

Appendix 1: Programme of Work 2016/18 for the Bradford District Fuel Poverty Framework for Action

Activity / Action	Detailed milestones	Milestone dates	Lead officer & partners	Resources
Consider the potential for community engagement in the development of a regional municipal energy scheme to supply affordable energy to citizens (completed)	Talks with Leeds Council to progress joining the White Rose Energy (WRE) ESCo	December 2016	Lead Neill Morrison / Kate Smallwood	CBMDC Energy Centre, ESCO & DHN development & feasibility fund, (£60,000)
	Investigate alternative proposals with the WPO	December 2016	Partners Leeds Council WHHP partnership Utility suppliers Kate Smallwood – Lead Officer BMDC – Comms team Leeds Council Calderdale Council	
Promote White Rose Energy district wide, including target people in fuel poverty.	Implement comms plan	April 2018		
	Aim for 2,000 customers	April 2018		
Bradford Council became a partner of White Rose Energy on 1st March 2017. White Rose Energy is a new local authority owned not-for-profit energy partnership supplying electricity and gas to homes in Yorkshire. Its aim is to provide fairer more transparent gas and electricity prices to homes to help residents save money on their utility bills.				
Promotion of White Rose Energy is now underway, with a big push planned for Autumn / Winter 2017/18 to raise awareness across the district of White Rose Energy (including Bradford) and to increase customer numbers.				
There were 332 WRE customers within the Bradford District as of July 2017.				
Develop and co-ordinate emergency & practical support to address the needs of people in crisis in line with cold weather	Review outcomes of the 2015-16 Warm Homes Healthy People (WHHP)	September 2016	Lead Sarah Possingham /	

Activity / Action	Detailed milestones	Milestone dates	Lead officer & partners	Resources
planning guidance	<p>programme</p> <p>Identify potential funding opportunities from a variety of sources – develop a partnership based approach to securing funding</p> <p>Utilise crowd funding & other funding streams to support WHHP work</p>	<p>March 2017</p> <p>April 2017</p>	WHHP partnership group Inspired Neighbourhoods First4Contact	
<p>The WHHP programme delivers interventions to provide emergency and practical support. This includes 98 food parcels delivered and 98 bedding packs delivered to those in need. Starter packs (for new tenancy holders) and warm packs were also distributed as part of the programme.</p> <p>Inspired Neighbourhoods were commissioned to create a crowdfunding website and raise funds towards the future of the programme. Unfortunately this failed to generate significant interest from the public and the resulting funds raised were very disappointing.</p> <p>The WHHP partnership actively collaborates on bidding for funding pots and is currently doing so to secure future funding of WHHP initiatives.</p> <p>WHHP Partners have been funded for a 2 year period to ensure security and continued service throughout the summer months.</p> <p>The Warm Homes Officer post proved crucial to the programme in undertaking Home Energy Checks, supporting clients to access the Warm Home Discount schemes and coordinating community based fuel poverty projects. As a result there were an increased number of referrals into the system.</p> <p>The strategic spread of partners has ensured that there was fair coverage of Warm Homes Healthy People activity across the District, supported by Carers Resource coordinating activity.</p>				

Activity / Action	Detailed milestones	Milestone dates	Lead officer & partners	Resources
<p>roof' scheme targeted at the inner-city areas).</p> <p>Work to develop a loan product for landlords is still ongoing at a regional level. Should a Landlord Energy Repayment Loan product become available it will require an amendment to the Council's Comprehensive Housing Renewal Policy (CHRP) before it could be implemented in Bradford. However there is no evidence of any significant demand from PRS landlords (please see below re. PRS workshop for private landlords).</p> <p>There has been no encouragement to develop a bid to the LGF for PRS offer as there is currently no budget available within LGF Priority 3 (Inspired People). If this were to change a bid could be considered and would probably be developed through WYCA as a LCR joint initiative (insufficient demand for a sole Bradford bid).</p>				
Secure year-round independent, in-depth, quality advice to householders relating to fuel debt and energy efficiency issues	Ensure provision of free, independent fuel debt advice by quality marked agencies in the Community Advice Network	Ongoing	Lead Warm Homes Healthy People Lead Officer	
	Provide funds to support agencies helping people in fuel poverty to resolve fuel debt problems	Ended March 2017	Partners Sarah Possingham Julie Robinson-Joyce Pete Betts Warm Homes Officer	
	Provide free energy efficiency advice to residents potentially vulnerable to fuel poverty	Ongoing until March 2019		

Activity / Action	Detailed milestones	Milestone dates	Lead officer & partners	Resources
<p>These services have been coordinated by the various services within the WHHP. CAB and CAN have provided fuel top-ups and fuel poverty advice.</p> <p>The Warm Homes Officer undertook Home Energy Checks, supported clients to access the Warm Home Discount schemes and coordinated community based fuel poverty projects.</p> <p>WHHP agencies were able to provide added support to clients through the fuel tops and debt advice interventions. This also created additional referrals to other partners.</p> <p>The Warm Homes Officer post is no longer funded due to the cuts in Public Health.</p> <p>Fuel debt is unable to be continued as part of the WHHP programme from April 2017 due to funding cuts to the programme. However, discussions are being held to see if this work can be picked up by the Bradford Council Revenue and Benefits team.</p>				
Ensure that all professionals engaging with client groups are familiar with the fuel poverty alleviation issues and programmes	Work with Public Health, WHHP, First Contact to raise awareness of programmes	Ongoing	Lead Sarah Possingham	Officer time & briefing materials & access to training offered on regional and national basis
	Ensure links are made into appropriate training programmes to increase skills and expertise amongst the sector	Ongoing	Partners WHHP Partners NEA BEAT Pete Betts GroundWorks	
	To ensure all partners of WHHP related work have signed a Memorandum of Understanding	March 2017		

Activity / Action	Detailed milestones	Milestone dates	Lead officer & partners	Resources
<p>There was a review of the WHHP programme in July 2016 that took place ahead of the winter programme in Oct 2016- March 2017. This was well attended by a range of internal and external partners. There was a re-launch of the WHHP programme in late September 2016, which led to increased referrals from the new avenues identified by the WHHP review.</p> <p>Promotion of the WHHP programme was conducted via all partners through various means such as social media, promotional events and meetings. All partners were encouraged to push the programme through as many means as possible. Press releases were also produced to promote the WHD initiatives.</p> <p>So far we have been unable to get all of the appropriate WHHP partners to sign the proposed MoU. This is due to the timing of the activity and the uncertainty of the future of the programme. Please note that a MoU is no longer required now that the contract for the work of the WHHP has been awarded to a single organisation following a procurement exercise.</p>				
Ensure consistent fuel poverty messages are sent out from partners to service users (completed)	Launch event in September 2016 with key messages identified to be disseminated to partners	September 2016	Lead Thomas Atcheson WHHP partners Kate Smallwood	
Send regular e-newsletters – news articles to be sent to Kate Smallwood	Programme at least bi-monthly newsletters	Ongoing from September 2017	Partners Kate Smallwood Warm Homes Officer (to remove) BMDC Housing WHHP Partnership	
<p>Fuel Poverty and Energy Efficiency messages can now be sent out to the public via the Council Gov Delivery E-newsletter. People can subscribe via the Bradford Council website. To date, the Saving Energy topic has 1387 subscribers and the Private Landlord topic has 807 subscribers.</p> <p>News articles for the new least bi-monthly newsletters to be sent to Kate Smallwood by partners.</p>				

Activity / Action	Detailed milestones	Milestone dates	Lead officer & partners	Resources
Develop and deliver programmes of support, training and funding to deliver fuel poverty and fuel debt advice where possible to enhance the capacity and capability of Housing Associations, owner occupiers and tenants / landlords in the private rented sector	Roll-out of e-learning training package to frontline professionals and other suitable groups / individuals	Ongoing	Lead Pete Betts / Pam Bhupal / Kate Smallwood	Officer time, training materials
			Partners Neill Morrison Sarah Possingham BEAT	
The e-learning package is now on the Evolve system and is available for Council employees and VCS partners to take the training (there is a small charge for non-council users). CBMDC Energy Centre to work with Public Health to promote the package to suitable partners and front line workers.				
Develop links with educational establishments to raise awareness of energy efficiency and to engage children and young people (as well as their families) in local activities to reduce energy consumption and bills	Promote energy efficiency learning programmes via the Bradford School Online energy page	Ongoing	Lead Kate Smallwood	Officer time
			Partners Warm Homes Officer (to remove)	
Unfortunately fuel poverty is not part of the schools' curriculum, which makes it is very difficult to engage schools or young people on this topic as ultimately it seen to be the bill payer's issue rather than directly one for young people. Therefore, we propose that this action should be removed from the fuel poverty action plan.				
The majority of school are already engaged with energy efficiency. However this is more along the lines of reducing consumption within the school building and involving pupils in schemes such as Eco Schools, The Pod. There is an Energy page on the Bradford School Online detailing school energy efficiency schemes and offering advice on energy matters. Any relevant information can be added to this page or as a news story if relevant to teaching staff.				

Activity / Action	Detailed milestones	Milestone dates	Lead officer & partners	Resources
Work across local neighbourhoods to enhance and maximise neighbourhood support for the delivery of programmes and schemes	Explore relationships with locality based activities delivered via WHHP	Ongoing	Lead Kate Smallwood	Officer time Possible resource input from the Neighbourhood Service and WHHP
	Explore relationship with neighbourhood support services and local community wardens	Ongoing	Partners Neighbourhood co-ordinators Pete Betts	
Neighbourhood staff are aware of various council schemes such as Better Homes and White Rose Energy. Information is cascaded as appropriate,				
Ward Officers are encouraged to support schemes and cascaded to local residents where possible. However due to cut backs / resourcing issues in the neighbourhood departments, participation have unfortunately been reduced e.g. neighbourhood forums are no longer held.				
Deliver retrofit energy efficiency measures to improve the homes of private sector residents vulnerable to fuel poverty	Ongoing work with Better Homes Yorkshire to deliver measures to fuel poor households	Ongoing	Lead Pete Betts	£1.2m LGF
			Partners WYCA Better Homes Yorkshire	
Deliver a programme supported by the Local Growth Fund to deliver external wall insulation measures in relatively deprived areas (scheme completed October 2017)	ATP scheme in Thorpe Edge / fuel poverty scheme in Bierley & other estates	Commences August 2016		
Deliver the Bradford Healthy Heat Programme to deliver heating measures to private sector households at risk of fuel poverty containing a person with a		March 2019		£140k BMDC Capital Fund

Activity / Action	Detailed milestones	Milestone dates	Lead officer & partners	Resources
chronic cold related condition referred by a suitable health professional				
<p>The Better Homes Yorkshire programme continues to offer energy efficiency measures to private sector homes in the Bradford District, accessing Energy Company Obligation (ECO) funding to subsidise work for qualifying households at risk of fuel poverty where possible.</p> <p>Bradford Council worked in partnership with Better Homes Yorkshire, WYCA, Northern Gas Networks and Community Energy Solutions to deliver gas central heating systems to private tenants or home-owners vulnerable to fuel poverty that had not previously had gas central heating. The scheme ran from February to October 2016 and delivered 47 gas central heating systems to qualifying householders in the Bradford District.</p> <p>Following on from this initiative, Bradford Council is currently part of a joint bid (led by WYCA) for funding from the Warm Homes Fund to provide first time gas central heating for private sector households on low incomes.</p> <p>The Tackling Fuel Poverty Programme (funded by the Local Growth Fund) has delivered a total of 138 external wall insulation measures to 'hard to treat' private dwellings in the Thorpe Edge, Bierley, Delph Hill & Parkside areas of the Bradford District, with the original target to improve 120 homes stretched to 132 and then to 138 to take advantage of improved rates of additional ECO funding. All works have been delivered by a local contractor, Hamilton (Building Contractors) Limited under the Better Homes Yorkshire framework.</p> <p>The new Bradford Healthy Heat Programme was launched in June 2017 to provide heating measures (boiler repairs or replacements to a new heating system) to private sector households at risk of fuel poverty containing a person with a chronic cold related condition referred by a suitable health professional. This new scheme follows a similar model to the previous Bradford Healthy Heat initiatives, which helped to establish that there is a demand for such a service. Bradford Council is aiming to work closely with Public Health, GPs and other local health service agencies to generate suitable referrals for the scheme.</p>				
Investigate the feasibility of developing a PRS Landlords scheme to improve the energy efficiency of properties in the	Develop a PRS Landlords scheme if there is a successful LGF bid for	Ongoing	Lead Pete Betts	

Activity / Action	Detailed milestones	Milestone dates	Lead officer & partners	Resources
private rented sector using the new LERL finance product	funding for the LERL (or alternative source of funding can be identified		Partners Kate Smallwood Liam Jowett WYCA Better Homes Yorkshire National Landlords Association Groundwork UK	
<p>Bradford Council promoted a Workshop held on 14 October 2016 on 'Improving PRS properties in the Bradford District' for PRS landlords in partnership with the National Landlord's Association. Despite extensive promotion and the involvement of the NLA only two PRS landlords attended the workshop.</p> <p>There has been no encouragement to develop a bid to the LGF for a PRS offer as there is currently no budget available within LGF Priority 3 (Inspired People). If this were to change then a bid could be considered and would probably come through WYCA as a LCR joint initiative (insufficient demand for a sole Bradford bid).</p>				