Objective 2: Improve the energy efficiency of homes

Reference	Action	Outcome	Lead and Key Partners	Key Milestones	Target Date
2.1	Target fuel poor households with a property Standard Assessment Procedure rating of below Band C for energy efficiency measures.	The energy efficiency rating of properties in the borough is improved.	Cheshire West and Chester Council Affordable Warmth Steering Group members and partner organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mapped data available on location of fuel poor households in the borough. Baseline energy ratings for all stock established and properties identified using available data sources All fuel poor homes achieve Standard Assessment Procedure Band C by 2030 (National Fuel Poverty Strategy Target). 	March 2017 Ongoing 2030
2.2	Develop a programme for hard	The energy efficiency rating of properties in the borough is improved.	Cheshire West and Chester Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hard to treat homes identified 	March 2017

	to treat homes for example park homes, solid walls and non-traditional constructions		Affordable Warmth Steering Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding opportunities identified and applications made 	Ongoing
2.3	Target private rented properties including student accommodation	The energy efficiency rating of properties in the borough is improved.	Cheshire West and Chester Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information provided to private sector landlords to support and raise awareness of responsibilities in relation to energy efficiency. Information programme developed with University of Chester 	Ongoing
2.4	Secure funding for energy efficiency measures	The energy efficiency rating of properties in the borough is improved.	Cheshire West and Chester Council Affordable Warmth Steering Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify suitable funding opportunities and maximising opportunities for partnership bids 	Ongoing Ongoing
2.5	Develop collaboration with Registered Partners	Closer partnership working with all local Registered Partners on fuel poverty initiatives	Cheshire West and Chester Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representation on Cheshire West and Chester Council's Registered Partner Housing Group 	December 2016
2.6	Raise awareness of referral network with frontline staff	Closer partnership working with all Partners on fuel poverty initiatives	Affordable Warmth Steering Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referral Network system establish and promoted to partners Referral Network periodically reviewed and updated 	April 2016 Ongoing

Objective 3: Reduce the number of temperature related illnesses

Reference	Action	Outcome	Lead and Key Partners	Key Milestones	Target Date
3.1	To review and implement the actions as recommended by the National Institute of Clinical Excellence and Cold Weather Plan Guidance	To reduce excess winter deaths and illnesses associated with cold homes	Cheshire West and Chester Council Affordable Warmth Steering Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete review of guidance. Implement National Institute of Clinical Excellence and Cold Weather Plan actions. 	March 2017 March 2020
3.2	Deliver targeted activity to cold related illness patients using Clinical Commissioning Group and general practice data.	To reduce excess winter deaths and illnesses associated with cold homes	Cheshire West and Chester Council Clinical Commissioning Group and general practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable Warmth agenda shared with Health and Wellbeing Board. Representation at Clinical Commissioning Group meetings. Signposting and referral network established. 	Ongoing
3.3	Raise awareness of problems associated with overheating	The risk of climate change related illness is mitigated.	Cheshire West and Chester Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overheating risk profile established which identifies areas and individuals to target. Overheating and thermal comfort incorporated in relevant strategies; housing, strategic planning and climate change adaptation. 	March 2018 Ongoing

Objective 4: Maximise household income

Reference	Action	Outcome	Lead and Key Partners	Key Milestones	Target Date
4.1	Promote benefits of fuel tariff switching by a variety of media, with particular focus on off-line residents	Household expenditure on fuel cost is reduced	Cheshire West and Chester Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Switching opportunities identified and advice provided to residents Residents without access to the internet are assisted through the switching process 	Ongoing
4.2	Incorporate energy efficiency in the delivery of money/debt advice	Household expenditure on fuel cost is reduced	Cheshire West and Chester Council Third Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of debt advice identified and Key Contact List produced and maintained Affordable warmth discussed as an integral element to maximising income 	March 2017 Ongoing
4.3	Minimise impacts of welfare reforms	The risk of fuel debt is reduced	Cheshire West and Chester Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify residents adversely affected by welfare changes and refer via Affordable Warmth Steering Group for support, advice and guidance. 	Ongoing
4.4	Monitor the number of householders on prepayment meters	The risk of fuel debt is reduced	Cheshire West and Chester Council Affordable Warmth Steering Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the number of households on prepayment meters and investigate opportunities for switching / replacement where appropriate. 	March 2017 Ongoing

Objective 5: Increase the amount of energy used in domestic properties generated from renewable and low carbon sources

Reference	Action	Outcome	Lead and Key Partners	Key Milestones	Target Date
5.1	Increase the amount of energy used in domestic properties produced from renewable sources	Reduced carbon dioxide emissions relating to domestic energy	Cheshire West and Chester Council Private Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advice and guidance on technical and financial viability of different technologies and funding sources reviewed updated and published. Support provided to local communities in the production of energy. 	March 2017 Ongoing
5.2	Explore District Heat Network opportunities in the borough	Connections to district heat networks to provide cheaper, low carbon and resilient heat	Cheshire West and Chester Council Private Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feasibility study completed. Funding for infrastructure development explored 	September 2016 Ongoing
5.3	Determine the benefits of developing an Energy Service Company to deliver domestic energy services	A local offer for a wide range of energy related services available in the borough	Cheshire West and Chester Council Private Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial discussions with private sector partners to determine options An agreed business case developed 	April 2016 December 2016

Objective 6: Support sustainable community energy initiatives

Reference	Action	Outcome	Lead and Key Partners	Key Milestones	Target Date
6.1	Provide local communities with support to establish networks develop energy schemes.	To increase the amount of energy generated by renewable and low carbon sources	Cheshire West and Chester Council Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community groups with a focus on energy related activity established. Borough wide community network events held 	December 2016
6.2	Produce a toolkit on developing Community Energy Schemes	To increase the amount of energy generated by renewable and low carbon sources	Cheshire West and Chester Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of web portal for guidance on Community Energy Schemes Ongoing support via network events 	April 2016 Ongoing