

HECA REPORTING 2021

Introduction

The Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 (HECA) requires all local authorities (LAs) in England to submit reports to the Secretary of State demonstrating what energy conservation measures they have adopted to improve the energy efficiency 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 Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) uses data submitted through these returns to inform policy thinking on energy efficiency, and to build an ongoing picture of local and national energy efficiency policy delivery.

This guidance document is issued by BEIS in accordance with the Secretary of State's powers under section 4 of the Act. It is to alert LAs of updates to the HECA reporting framework in advance of 31 May 2021 when the next reports are due, and to provide guidance on completing returns. The refreshed online reporting system used in 2019 successfully boosted the number of responses from 151 (2017) to 219 (2019). After a review of the 2019 process, it has been decided that the reports will continue to be submitted online and will continue to be centred around a series of questions and direct information points. The reports will now be submitted through Microsoft Forms. Details on how to request access to Microsoft Forms is in the 'Submission of HECA 2021 Report' section of this guidance.

Following the principles of open data, the department may publish anonymous information in an open data format to allow wider access and interpretation of the data by relevant key stakeholders, while ensuring that such publication complies with the terms of UK General Data Protection Regulations¹. BEIS will consider the value of publishing a summary report of the responses submitted by Local Authorities that highlights key themes and any evidence of common best practices displayed by respondents.

HECA 2021 Reporting Requirements

The reporting template is divided into sections of structured questions to capture information on a range of key themes:

Headline & Overview

The main strategies LAs have to promote carbon reduction and energy efficiency, the stakeholders they work with and the impact these strategies have.

Communication

How LAs engage stakeholders (including consumers and businesses) to promote awareness of energy efficiency.

Green Local Supply Chain

How LAs assess the capacity of local supply chains that support home retrofit and energy saving measures and how LAs are planning to grow this capacity.

Social Housing

Measures LAs have taken to improve the energy efficiency of Social Housing

Private Rental Sector Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards

How LAs enforce and promote awareness of the PRS Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards² that came into force in April 2018.

Financial Support for Energy Efficiency

Financial programmes used by LAs to promote energy efficiency.

Fuel Poverty

How LAs identify those in fuel poverty and any initiatives used to address this.

Green Homes Grant: Local Authority Delivery

How LAs have interacted with the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery scheme.

The Energy Company Obligation (ECO)

How LAs are using ECO to help those in fuel poor households.

Smart Metering

How LAs promote awareness and uptake of smart metering All questions are optional but, responses to all are highly encouraged. At the end of the structured questions sections, a final free response section invites authorities to provide information on any additional activities they undertake which they feel may be of interest to Government's energy efficiency and fuel poverty teams.

Submission of HECA 2021 Reports

Having previously piloted the submission of reports via a digital platform, LAs will again be asked to populate their HECA Report online with materials submitted via the Microsoft Forms platform in 2021. No other reporting material or submissions will be required.

LAs will be sent a link to the Microsoft Forms survey when requested. To request the survey, the person responsible for completing the HECA report within the LA should email HECARReport@beis.gov.uk stating their Local Authorities name and that they wish to receive a

HECA 2021 report link. Microsoft Forms does not allow respondents to save their responses and return at a later date. As such, we advise that respondents use the table of questions below to formulate their responses before opening the survey.

LAs continue to be required to publish their responses, and they can do this in whichever form they wish, so long as the published report contains relevant information submitted via the digital platform. It is not necessary for LAs to publish all the information submitted via the digital platform.

BEIS will consider if this approach continues to prove effective and supports the engagement and compliance of a greater number of authorities than in previous years. BEIS will also continue to evaluate how this approach can be further improved for the 2023 reporting year.

HECA Reporting 2021 Questions

Name of Local Authority	
Dover District Council (DDC)	
Type of Local Authority:	
District/ Council	
Name and contact details of official submitting the report:	
Amanda Martin Amanda.martin@dover.gov.uk 01304 872128	
Job title of official submitting the report:	
Climate Change and Energy Conservation Officer	
<h3>Headline and Overview Questions</h3>	
Does your Local Authority have a current strategy on carbon reduction and/or energy efficiency for domestic or non-domestic properties?	Y
If yes, please provide a link to your current strategy here: The Council has developed and published a Climate Change Strategy and has a draft action plan that is now being turned into a living document. DDC works closely with County and other District/ Borough Councils in Kent and supports the Kent Environment and Low Emissions Strategy . A Kent Fuel Poverty Strategy was developed by Council Officers who are members of the	

Kent Energy Efficiency Partnership. Revisions to this document will be needed to bring to ensure it reflects the recently published 'Sustainable Warmth – Protecting Vulnerable Households in England' and the many changes/ funding opportunities announced by this Government.	
If no, are you planning to develop one?	N/A
What scheme(s) is your Local Authority planning to implement in support of energy saving/carbon reduction in residential accommodation properties in the next two years?	
<p>It is difficult to look forward due to the many announcements of different funding streams. However, Dover District Council will be participating in the future iterations of LADs, HUG and ECO, and Social Housing Decarbonisation scheme.</p> <p>Dover District Council has actively engaged with LA Flex/ ECO scheme since inception and will continue to promote to residents.</p> <p>Dover District Council was part of a Kent Consortia that successfully bid for First Time Gas Central Heating Fund from SGN (£420k), and a Warm Home Fund bid (£1,420,982).</p> <p>Dover District Council was part of a successful joint bid to LADs1A with other Kent Authorities (£804,750) and has been working with the GSEEH regarding LADs2.</p> <p>Dover District Council was part of a Triple A funded solar pv and battery storage pilot.</p> <p>DDC participated in the first Kent Solar Together scheme aimed at encouraging 'able to pay' residents to see whether they could benefit from solar pv and/ or battery storage through a supported scheme with no obligation to pursue to purchase.</p> <p>DDC has participated in Kent Energy Deal, a collective energy switching scheme, enabling residents to see if they could benefit from auction tariffs through a supported scheme and without obligation to accept. The scheme also allows residents without access to the internet to participate and receive paper offer, and bills.</p> <p>The Council's Private Sector Housing team offer:-</p> <p>Winter warmth grants -people over 60 with long term health conditions pays for heating and insulation £7k grant. Financial assistance is for owner occupiers only</p> <p>Urgent home loans eligible work includes heating and insulation used for solid wall insulation. Means tested max £20k. Financial assistance is for owner occupiers only.</p> <p>Empty Property Loans to enable empty properties to be brought back into use and comply with current standards.</p> <p>Disabled Facilities Grants are available which can be used for heating and some improved insulation</p> <p>The Council's Private Sector Housing team actively enforcing MEES by contacting landlords who are known to have EPC's of F & G. Using EPC register and land registry to identify properties. We intend to use Housing Act 2004 to get property improved. Limitations are staff resources to get properties improved. We are targeting worst first.</p> <p>The Council has provided support for a hospital discharge scheme, part of which would include</p>	

identifying energy efficiency measures to enable the resident to return to a affordably warm home.

The Council's Private Sector Housing team check properties for HHSRS hazards, including CAT 1 excess cold, and would enforce where no action was taken by the landlord to redress, and are also engaging with Landlords in relation to MEES regulations. The Private Sector Housing Team's Housing Assistance funds provide financial assistance/ top up funding for measures that improve the energy efficiency of properties.

The Council was allocated COVID winter food and fuel scheme monies and has distributed for vulnerable households.

The Council signposts residents to assistance and other Utility Company funds/ schemes that are not available through the Council.

The Council's Local Plan includes a section on climate change and energy efficiency to increase energy efficiency and climate change being considered in future developments.

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.

Percentage of LA time for :-

Climate Change & Energy Conservation Officer – 75%

Private Sector Housing team have a shared responsibility for energy efficiency in the Private Sector – 10% of team's time.

Finance, Procurement, Legal and DDC's Comms teams are involved throughout the running of/ setting up new schemes – approximate 1% of overall time – however can increase dependent upon the stage of the scheme.

The Warm Homes Fund included an element of Administration however this cost was taken by scheme partner.

LADS1A joint bid included monies for the administration of the scheme by the project lead (Dartford BC)

LADS2 – Admin costs direct to GSEEH as consortia lead and % of funding direct to Managing Agent. The scheme is/ and will take a percentage of the LA's time in setting up the governance/ legal documentation and communications (both promotion and dealing with residents).

The Council's Housing Assistance grants are used to fund/ top up energy efficiency measures for residents who meet the grant criteria. This fund is used extensively as in most cases ECO, LADS1 funding does not fully cover the cost of the more expensive insulation/ heating measures.

The Council housing stock was managed by an Arm's Length Management Organisation (ALMO) throughout the majority of the last 2 years. The management was brought back in-house last October due to poor performance, therefore no figures available for the thermal upgrades undertaken on the Council's own stock.

	Number of measures	Total cost of measure	ECO		GHG	Council / 2 nd funding source	Public Health	Resident self - fund	Client contribution
			HHCRO	LA Flex	Voucher				
Cavity Wall Insulation	7		3633.30	2541.84	1252.64			450.00	818.24
Heating	4	14357.92	5088.69			7163.03			2106.20
Loft Insulation	20	15,397.32	6994.44	6559.20	722.77			1120.91	

6 Loft insulation booked in for install

3 cavity wall insulation booked in for survey

7 EWI booked in for survey

99 cancelled

Warm Homes Fund Scheme April 2019 To March 2021

	Number of measures	Total Cost	ECO	Warm Home Fund	SGN	Council
First time gas connection – FOC.	10					
First time Central Heating (1 heating install outstanding)	9	51717.11	15431.11	14175.27	18000.00	4110.73

The Private Sector Housing's Team grants for this work average at £90k a year – administration costs circa £10K

Kent Energy Deal 2019 – 2021 (Dover District Council figures)

Auction Round	No. of Registrants	No of Switchers	Average realised savings £	CO savings tonnes
Feb-19	312	64	204.74	
May-19	291	112	221.675	
Oct-19	260	53	143.66	
Feb-20	240	66	330.66	75
May-20	246	68	222.33	66
Oct-20	273	54	109.33	45

From February 2020 auction all electricity tariffs are from renewable energy sources.

What businesses, charities, third sector organisations or other stakeholders do you work with to deliver the scheme(s)?

ECO ENERGY COMPANIES – Delivery of Warm Home Fund/ ECO. Referrals of residents to Charis Grants/ assisting residents to understand energy bills/ energy switching

SGN - Fuel Poor Network Extension Scheme and Vulnerability Team

Warm Homes Framework provider of insulation/ heating measures

CCG/ Health Practitioners/Adult and Children's Social Care/Hospital Discharge Team - referrals into Council run energy efficiency schemes

Home Improvement Agency – referrals into Council run energy efficiency schemes .

Private Landlords/Agents – advice on MEES regulations/ improvements to energy efficiency of property and signposting to funding

iChoosr – Kent Energy Deal

Contracted providers through GSEEH Dynamic Purchasing System – installation of energy efficiency measures.

Voluntary groups

Partnerships, i.e. Kent and Medway Sustainable Energy Partnership, Kent Energy Efficiency Partnership, Association of Local Energy Officers – sharing of best practice and knowledge

<p>What has been, or will be, the outcome of the scheme(s)? These outcomes could include energy savings, carbon savings, economic impacts such as job creation and/or increased business competitiveness or societal impacts such as alleviation of fuel poverty and/or improved health outcomes etc.</p>	
<p>Alleviation of Fuel Poverty</p> <p>Improvement to health and independent living.</p> <p>Improving Energy Efficiency of Housing Stock.</p> <p>Helping vulnerable residents to achieve affordable warmth</p> <p>Reducing carbon emissions.</p> <p>Increasing knowledge/ uptake of renewable energy technologies.</p> <p>Behaviour change.</p>	
<h2>Communications</h2>	
<p>Does your Local Authority provide any advisory services to customers on how to save energy?</p>	<p>Y</p>
<p>If yes, please briefly outline how this is undertaken.</p>	
<p>Through provision of information on the Council's website, social media, Warm Homes Call Centre (up to March 2021).</p> <p>Through responses to telephone, email and enquiries made via the Council's website</p> <p>Face to face contact by the Council Officers (Climate Change & Energy Conservation Officer and Private Sector Housing Team) – residents, landlords, letting agents.</p> <p>Through promotion and registering residents via the phone for Kent Energy Deal</p> <p>Council information contained on the Simple Energy Advice Website.</p>	
<p>How do you communicate or encourage energy saving amongst domestic consumers and/or local businesses?</p>	
<p>Direct contact with residents who call into the Council Offices (prior to COVID), via the telephone and via email.</p>	

Publishing articles in Local Parish/ Town Magazines.

Through promotion of schemes (Energy Deal, Solar Together Kent, Warm Home Fund scheme, LA Flexible Eligibility Scheme etc) and the resulting communications with the residents.

Home visits by the Private Sector Housing Team (impacted by COVID 19)

MEES enforcement letters

Landlord Forums

Presentations – i.e. Disability Rise Event at the Kent Events Centre Detling

Chair of Kent Energy Efficiency Partnership Radio Kent talk about fuel poverty and action across Kent when New Fuel Poverty for England was published this year.

DDC offer Green Business Grants to local businesses and provide energy efficiency advice/ financial assistance to improve their establishments. Also signpost SMEs to Low Carbon Across the South East (LOCASE) for assistance/ advice.

Updates on the Simple Energy Advice Website

Local Green Supply Chain

Have you made any assessment, or undertaken any analysis of the existing capacity in your local energy efficiency retrofit supply chain to support the decarbonisation of buildings by 2050? If Yes, please summarise the outcomes.

N

No – Kent County Council's LOCASE team would undertake this role.

The Greater South East Energy Hub have set up a Dynamic Purchasing Scheme to encourage local businesses to engage in this area.

What actions are you taking, if any, to upskill and/or grow the local energy efficiency installer supply chain? This could include the facilitation of training, and local installer networking opportunities

KCC held Installer Workshops in Spring 2021

KCC engage with SME's through LOCASE/ STEM programme

GSEEH are engaging with business through their Dynamic Purchasing System

What actions are you taking, if any, to promote energy efficiency and the installer supply chain to consumers, and encourage households to consider energy retrofit?

<p>Promotion of the Green Home Grant</p> <p>Promotion of and targeting of energy efficiency grant schemes, such as LADS1A, ECO.</p> <p>Promotion of Solar Together Kent scheme</p>
<p>If no action is taking place in either of these two areas, please let us know of any barriers you have encountered.</p>
<p>Sustainability/ longevity of Government Schemes. Start/ stop approach to funding is a barrier to uptake and trust and investment from residents and businesses alike</p> <p>Accredited installers in the South East was definitely a barrier to residents in the Dover District engaging with a Trustmark accredited installer for the Green Home Grant Voucher Schemes. Some installers that residents had contacted did not follow up on the Voucher, and the Council is now receiving enquiries from these residents as to what financial help/ incentive is available for the 'able to pay'.</p> <p>The changes to guidelines/ standards/ qualifying criteria cause confusion and mistrust of schemes. The amount of financial assistance is not known until after survey, therefore some residents withdraw their applications as fully funded measures cannot be guaranteed.</p> <p>COVID 19 has undoubtedly impacted delivery of schemes throughout 2020/21.</p> <p>Whilst Government funding is appreciated and much needed – the tight timescales for bidding, putting governance arrangements in place and delivery is not realistic and, in most cases, unachievable even though Officers have worked extremely hard to maximise the benefit of funding for residents.</p>
<p>How effectively is your LA able to engage (Trustmark/PAS2035/PAS2030 certified) installers?</p>
<p>See response to above question.</p> <p>The lack of Trustmark approved installers highlighted by Green Home Grant and searches on the Simple Energy Advice website.</p>
<p>Do you have any plans to develop policies or initiatives in this space over the next five years as part of supporting your local decarbonisation efforts?</p>
<p>Outcome of GSEEH Dynamic Purchasing Scheme may well increase locally qualified installers GSEEH offering upskilling and training opportunities.</p> <p>The Council will continue to support/ signpost to KCC LOCASE, and frameworks which Local</p>

Businesses can apply.

Social Housing

What action, if any, has your LA taken to install energy efficiency or low carbon heat measures in social housing? Have these been installed to a satisfactory quality? What actions (if any) have your social housing partners taken?

The Council Housing Stock has recently been brought back in house, and the Council is currently working on plans to increase the energy efficiency of the worst performing properties, and then work through the remainder of the stock on the decarbonisation programme. The Council will look for assistance from the SHDF funding to deliver this programme.

Do you have easy access to the information/knowledge within your organisation that you would expect to need for social housing retrofit projects? (e.g. stock condition; property data; approach to procurement; alignment with existing internal maintenance/upgrade plans; tenant engagement and management plans; costings)

Since bringing the Council Housing Stock back 'inhouse' detailed analysis of the stock condition is being undertaken so that the Council has a complete picture, and ability to analyse for future improvements. The Council was unsuccessful with it's application to the Social Housing Decarbonisation Technical Assistance Pilot last Autumn.

The Council circulates a tenants' newsletter, provide updates through social media feeds/ tenants representatives/ champions. Therefore, broad routes for engagement liaison with tenants and to receive feedback.

Have you experienced any challenges to retrofit, including during any previous government schemes you have taken part in (e.g. supply chain, funding, tenant cooperation, mixed tenure, split incentive, policy clarity, etc)? Please provide some detail. Have social housing partners reported any challenges to retrofit?

Social Housing Decarbonisation Demonstrator Fund was launched with insufficient timescales to liaise with social housing partners/ own Council housing stock to build a deliverable project

How does your LA currently/how will your LA in future plan to go about identifying suitable housing stock and measures for retrofit? How do social housing partners identify suitable stock? By the same measures or via a different method?

Since bringing the Council Housing Stock back 'inhouse' detailed analysis of the stock condition is being undertaken so that the Council has a complete picture, and ability to analyse for future improvements

With regards planned maintenance we are looking at pilot schemes later this year which refurb/enhance the external envelope as one project and are looking to embed carbon reduction measures in to the project - obvious ones are solar PV, better insulated windows and where practicable external wall insulation. Fabric first approach -which then makes alternative heat sources, such as air source heat pumps feasible (if not currently financially viable). Needs to be considered holistically

What considerations would make you more or less likely to apply for government funding? If known, what is the opinion of your social housing partners?

Flexibility with funding, less complex schemes and ability to use funding with already procured partners and on schemes that are already underway to improve the energy efficiency/ decarbonisation of the Social Housing stock.

To what extent are social housing tenants willing or unwilling to undergo retrofit, and what are the barriers and facilitators to their participation? If known, is this the same opinion across all social housing tenants or is it different with HA and ALMO tenants?

Disruption to home – especially with deep retrofit.

Does the approach to retrofit change for leaseholders in mixed tenure blocks? What encourages them to co-operate?

No evidence on which to base an informed response

Domestic Private Rented Sector (PRS) Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards

Is your authority aware of the PRS Minimum Efficiency Standards regulations requiring private rentals in England and Wales to meet a minimum energy performance rating of EPC Band E as of April 2020, unless a valid exemption applies?

Y

Which team within your authority is responsible for, leading on enforcement of the PRS minimum standard? Please provide the contact details of the person leading this team.

Private Sector Housing Manager, Mr Robin Kennedy – R Robin.Kennedy@dover.gov.uk	
What method or methods does your authority use to communicate with landlords and tenants about the standards and other related issues?	
<p>Website/ Landlord Forums/ Private Housing Subgroup, Private Sector Housing Technical Group – all of these enable a strong link with landlords that are willing to engage with the Council</p> <p>Information on enforcement policy and other relevant information available through the Council’s website, or by contacting the Private Sector Housing Team.</p> <p>Literature shared with letting agents regarding standards</p>	
What barriers, if any, does your local authority face enforcing these regulations (e.g. identifying non-compliant properties/landlords, budgeting/resourcing, any legal issues)?	
<p>Many rented properties do not have EPCS due to long tenancy - if one isn’t available there is nothing that an LA can do.</p> <p>The Council tends to use HHSRS rather than MEEs as addresses excess cold specifically</p> <p>Conservation/Listed Building regulations restrict ability to upgrade thermal efficiency of these buildings – would require changes to planning policy</p>	
Do you directly target landlords of EPC F and G rated properties to enforce these regulations? If yes, how? If no, please explain. Do you directly target landlords of EPC F and G rated properties?	(Y/N)
<p>MEEs enforcement needs to link with the current HHSRS review to ensure legislation is consistent and in step.</p> <p>The Council is already taking enforcement action under Housing Act legislation to deal with excess cold as it gives greater powers to remedy situation. Where there is currently a valid MEEs exemption in place which has been registered a PRS property will not fall under MEEs requirements.</p>	
Financial Support for Energy Efficiency	
What financial programmes, if any, do you have to promote domestic energy efficiency or energy saving? If applicable please outline the budget (and % of the budget that is	

used), where such funding is sourced and where it is targeted.	
See response to the question: ' What has been, or will be, the cost(s) of running and administrating the scheme(s), such as the value of grants and other support made available, plus any other costs incurred (such as administration) as desired.'	
What future investment for energy efficiency or low carbon heat measures do you have planned, and when are these investments planned for?	
<p>HUG</p> <p>ECO</p> <p>Social Housing Decarb Fund</p> <p>Allocation of Housing Assistance Grants</p> <p>SGN – Gas Connection Fuel Poor Households – Help To Heat</p> <p>Future iterations of LADS</p>	
Fuel Poverty	
Does your Local Authority have a Fuel Poverty Strategy?	Y
Kent Fuel Poverty Strategy (https://www.dover.gov.uk/Environment/Energy-Advice/Delivering-Affordable-Warmth.aspx)	
What steps have you taken to identify residents/properties in fuel poverty? What blockers, if any, have there been in identifying households in fuel poverty?	
<p>House Condition Surveys (BRE)</p> <p>EPC data</p> <p>Previous analysis of data for past schemes – good knowledge of the District and housing stock and areas of deprivation.</p> <p>Blockers:</p> <p>Access to benefit data/ low income data/ vulnerability data is biggest barrier. access to credit rating scores/ Experian data at post code level would enable greater identification and enable better targeting of schemes.</p> <p>Whilst a property may well have a poor EPC rating the person within that property may not necessarily meet HHCRO/ LA Flexible Eligibility criteria, therefore use of EPC data alone does not necessarily identify relevant households.</p>	

A greater understanding of/ clarity on the Digital Economy Act and how LA's can gain access to/ share data would greatly assist in identifying/ targeting the most vulnerable households.

Linking with health data would also enable vulnerable households to live in healthier homes resulting in their ability to live comfortably and affordably in their own homes for longer and independently.

How does fuel poverty interlink with your local authority's overall Carbon Reduction Strategy?

The Council's Climate Change Strategy and underlying draft action plan includes fuel poverty

The Council has endorsed and supports the Kent Fuel Poverty Strategy and the Kent & Medway Energy and Low Emission Strategy.

The Council's Corporate Plan commits to 'Improving the quality and energy efficiency of our own housing to reduce carbon impact and issues of fuel poverty' and supports improvements in the quality and availability of private sector housing'

Please highlight any fuel poverty issues specific to your area.

Age of the Housing Stock

Rural offgas properties that are pre 1919 with solid walls/ system built properties

Income levels in certain parts of the district

Extensive lockdown period has led to many employees being furloughed or made redundant.

The benefit cap on under 35's reduces income for that cohort who then have to live in the least expensive / energy efficient properties

What measures or initiatives have you taken to promote fuel cost reduction for those in fuel poverty? Include information on partnerships with local businesses or energy providers you have.

Kent Energy Deal – collective energy switching scheme that enables residents without internet access to switch energy through a supported and no obligation scheme.

COVID Hubs working with fuel, banks third sector

ECO, Local Authority Delivery scheme to enable vulnerable households to reduce energy consumption – top up funding through the Council's Housing Assistance grants.

Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery

Has your Local Authority Participated in GHG: LAD?

Y

If yes, please indicate which phase you participated in and briefly outline the project.

Dover District Council joint bid with other Kent Councils, Dartford Borough Council lead authority.

LAD1A – focus on EWI and ASHP – due to cost of these measures BEIS have agreed to increase scope to encompass loft/ cavity wall insulation to allow for blending of measures to enable the more expensive measures to be fully funded.

Would your Local Authority be in a position to manage the delivery of upgrades through a scheme such as LAD in 2022?

Y

If yes, please indicate the anticipated number of homes that could be upgraded per year.

If no, please indicate what barriers would prevent you from delivering upgrades in your area

Yes, with admin support and a consistent reporting process to BEIS. It is important to factor in longer lead-in times as well as timescales for delivery to enable engagement and installations/ whole house.

LAs desire is to be able to deliver complete whole house programmes, however they take time to ensure successful delivery and maximum benefit to householders and carbon reduction. Current jigsaw of schemes/ measures/ criteria/ tight timescales make it difficult to co-ordinate and provide assurance to residents applying that they will receive fully funded measures. The lack of clarity of scheme name/ contractor/ who is running the scheme adds to public confusion and ultimately, residents turn to the Council for reassurance as to whether the installer/ contractor is bona fide, or the scheme is genuine.

If yes, please indicate the anticipated number of homes that could be upgraded per year.

According to EPC data provided by the GSEEH there are 11,897 D, E, F and G properties in the Dover District, however 75% of these properties may not fit into the 'fuel poor category'.

According to BIES Fuel poverty sub regional tables 2020-2018 Dover has 5,196 (10.1%) fuel poor households – higher than the South East average of 7.9%.

Barriers that would prevent delivering upgrades in your area:-

Resources/ fully funded/ certainty over continuity of scheme

Getting resident buy-in for schemes when national schemes fail

The Energy Company Obligation

Has your local authority published a Statement of Intent (Sol) for ECO flexibility eligibility?	Y
How many declarations were issued for low income vulnerable households?	42
How many declarations were issued for Fuel Poor households?	10 HHCRO
How many declarations were issued for in-fill?	None
What is the highest income cap published in your Sol?	£30k
If you have used an income over £30k gross, what reason have you given?	N/A
Do you charge for declarations to be signed? If so, please state how much?	No

Smart Metering

Please provide a brief statement outlining your current or planned approach to promote smart meter take up and supporting residents to achieve benefits.

Engage with residents through Energy Deal, and other schemes to explain Smart Meters and the advantage of the new SMETS 2 meters in giving automatic monthly meter reads and allows switching of suppliers.

Future Schemes or Wider Initiatives

Please outline any further schemes or wider initiatives not covered above that your local authority has carried out or is planning to undertake to improve energy efficiency in residential accommodation

Climate Change aspiration and future legislation with regard to Future Homes Standard and Building Regulations will impact on energy efficiency of homes.