
Bath & North East Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives

Climate Emergency & Sustainability PDS Panel

18 July 2022

Policy Development: Approach to 'able to pay' home
energy efficiency retrofitting

Introduction from Cllr Warren

Officers will provide:

- Update on current action and public advice service and support
- WECA Retrofit Accelerator Hub development and what it means for B&NES
- Exploration of B&NES level approaches and timing
- Discussion to gain Panel input to the exploration

Update on current action

Low income/vulnerable households:

- LAD – 33 private and 65 social housing upgrades
- HUG – consortium with BCC and NS just launched, see www.energyathome.org.uk for details
- Grant funded measures dependent on scheme for low income households living in low energy efficiency homes (EPC D or less)
- Supply chain problems encountered

Energy @ Home – advice service

- Current online advice service; email, phone, website
- Includes information on types of energy efficiency measures; planning information and how to find installers
- Includes HUG funding advice (aka Bright Green Homes)
- [Energy@Home](#)

Sharing householder experience

- Exploring potential for a new Bath Green Homes initiative with Transition Bath and Bath Preservation Trust and for other areas
- Bath and North East Somerset homes were included in the recent [Online Retrofit Stories sessions](#) (recordings via link).
- Climate and Biodiversity Festival, September 2022; platform for sharing local experience; energy efficiency advice in cost of living crisis context (CSE)
- Monthly Library Home Energy information pop-up (seeking to reinstate)

WECA Retrofit Accelerator Hub

- Initial three year programme (subject to Committee approval)
- Stage One from September 2022
- One Stop Shop for retrofitting advice in the West of England
- Intended to develop beyond co-ordination of advice services to:
 - Assessors and retrofit co-ordinators
 - Supply chain and market development
 - Skills and job development
 - Drawing in funding
- Linked to local initiatives, such as community and social marketing; local suppliers

Exploration of B&NES level approach

- Thinking so far
- Data and analysis
- Increasing capacity and timing
- Convening key delivery stakeholders in the community
- Linking WECA Hub to B&NES
- Enabling access to advice, technical expertise, funding sources
- Linking with and supporting enablers in communities: parishes, Forums, specialist community groups

The Panel is asked to consider:

- What role or roles should or could the Council play?
 - Promotion and sign-posting
 - Community and stakeholder engagement, social marketing
 - Local property data analysis and targeting
 - Household surveys
 - Advice on local installers and suppliers
 - Coordination service
- What partners or stakeholders should we work with?
 - Social landlords
 - Community organisations
 - Parishes