

Home Energy Conservation Act – LB Barnet – 2023

The Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 (HECA) requires all local authorities (LAs) in England to submit reports to the Secretary of State of the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) demonstrating what energy conservation measures they have adopted to improve the energy performance of residential accommodation within that LA's area. This covers measures to improve properties in the owner-occupier, private rented sector, and social rented sector. The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero uses data submitted to inform policy thinking on energy efficiency, and to build an ongoing picture of local and national energy efficiency policy delivery

Headline and Overview

Q1. Does your Local Authority have a current strategy on carbon reduction and/or energy efficiency for domestic properties?

Yes

Q2. If yes, please provide a link.

[Appendix A - Draft Housing Strategy 2023-28.pdf \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](#)

Q3. If no, are you planning to develop one, and in what timeframe?

Yes, within 1 year

Yes, within 2 years

Yes, within 3 years+

No development plans

N/A

Q4. In the last 2 years, what has been the cost (or estimated cost) of your energy efficiency and/or carbon reduction initiatives, schemes and services? Please consider the total cost of running and administering the scheme(s). Please input 0 if no schemes or initiatives has been implemented.

£2.315m

Q5. Which, if any, of the following outcomes have been achieved through your energy efficiency and/or carbon initiatives, schemes and services? Please select all that apply.

- **Energy savings,**
- **Carbon savings,**
- **Job creation**
- Increased business competitiveness
- **Alleviation of fuel poverty**
- **Improved health outcomes**
- None of the above
- Other - please specify.

Consumer Advice and Information

Q6. Do you provide or promote any advisory services to consumers on how to save energy?

Yes

Q7. If yes, please select all that apply;

- **Local Authority website**
- Local advisory service
- **'Find ways to save energy in your home' (formerly Simple Energy Advice) gov.uk website**
- **'Find ways to save energy in your home' gov.uk phonenumber**
- Leaflets
- **Social media**

- Local energy hubs
- **Other- GLA Energy Advice Helpline and website, Energy Saving Trust**

Local Retrofit Supply Chain

Q8. Have you conducted any assessment or analysis to understand the existing capacity in your local supply chain to support the decarbonisation of buildings by 2050?

No

Q9. If you answered yes to question 8, please summarise any specific bottlenecks (or provide a link if this information has been published).

N/A

Q10. Which, if any, of the following actions are you taking to upskill and/or grow your local retrofit installer supply chain? Please select all that apply

- **Supporting training provision at local training providers**
- **Supporting FE colleges to improve facilities or train trainers or otherwise enable better delivery of retrofit training.**
- **Providing installer networking opportunities or other business support for growing companies.**
- **Careers advice or similar involving local businesses doing schools outreach to encourage young people into the sector.**
- None of the above
- Other (please state)

Q11. Do you provide advice for your residents and small businesses about how to pick an installer business or how to avoid being mis-sold inappropriate improvements?

No

Q12. Has there been any Trading Standards activity against energy efficiency or home retrofit businesses in your area due to mis-selling or otherwise poorly advising consumers about retrofit measures?

- Yes – there has been action taken on a regular basis
- Yes – but rarely
- **No – resourcing constraints have curtailed potential activity**
- No – we are not aware of any issues

Q13. If you received funding under Local Authority Delivery, Home Upgrade Grant or Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund, did availability of PAS 2030:2019 or MCS certified and TrustMark registered supply chain affect your ability to deliver?

Yes

Q14. If you answered yes to question 13 please can you tell us, which parts of the supply chain were particularly affected (please select all that apply)?

- **Installers of insulation**
- Installers of windows/doors
- Installers of heat pumps
- Retrofit assessors
- Retrofit coordinators
- All of the above
- **Other- retrofit designers**

Q15. If you answered yes to question 13 please can you tell us, what actions did you take to overcome those barriers (please select all that apply)?

- **Marketing to drive supply chain interest**
- Use of frameworks or a local DPS to reach more businesses
- **Supporting training and upskilling more generally**
- **Using a main contractor and requiring them to source suitably certified supply chain (either through contracting or training up their own staff)**
- Delivering in-house e.g. by upskilling existing social housing maintenance teams, directly employing retrofit coordinators etc
- Other (please state)

Social Housing Decarbonisation

Q16. Did you apply to the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) Wave 2.1?

- **Yes, and successful in securing funding**
- Yes, and not successful in securing funding
- No
- Don't know

Q17. Which, if any, of the following motivated you to apply for SHDF Wave 2.1? Please select all that apply.

- **Financial support for retrofit**
- Technical support for retrofit
- Tenant needs
- **Expectations of future energy performance regulations**
- Other – please tell us your motivation(s) for applying

Q18. Which, if any, of the following barriers prevented you from applying to SHDF Wave 2.1?

- Application window too short

- Too much information needed at application
- Don't own enough stock
- Not enough capability
- Too Costly
- Retrofit work is not a priority
- Not enough information
- Don't know
- Other – please tell us what prevented you applying
- **N/A**

Q19, Have you carried out/planned to carry out any retrofit work in absence of SHDF funding?

- **Yes**
- No
- Don't know

Q20. If yes, how is this funded/how would this be funded?

- **Internal funding**
- **Funding from other Government schemes**
- **Other- private finance**
- Don't know

Q21. If no, what is/are the main reason(s) for not planning to carry out any retrofit work? Please select all that apply.

- Lack of funding
- Lack of internal resource
- Lack of capacity
- Lack of technical support
- Retrofit work is not a priority

- Other
- Don't know
- **N/A**

Q22. How many of your social housing partners are you aware applied for the SHDF?

Not known

Domestic Private Rented Sector (PRS) Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) Regulations

Q23. Do you enforce the PRS MEES Regulations in domestic tenancies?

Yes

Q24. Do you use the PRS MEES Exemption Register?

Yes

Q25. Are you aware of the PRS MEES draft toolkit for supporting local authorities?

- Yes, and I've used it
- **Yes, but I haven't used it**
- No

Q26. In the past 2 years, how many domestic private rented properties have you engaged with in respect to enforcement of the PRS MEES Regulations?

Picked up on inspection and raised with landlord as part of HHSRS conversation. Not recorded separately so unable to report.

Q27. In the past 2 years, how many domestic private rented properties have you found to be non-compliant?

Picked up on inspection and raised with landlord as part of HHSRS conversation. Not recorded separately so unable to report.

Q28. In the last 2 years, how many non-compliant properties have been improved to EPC Band E after you have engaged with them?

Picked up on inspection and raised with landlord as part of HHSRS conversation. Not recorded separately so unable to report.

Q29. How many compliance notices have you issued in the past 2 years for non-compliance of the PRS MEES Regulations?

None

Green Home Finance

Q30. What programmes, if any, do you have to promote domestic energy efficiency improvements for those who are able to pay? Please provide links to any relevant online materials.

No LA managed programme to deliver domestic energy efficiency improvements for those able to pay.

Any programmes for domestic energy efficiency improvements for those able to able delivered by other organisations are promoted through the BarNET Zero Campaign Programme. [Creating net zero carbon homes for residents | Engage Barnet](#)

Q31. Do you take any steps to raise awareness of the availability of private financing options (such as green mortgages) to fund retrofit works?

- Yes

- **No, but we have plans to do this in the future**
- No

Q32. Do you refer homeowners interested in energy efficiency to retail lenders offering green finance products?

- Yes
- **No, but we have plans to do this in the future**
- No

Fuel Poverty

Q33. Does your Local Authority have a Fuel Poverty Strategy?

No

Q34 How do you identify fuel poor households? Please select all that apply and provide additional information if possible.

- **Used local data sets on energy efficiency/housing**
- **Used local data sets on household income**
- Campaigns to encourage potential households to reach out
- Other
- [option to provide additional information]

Q35. What actions are you taking to reduce fuel poverty in your area? Please select all that apply and provide additional information if possible.

- **Delivery of government wide schemes such as the Home Upgrade Grant or Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund.**
- **Actions to increase financial support to low income or vulnerable households.**
- Other
- [option to provide additional information]

Q36. Does fuel poverty interlink with your local authority's overall Carbon Reduction Strategy?

Yes

- If yes, please can you explain how it does this?

It is in the housing and buildings, theme around supporting private sector retrofit. As part of our Housing Strategy addressing fuel poverty is recognised as a key area by ensuring safe, sustainable council housing.

- If no, is this something you might consider doing or are there barriers to doing this?

N/A

Local Authority Delivery

Q37. If your local authority did not apply for funding from the Local Authority Delivery scheme, please indicate which barrier(s) prevented you from applying.

- lack of capacity
- lack of capability
- lack of awareness
- other – please specify
- **N/A**

Q38. Does your local authority have access to good quality housing data for on-gas properties?

Yes

Q39. If no, please specify what is lacking.

N/A

Home Upgrade Grant

Q40. If your local authority did not apply for funding from the Home Upgrade Grant, please indicate which barrier(s) prevented you from applying.

- lack of capacity
- lack of capability
- lack of awareness
- other – please specify
- **N/A**

Q41. Does your local authority have access to good quality housing data for off-gas properties?

Yes

Q42. If no, please specify what is lacking.

N/A

The Energy Company Obligation (ECO)

Q43. Did your local authority have a published Statement of Intent (Sol) for ECO flexibility eligibility under ECO3, during 2022?

No

Please answer the following questions to help us to understand LA Flex delivery in more detail during the course of 2022:

Q44. How many declarations were issued for low-income vulnerable households during ECO3?

N/A

Q45. How many declarations were issued for Fuel Poor households under ECO3? Q46. How many declarations were issued for in-fill under ECO3?

N/A

Q47. What was the highest income cap published in your Sol?

N/A

Q48. If you have used an income over £30k gross, what reason did you give? Q49. Did you charge for declarations to be signed?

No

Q 50. If so, please state how much and how you decided on this figure.

N/A

Q51. ECO4 commenced in July 2022, has your local authority published a Statement of Intent (Sol) for ECO flexibility eligibility under ECO4?

No

Q52. If 'No' are there any specific barriers preventing you, from publishing and participating in the scheme?

The LA actively supports the pan-London co-ordination of ECO4 managed by the Greater London Authority and Heatflex.

Q53a. Do you directly engage with energy suppliers either for ECO Flex(or other domestic energy efficiency schemes)?

Yes

54b. If yes, please provide the name of the scheme and indicate whether this is an LA, Supplier, DESNZ or other organisational run scheme (please specify)

ECO4- supplier run

Q55. Which route(s) do you envisage submitting referrals through under ECO4 Flex? Select all that apply.

- All four routes available
- Route 1
- Route 2
- Route 3
- Route 4
- **N/A**

Smart Metering

The following questions refer to smart metering advice. Please provide any additional details where possible.

Q56a. Do you provide smart metering advice when implementing energy efficiency improvements (including through grant schemes such as the Energy Company Obligation and the Home Upgrade Grant) in residential accommodation?

Yes

Q57b. If no, please explain why not, and what plans will be put in place to implement this.

N/A

Q58a. Do you encourage landlords to promote smart meter uptake, e.g., landlord licencing schemes.

No

Q59b. If no, please explain why not, and what plans will be put in place to implement this.

Plans to promote smart meters to landlords include sharing information on requesting smart meters as part of licensing, as well as promoting smart meters via the council's webpages, alongside other low-cost measures to help with energy efficiency.

Q60a. Do you arrange for smart meters to be installed by energy suppliers in vacant social housing premises?

No

Q61b. If no, please explain why not, and what plans will be put in place to implement this.

Significant delays experienced when changing faulty meters therefore to keep to void turnaround times, meter changes are avoided.