

**To: Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board**

**On: 6 June 2017**

---

**Report by: Director of Development and Housing Services**

---

**Heading: Housing Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes:  
2017/18**

---

**1. Summary**

- 1.1 This report sets out the projects that have been approved for funding for financial year 2017/18 under the Scottish Government's Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland: Area Based Schemes (HEEPS:ABS) initiative.
- 

**2. Recommendations**

2.1 It is recommended that Board:

- Note that Renfrewshire Council has been allocated £1,412,775 for 2017/18 for qualifying projects within the Renfrewshire Council area as part of the Scottish Government's HEEPS:ABS programme.
  - Authorise the Director of Development and Housing Services to accept this offer of grant and oversee delivery and operational management of the programme for Renfrewshire council.
-

3. **Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland: Area Based Schemes (HEEPS:ABS) 2017/18**

- 3.1. The Scottish Government's HEEPS:ABS Programme was introduced in 2013/14 and is now entering its fifth year. The programme is targeted at private sector home owners to assist their participation and ensure projects to improve energy efficiency can proceed. The key objectives are to address fuel poverty, reduce carbon emissions and demonstrate an appropriate strategic fit and approach to improving energy efficiency.
- 3.2. The potential benefits of HEEPS:ABS therefore complement and support a wide range of social housing initiatives including maintaining stock at the levels required by the Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS) as well as the requirements of the Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing (EESH).
- 3.3. Local authorities act as coordinating agents for all HEEPS:ABS programmes in their area. Over the last four years, a total of £10.235m has been secured for Renfrewshire which has enabled a range of external wall insulation projects to be carried out in multi tenure blocks to support the Council's housing investment programme, as well as external wall insulation programmes by Linstone Housing Association, internal wall insulation by Williamsburgh Housing Association and energy efficiency projects of external wall insulation in Gallowhill, Lochwinnoch, Bridge of Weir, Renfrew, Johnstone and Kilbarchan.
- 3.4. On 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017 it was confirmed that Renfrewshire's allocation of the £47m available nationally for HEEPS:ABS was £1,380,417. Local authorities are required to submit schemes for consideration for their allocation by 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017. However, following consultation with Housing Association partners and the Scottish Government a slightly increased bid of £1,412,775 was submitted as set out in the table below:

Co coordinating Partner	Project	Value of HEEPS:ABS	No of Owners in Project	No of tenants in Project
Renfrewshire Council	External Wall Insulation	1,233,375	165	214
Paisley Housing Association	External Wall Insulation	59,800	8	136
Bridgewater Housing Association	External Wall Insulation	119,600	16	23
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,412,775</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>373</b>

- 3.5 Members should note that in addition to the HEEPS:ABS element noted above, each project will also require additional financial support both through partners' own financial resources and Energy Company Obligation (ECO). Details of the Council's external wall insulation project are set out in Appendix 1 of this report and this will be delivered as part of our Housing Investment Programme (External Works) with resources allocated from our Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme.
- 3.6 In addition to the HEEPS:ABS grant allocated to local authorities, the Scottish Government has recently made funds available to assist private owners with the costs of a range of insulation and heating measures through the interest free HEEPS loan scheme. A maximum loan of £15,000, of which £3,750 can be in grant assistance, is accessible to owners subject to criteria and availability of funding.
- 3.7 In order to promote the uptake of these grants and loans, it is proposed that the Council works in partnership with Home Energy Scotland (HES) to assess homeowners' eligibility for a range of energy efficiency measures and advise on the financial support available to support the installation of these measures.
- 3.8 Grant support from our HEEPS:ABS allocation will support this pilot project to help address the needs of those most at risk of fuel poverty within the private sector, whilst also ensuring private owners who can afford to contribute to energy efficiency measures are supported through signposting to the interest free loan scheme.

---

## Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** - HEEPS:ABS allocation of £1,412,775 for 2017/2018 to support owner participation in Council and partner projects within the Renfrewshire area, subject to confirmation of successful application.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** - None.
3. **Community Planning - Community Care, Health & Well-being** - Improving housing conditions benefiting tenants and private owners. Addressing fuel poverty.  
  
**Greener** - Protecting, caring and enhancing the built environment. Reducing carbon emissions.
4. **Legal** - None.
5. **Property/Assets** - Improvements in the energy performance of both social rented and private dwellings.
6. **Information Technology** - None

7. **Equality & Human Rights -**  
The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
  8. **Health & Safety - None**
  9. **Procurement -** There will be a requirement to procure a PAS2030 compliant contractor for the delivery of the Council's project, subject to confirmation of successful application
  10. **Risk - None**
  11. **Privacy Impact - None**
- 

### **List of Background Papers**

- (a) Report to Housing & Community Safety Policy Board on 8 November 2016 – Home Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes: 2016/17 Update
- (b) Report to Housing & Community Safety Policy Board on 23 August 2016 – Home Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes: 2016/17 Update
- (c) Report to Housing & Community Safety Policy Board on 15 March 2016 – Home Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes: 2016/17 Update

The foregoing background papers will be retained within Development and Housing Services for inspection by the public for the prescribed period of four years from the date of the meeting. The contact officer within the service is Louise Feely, Housing Asset and Investment Manager, 0141 618 6049, [louise.feely@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:louise.feely@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

**Author:** Louise Feely, Housing Asset and Investment Manager, 0141 618 6049

## Appendix 1

<b>Renfrewshire Council External Wall Insulation Programme 2017/18</b>			
<b>Project Area</b>	<b>No of Owners</b>	<b>No of Tenants</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Bridge of Weir</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>134</b>
<b>Elderslie</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Houston</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Kilbarchan</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Linwood</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Paisley South</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Renfrew</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>368</b>