

**HOME ENERGY CONSERVATION ACT 1995
TENTH PROGRESS REPORT (2006)
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2005 TO 31 MARCH 2006**



Please complete this form in full and submit it **no later than 31 October 2006**. For details of where to return it please see the covering letter. Before completing this form you should read the accompanying guidance.

The name and details given here will be taken by Defra as the HECA "lead officer" contact. Completing this section indicates that you have read the section of the accompanying guidance headed "Data Protection Act 1998 – Fair Processing Notice" (paragraphs 6-10), which gives details of Defra's processing of the data that you have provided on this form.

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1. Have there been any changes to the following elements of your authority's Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) strategy in the period covered by this report?

Please summarise elements of the energy conservation report prepared in 1996 (your "HECA strategy") in the first column of the table below, taking account of any amendments made to the strategy up to and including 31 March 2005. Changes made prior to this date will already have been recorded by Defra from information you have provided. However, if any changes have been made between 1 April 2005 to 31 March 2006, please tick the relevant "Yes, changes" box(es) and enter the new figure(s) in the final column. If there have been no changes, please tick the "No change" boxes. Refinements to strategies may be necessary from time to time, but fundamental changes to the original strategy are not anticipated. Please explain any changes.

	HECA strategy up to 31 March '05	No change since 1 April '05	Yes, changes since 1 April '05	New figures following changes since 1 April '05
a) Overall energy efficiency improvement identified	30%	✓		per cent
b) Number of years to implement the measures identified	15	✓		Years
c) Total cost of implementation of all measures	£109m	✓		£ Millions
d) CO ₂ reduction per annum as a result of all the measures identified	20,200	✓		Tonnes per annum
e) Indicate the 1 April 1996 baseline energy use (in GJ) against which energy efficiency improvements are being measured	10,964,783	✓		GJ
Reasons for any changes identified above: It would be helpful if you could provide details of how development of your strategy has been taken forward.				

2. Are you monitoring changes in the energy efficiency of the housing stock in your area, in order to be able to report progress as required by HECA?

YES NO

If you answered "Yes", please describe briefly:

- (a) the methodology used to monitor progress, listing the main data sources
- (b) how you are monitoring the success of activities designed to promote energy efficiency

If you answered "No", please give reasons.

Methodology used to monitor progress and success of information, advice, education and promotion activities

(a) methodology

Data from a variety of sources is assimilated and an estimate of notional reduced energy consumption/carbon dioxide emissions and improvement in energy efficiency is calculated. Calculations are based on tables produced by the BRE (for BREDEM), which take into account the 'comfort factor'. Sources of data for known (and measurable) energy efficiency improvements include: (i) Warm Front grant activity; (ii) Plymouth Healthy Homes grant activity; (iii) grant activity from EEC schemes (e.g. HEAT Devon); (iv) activity by the Devon EEAC (including advice); (v) energy efficiency measures installed under public and private sector Decent Homes activity; (vi) measures installed by East End Renewal Area regeneration project. This data is supported by data from cavity wall insulation notifications and CORGI registered gas installations. Activity and baselines are periodically checked by means of an analysis of stock condition survey data and data from the energy survey. The energy survey (2005) will be repeated in 2007 in order to measure improvements over a 24-month period based on a random sample of 10,000 addresses.

(b) monitoring

Activity is monitored on an ongoing basis through the use of spreadsheets for each scheme. The Devon EEAC and PCC keep records of the number of people trained, numbers attending promotional meetings/conferences and so forth. This includes, for example, the number of CFLs issued and HEC forms completed.

3. It is helpful for Defra to be able to judge the extent to which the HECAMON software (Version 3, issued by Defra in April 1999 and updated in April 2001) is used each year. Therefore, please would you indicate whether or not you used the software when collecting and collating the data to enable you to complete this form?

Postal Telephone Both HECAMON not used

4. Please briefly describe in part a) all activities that are specifically designed to assist in the development and achievement of your HECA strategy. For both parts a) and b) it would be helpful if you could include details of how these activities address the following points:

- Obtaining corporate commitment / Integration of strategy with other council policies
- Any barriers and how these have been addressed
- Information, advice, education and promotion activities / Making grants and loans
- What linkages you have with energy efficiency schemes such as Energy
- Efficiency Commitment and Warm Front
- New and innovative approaches

In part b) describe new activities you expect to **commence in the 2006/07 financial year.**

a) activities in 2005/06 financial year			
Activity	Who is involved?	Partners' contribution (£) in 2005/06	Will this continue into 2006/07?
AFFORDABLE WARMTH STRATEGY/ACTION PLAN The multi-agency Affordable Warmth Group continued to develop the action plan and developed a new marketing strategy which looks 3-6 months ahead. The marketing strategy enables joint promotions such as the PCC/PCT 'flu-jab' mailing to promote Plymouth Healthy Homes.	NEA; WCEA; Public Health Development Unit; Social Inclusion; Eaga; PCC.		Yes
PLYMOUTH HEALTHY HOMES This scheme helps people who live in cold, damp homes and who are at risk from cold-related illness. It offers a freephone energy efficiency advice line, home energy visits, referrals to other grant schemes and agencies, and a grant towards home insulation and heating measures. Portable heaters are available on loan to those in need. The scheme is managed by a Steering Group where partners decide policy. During 2005/6 69 homes were provided with loft insulation, 44 with cavity wall insulation and 17 with central heating. The estimated energy saving is 1,933 GJ pa and CO2 saving is 132 tonnes pa.	PCC; PCT; WCEA; NRG (installer); Care & Repair; health & front line professionals.	£24,141 (Note: EEC funding directly to scheme only.)	Yes
EEC SCHEME: HEAT Devon A scheme providing insulation measures targeted at homeowners in both the priority and able-to-pay sectors. Operated by Enact Energy & promoted by PCC. In 2005/6 499 homes benefited from HEAT Devon grants for loft and cavity wall insulation, resulting in estimated energy savings of 5,145 GJ pa and CO2 savings of 384 tonnes pa.	PCC; Enact Energy; householders.	£15,781 (EEC + h'hlder contribution)	Yes
PRIVATE LANDLORDS for ENERGY ACTION This scheme promotes the importance of energy efficiency to landlords and provides grants for insulation and heating measures. The PLEA scheme is drawing to a close in 2006 and is being replaced with a wider support scheme aimed at addressing properties that fail Decent Homes.	PCC; WCEA; Enact Energy; Sustain; Eaga; private landlords & tenants.		No
WESTCOUNTRY ENERGY ACTION (WCEA) / DEVON EEAC WCEA operate the Devon EEAC and provide a range of other services and facilities for	WCEA; PCC; local agencies &		Yes

Plymouth residents and people working in Plymouth. PCC is represented on the WCEA Board of Trustees. There is an SLA between PCC and WCEA that governs the service provided to the Council. This includes, for example, provision of home visits and advice under the Healthy Homes scheme. During 2005/6 WCEA were involved in 51 events in Plymouth. The estimated energy saving resulting from activity such as CFL distribution and completion of HEC forms was 4,491 GJ pa and CO2 savings of 292 tonnes pa.	community groups.		
DEVON AFFORDABLE WARMTH OFFICER The DAWO is employed by the Devon HECA Group & WCEA to progress the Devon Affordable Warmth Strategy and action plan across Devon. The DAWO is also the co-ordinator for the south west region for NEA, a separate but linked project. The DAWO works closely with PCC to deliver affordable warmth targets in Plymouth, and is funded by PCC at £2,000 pa. Other Devon ECAs contribute to the cost of the post.	PCC; WCEA; NEA; Devon HECA Group; county-wide community groups.	£52,000 (est. contrib. by other ECAs, NEA & WCEA)	Yes
WARM FRONT GRANT In 2005/6 1,003 households benefited from a Warm Front grant. The combined energy savings from these measures is estimated at 14,956 GJ pa with CO2 savings of 1,242 tonnes.	Eaga.	£1.2m	Yes
DIY SCHEME Commenced April 2005. Provides 25% cashback on cost of certain energy efficiency products. The scheme was successful and had to be closed before the end of the year due to uptake.	WCEA; Severn Wye Energy Agency.		No
MARKETING: advice, information, promotion, education Promoting sustainable energy to PCC/PCT and other staffs and the general public. Many activities are undertaken, including provision of an email 'ezine' to staff; seminars that inform on new technologies/materials (e.g. micro wind; insulating render); training; site visits; publicity materials to promote schemes.	PCC; WCEA; Public Health Development Unit; DAWO; NEA; Eaga.		Yes
ENERGY SURVEY Postal questionnaire survey of random sample of 10,000 households in June 2005. Data analysed and report produced. Data has enabled a new energy efficiency baseline to be established, reflected in this year's HECA return. Data is also informing revised home energy strategy and has resulted in articles in local press. The survey will be repeated in 2007.	PCC.		Yes
PRIVATE SECTOR STOCK CONDITION SURVEY Jointly managed by research, energy and private sector staff. Survey gathered NHER level 1 data for incorporation into new energy database. Report published.	PCC.		No
TRIAL VENTILATION PROJECT To test the efficacy of a small home ventilation unit in 10 homes to measure improvement in air quality.	PCC; NEA; WCEA; Eaga.		No
EAST END RENEWAL AREA Energy efficiency incorporated into the standard brief to improve properties in the East End.	PCC; Signpost & Westcountry housing associations.		Yes
PRIVATE SECTOR LEASING SCHEME A partnership with Tamar Housing Society to use empty homes to house homeless families. In order to benefit from the scheme, owners are required to ensure a high standard of	PCC; Tamar Housing Society; landlords.		Yes

insulation and heating before leasing to PCC.			
SCHOOLS 'ENERGY AGENTS' An energy efficiency education project delivered by WCEA. 1 school included in the scheme in 2005/6, with 2 further schools expected to join in 2006/7.	PCC; WCEA; schools.		Yes
DECENT HOMES PROGRAMME Targeting capital resources to council properties that fail Decent Homes including provision of insulation and heating improvements.	PCC; EEC provider.		Yes
ENERGY AWARENESS & TRAINING Development of a range of courses from 2 hours to the 3-day City & Guilds 6176 course. All offered locally and some tailored to a specific audience. All courses provide information on local schemes as well as national.	PCC; WCEA; NEA; DAWO.		Yes
RSL ACTIVITY Continuing work with housing associations with the Plymouth Housing Partnership to improve the energy efficiency of RSL stock.	PCC; RSLs; Housing Corporation.		Yes
SHARING GOOD PRACTICE The Home Energy Team work with a number of bodies for mutual support, learning and the development of joint projects. These include: (i) Devon HECA Group; (ii) South West HECA Forum; (iii) South West Fuel Poverty Forum; (iv) Devon Sustainable Energy Network.	PCC; WCEA; Devon ECAs; NEA; DAWO.		Yes

b) activities planned in 2006/07 and not mentioned in a) above			
Activity	Who is involved?	Partners' contribution (£) in 2006/07	Will this continue into 2007/08?
HEAT ON PRESCRIPTION A scheme to use GP surgeries to make referrals to HEAT Devon for EEC-funded insulation measures.	PCC; PCT; Enact Energy; EEC provider.		If pilot successful.
NHER TRAINING Bid for NRF funding to train PCC surveyors to NHER Site Assessor standard. This will enable data gathering and prioritisation of households for energy efficiency measures using Decent Homes resources.	PCC; NRF.		No
ENERGY EFFICIENCY ACTION AREAS Identification of neighbourhoods to be targeted by new proposed EEC scheme. The EEC provider will work with PCC, the police, local community groups and others to undertake a street-by-street improvement programme.	PCC; Neighbourhood Fora; EEC provider.		If pilot successful.
TRAINING The Home Energy Team is working with the DAWO to provide free training tailored to the needs of specific staff groups, e.g. private sector team; social services. The idea is to raise understanding of fuel poverty and to ensure that resources such as Decent Homes monies are matched with external funding and targeted at those most in need.	PCC; DAWO; WCEA.		No
SUSTAINABLE HOUSING GROUP Senior council officers who meet quarterly to engage with sustainability/energy issues as they relate to housing. It is anticipated that this will increase knowledge at a senior level across the council and will broaden decision and policy making.	PCC.		Yes

5a. Does your authority have an affordable warmth/fuel poverty strategy?

YES NO

5b. If you answered no to question 5a, do you have plans to develop an affordable warmth/fuel poverty strategy?

YES NO

5c. If you answered yes to question 5a or 5b, please briefly describe below how you are taking forward or planning to take forward a fuel poverty/affordable warmth strategy and advise on successes to date, key partners and anticipated future developments, with a particular emphasis on private sector housing stock.

The AFFORDABLE WARMTH STRATEGY was launched in 2004 and provides a framework for ensuring that Plymouth households have access to affordable energy. The Steering Group meets monthly to co-ordinate activity and update the strategy and action plan. Members currently include PCC (Housing, Social Inclusion), Public Health Development Unit, WCEA, the DAWO/NEA and Eaga. During 2006/7 the Group is developing version 2 of the strategy.

In 2005/6 the Group has ensured that fuel poverty is incorporated into the Income Maximisation Strategy, together with actions. A fuel poverty outcome has also been incorporated into the Local Area Agreement, together with targets for the three years to 2009/10.

In his position as Chair of the South West HECA Forum, the Plymouth HECA officer participated in the development of the regional Low Carbon Buildings and Fuel Poverty Strategy and is a member of the Steering Group. This has proven to be a valuable experience and the information gathered for the regional strategy has been useful in informing policy at the local level.

The Affordable Warmth Group organised a successful campaign for Energy Saving Week 2006, including press releases, a new page on the corporate website, production of balloons, carrier bags and other promotional materials, a lightbulb amnesty, a display in the city centre Comet store, a competition linked to a prize donated by Comet and an event with the Lord Mayor at the new Drake Circus shopping centre. The Group is currently working on promotions for Warm Homes Week 2006, including a visit with a local MP to a Warm Front grant recipient.

The Public Health Development Unit has worked with the Home Energy Team to develop the HEAT on prescription project with Enact Energy. This has involved a series of talks with key staff in the PCT and the scheme is due to commence in the third quarter of 2006/7. GP surgeries will carry simple referral forms and will gain a small fee based on the number of successful referrals. The objective of the pilot year will be to test the ability of the scheme to reach households that would otherwise be unlikely to benefit from EEC and Warm Front funding. The scheme will be linked to existing training schemes in the city aimed at health workers.

The Affordable Warmth Group have assimilated data from the 2005 energy survey and other sources and with reference to a GIS have identified areas that could be prioritised as 'Energy Efficiency Action Areas'. The combined knowledge of people from different backgrounds – energy, income maximisation and public health – has proved invaluable in selecting these areas, which may become designated in the fourth quarter of 2006/7. The Home Energy Team is negotiating with an EEC provider to fund a scheme that targets concentrated activity on a street-by-street basis in the action areas.

The Council continues to develop and enhance its grant schemes based on evidence provided by the energy and stock condition surveys and other sources, and in consultation with partners on the Affordable Warmth Group. For example, further funds have been secured to enable more heating grants under the Plymouth Healthy Homes scheme, as heating has been identified as a particular need amongst those suffering poor health.

6. Please indicate below, for the period 1 April 2005 to 31 March 2006, the percentage improvement in energy efficiency recorded for each of the four housing sectors shown. In each case, please also indicate the resulting

annual reduction in CO₂ emissions and the costs involved. If you do not have the information available by sector, please ensure that you provide overall totals for each column in the table below.

Sector of housing	% improvement in energy efficiency achieved in 2005/06	Reduction in CO ₂ emissions 2005/06 (tonnes)	Cost of the measures in 2005/06	
			Cost to your authority £ millions	Overall cost £ millions
Total for each sector April 2005 to March 2006:				
Owner/Occupied	2.0	8,500	0.5	18.0
Local Authority	0.5	2,225	2.0	3.0
Private Rented				
Housing Associations				
OVERALL TOTAL FOR HOUSING, APRIL 2005 TO MARCH 2006				
	2.1	10,725	2.5	21.0
Any qualifying comments on the figures should be included here:				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improvement in the council rented sector is slowing considerably. This is largely because most homes with lofts have loft insulation, most homes with cavity walls have CWI and there has been an extensive programme of replacing 'old' boilers with new condensing boilers. A report by Powergen using their methodology and based on the public sector stock condition survey (2004) updated with data from the council's stock database, gives an average SAP of 77. 2. Improvement in the private sector has slowed. There are a number of reasons for this. For example, data from Eaga shows that whilst expenditure on Warm Front grants in Plymouth increased, the number of properties benefiting reduced. Furthermore, there has been a shift from central heating installations to heating repairs, where energy efficiency gains are reduced and somewhat more tenuous. 'Decent Homes' began to have an impact in 2005/6, resulting in reduced resources for energy efficiency measures. 				

7. Please indicate at (a) the annual percentage improvement (i.e. the reduction in consumption in GJ based on standard occupancy reported in each of the previous progress report periods and, at b) the overall progress recorded up to 31 March 2006. Please add any supplementary information below.

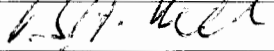
Please note that the figure entered at (b) will NOT be a sum of the figures entered at (a). Please see paragraph 26 of the accompanying guidance.

(a1) Progress reported between 1 April 1996 and 30 June 1997 (1 st progress report)	1.2 %
(a2) Progress reported between 1 April 1997 and 31 March 1998 (2 nd progress report)	1.8 %
(a3) Progress reported between 1 April 1998 and 31 March 1999 (3 rd progress report)	1.85 %
(a4) Progress reported between 1 April 1999 and 31 March 2000 (4 th progress report)	1.4 %
(a5) Progress reported between 1 April 2000 and 31 March 2001 (5 th progress report)	1.8 %
(a6) Progress reported between 1 April 2001 and 31 March 2002 (6 th progress report)	2.25 %
(a7) Progress reported between 1 April 2002 and 31 March 2003 (7 th progress report)	2.5 %
(a8) Progress reported between 1 April 2003 and 31 March 2004 (8 th progress report)	2.6 %
(a9) Progress reported between 1 April 2004 and 31 March 2005 (9 th progress report)	2.3 %
(a10) Progress reported between 1 April 2005 and 31 March 2006 (this progress report)	2.1 %
(b) Overall improvement in energy efficiency from 1 April 1996 to 31 March 2006	18.1 %
Any qualifying comments or supplementary information should be included here:	

Before returning this form to your Government Office it must be authorised by the Chief Executive of your authority.

I confirm that I have seen and agreed this report of the progress made by this authority to implement its energy efficiency report as required under the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995.

Signature, Chief Executive



Name

BARRY KEEL

Authority

PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

date

30 October 2006