

Appendix: B&NES Affordable Warmth Draft Action Plan January 2011

Key Objective	Task	Housing Sector	Timescale	Partners involved	Resource implications
1. To improve the energy efficiency of all housing in Bath and North East Somerset.	Review energy efficiency measures for grant funding in the private sector.	Private	ongoing	Housing Services /CSE	existing resources
	Continue the promotion of Warm Streets to private sector residents including the marketing benefits of Heat Seekers	Private	ongoing	Housing Services/CSE/ Heat Seekers	existing resources
	Liaise with EAGA and other appropriate partners to maximise the uptake of Warm Front assistance for heating and insulation subject to availability. Identify any suitable alternative assistance for heating and insulation measures for vulnerable households which is currently in place or under development at a national or local level to replace the Warm Front scheme. National level arrangements include those likely to be proposed as part of the Governements Green Deal initiative. As an alternative, a low interest loan is currently available for eligible households to remedy category 1 rated excess cold and other Housing Health and Safety Hazards.	Private	ongoing	Housing Services/EAGA/CSE/relevant partners	existing resources
	Incentivise private sector landlords to install energy efficiency measures through the Landlord Accreditation Scheme-eg Warmer Lets (Insulation)	Private Rented	ongoing	Housing Services/ Climate Energy	existing resources
	Work with Planning Department to ensure that best practice energy efficiency is encouraged in new housing in Bath and North East Somerset.	Private	ongoing	Housing Services/ Planning Dept/ Corporate Sustainability Team	existing resources
	Expand Eco-schools work to link with Warm Streets and promotion of behavioural change at home.	Cross Tenure	ongoing	Housing Services/ Corporate Sustainability Team	low
	Produce information material for householders promoting the investment potential and environmental benefits of adopting energy efficiency measures.	Private	short-term - to be done	Housing Services/CSE/ EST/Corporate Sustainability Team	low
	To improve the energy efficiency of homes for vulnerable people when discharged from hospital (review service) working with Intermediate Care Team	Private	ongoing	Housing Services/ Care& Repair/ EAGA	existing resources
	Provision of an authority wide scheme to ensure that all households in Bath and North East Somerset can benefit from basic energy efficiency measures at a subsidised rate = Warm Streets	Private	ongoing	Housing Services/CSE	existing resources

Key Objective	Task	Housing Sector	Timescale	Partners involved	Resource implications
	Provision of a targeted area-based scheme to deliver energy improvements to households in areas of the authority with a high incidence of Fuel Poverty = Warm Streets	Private	ongoing	Housing Services/CSE	existing resources
	Continue to use low cost loans to facilitate energy efficiency improvements in Private Sector housing and explore potential to extend this to hard to treat homes	Private	ongoing	Housing Services/Wessex Reinvestment Trust	existing resources
2. To maximise income for vulnerable households.	Ensure that Bath and North East Somerset residents have access to the Benefits Health check services offered by Warm Streets and further develop referral mechanism. Warm Streets Benefits health checks have generated £85,000 of payments for claimants, apparently equivalent to around £1,000,000 cumulative income over 5 years.	Cross Tenure	ongoing	Housing Services/CSE	existing resources
	Continue to make referrals to Bristol Debt Advice Centre (BDAC) to provide fuel debt and money advice and assistance to B&NES residents	Cross Tenure	ongoing	Housing Services/BDAC	existing resources
3. To reduce household expenditure on fuel.	Conduct study of the costs and benefits of fuel switching in public and private sector housing.	Cross Tenure	medium term - to be done	Housing Services /Corporate Sustainability Team/CSE	low
	Provide fueling switching information and link to an approved internet price comparison site on B&NES website	Cross Tenure	medium term - to be done	Housing Services	low
	Ensure that all energy advice staff are fully trained on Affordable Warmth issues and help available	Cross Tenure	ongoing	Housing Services/CSE	existing resources
	Provision of energy meters through loan system to affect behavioural change	Cross Tenure	ongoing	Housing Services/Corporate Sustainability Team	existing resources
	Develop package of energy saving/awareness raising products to link with insulation programmes	Private	about to start - short term	Housing Services/Utility Supplier	existing resources
4. To develop partnership working with all appropriate organisations and agencies in order to effectively deliver Affordable Warmth in Bath and North East Somerset.	Work with CSE to promote Affordable Warmth in the BME community	Cross Tenure	ongoing	Housing Services	existing resources
	Improve links with RSLs to share knowledge /best practice in addressing Fuel Poverty	RSL	ongoing	Housing Services/RSLs	existing resources
	Encourage /facilitate liaison between advice services to ensure good signposting between organisations.	Cross Tenure	improved & ongoing	Housing Services/CSE/various advice agencies	existing resources
	Raise awareness and provide training to Social Services and other frontline council staff and establish clear referral mechanisms to help and advice services to advance Affordable Warmth in B&NES	Cross Tenure	ongoing	Housing Services/Social Services/CSE	existing resources

Key Objective	Task	Housing Sector	Timescale	Partners involved	Resource implications
	Provide training to PCT frontline staff and establish clear referral mechanisms to help and advice services to advance Affordable Warmth in B&NES	Cross Tenure	ongoing	Housing Services/B&NES PCT/ CSE	existing resources
	Provide training to Housing Services frontline staff and establish clear referral mechanisms to help and advice services to advance Affordable Warmth in B&NES	Cross Tenure	ongoing	Housing Services/CSE	existing resources
	Run a poster/leaflet campaign at PCT service points (health centres/dentist surgeries etc)	Cross Tenure	ongoing	Housing Services/B&NES PCT/CSE	existing resources
	Set up Affordable Warmth Action Group in B&NES	Cross Tenure	ongoing	Housing Services/various	existing resources
	Improve links and partnership working with B&NES PCT	Cross Tenure	ongoing	Housing Services/B&NES PCT	existing resources
	Fire Service visits to households to consider winter warmth and advise appropriately	Cross Tenure	short term to be started	Housing Services/ Fire Service	existing resources
	Pilot and roll out referral scheme to housing services from general practice	Cross Tenure	ongoing	Housing Services/B&NES PCT	existing resources
	Work with local voluntary organisations such as Age Concern and Transition Bath to raise awareness in the community of Affordable Warmth and services available	Cross Tenure	ongoing	Housing Services/ B&NES PCT/voluntary agencies	existing resources
	Consider expanding housing services referral scheme with private sector agencies	Cross Tenure	ongoing	Housing Services/ B&NES PCT/private agencies	existing resources
	Run campaign in community pharmacies about winter warmth yearly	Cross Tenure	ongoing	Housing Services/ B&NES PCT	existing resources
	Develop Big Society working with Age UK/Age Concern Winter Warmth and church groups	Cross Tenure	short term to be started	Housing Services/ B&NES PCT/voluntary agencies/churches	existing resources
	Understand why Weston GP practice has a high excess winter mortality index and Weston ward has a low one	Cross Tenure	ongoing	B&NES PCT	existing resources
	Check with energy companies who has unexpected low energy use in winter	Cross Tenure	short term to be started	Housing Services/ B&NES PCT	existing resources
	Find out who has not received their seasonal influenza vaccination and target them with services	Cross Tenure	short term to be started	B&NES PCT	existing resources
	Do regular stories for the media and use digital media for raising awareness about winter warmth and services available	Cross Tenure	ongoing	Housing Services/ B&NES PCT	existing resources

Key Objective	Task	Housing Sector	Timescale	Partners involved	Resource implications
	Consider using Genesis Trust, Neighbourhood Watch, Energy Champions, Meals-on-Wheels, and Crisis at Xmas to raise awareness in the community of Affordable Warmth and services available	Cross Tenure	short term to be started	Housing Services/ B&NES PCT	existing resources

low costs below £5,000
ongoing activity currently underway
short-term commencement within 6 months
medium term commencement within 12 months