

To: Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board

On: 22 May 2018

Report by: Director of Development and Housing Services

**Heading: Housing Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes:
2018/19**

1. Summary

- 1.1 On 13 March 2018 the Board approved a report noting the allocation for the Renfrewshire Council area under the Scottish Government's Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland (HEEPS:ABS) initiative for 2018/19 and authorised the Director of Development and Housing Services to bid for projects in terms of the Scottish Government's application process.
- 1.2 This report updates members on the outcome of the application and the projects which will be supported.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board:
- (i) notes that funding of £1,518,477 has been awarded for qualifying projects within the Renfrewshire Council area for 2018/19 under the HEEPS:ABS programme; and
 - (ii) authorise the Director of Development and Housing Services to accept this offer of grant and oversee delivery and operational management of the programme.
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3. **Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland: Area Based Schemes (HEEPS:ABS) 2018/19**

- 3.1 The Scottish Government's HEEPS:ABS programme was introduced in 2013/14 and is now entering its sixth year. The programme is targeted at private sector home owners to assist their participation and ensure projects to improve energy efficiency can proceed.
- 3.2 The key objectives are to address fuel poverty, reduce carbon emissions and demonstrate an appropriate strategic fit and approach to improving energy efficiency.
- 3.3 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).
- 3.4 Local authorities act as coordinating agents for all HEEPS:ABS programmes for their area. Over the last five years, a total of £11.69m has been secured for Renfrewshire which has enabled arrange 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, Bridgewater Housing Association, Paisley Housing Association and internal wall insulation by Williamsburgh Housing Association.
- 3.5 On 19 February 2018 it was confirmed that Renfrewshire's allocation of the £49m available nationally for HEEPS:ABS was £1,518,477. Local authorities were required to submit schemes for consideration for their allocation by 6 April 2018. Following consultation with Housing Association partners, a bid of £1,518,477 was submitted.
- 3.6 The Council was advised on 3 May 2018 of the outcome of the application process which confirmed the allocation of £1,518,477 for HEEPS:ABS projects in 2018/19.
- 3.7 As in previous years, the projects within the bid focussed on mixed tenure blocks of solid wall construction type to support social landlords in meeting the requirements of the Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing (EESH) and are set out below:

Co ordinating Partner	Project	Value of HEEPS:ABS	No of Owners in Project	No of Tenants in Project
Renfrewshire Council	External Wall Insulation (Lochfield Phase 1)	1,346,552	181	167
Bridgewater Housing Association	External Wall Insulation (Erskine)	171,925	23	16
Total		£1,518,477		

- 3.8 Lochfield Phase 1 consists of mixed tenure blocks within the following streets and consultation with residents on the proposed works will commence shortly.

- Rowan Street
- Colinslee Avenue
- Craggs Avenue
- Craggs Crescent
- Craggs Road

It is proposed that a second phase of works to include mixed tenure properties within the remaining streets of Lochfield will form the basis of next year's bid for HEEPS:ABS funding.

Members should note that in addition to the HEEPS:ABS funding, each project will also require additional financial support both through partners' own financial resources and the Energy Company Obligation (ECO). The Council's external wall insulation project will be delivered as part of our Housing Investment Programme (External Works) with resources allocated from our Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme.

- 3.9 In addition to the HEEPS:ABS grant allocated to local authorities, the Scottish Government has made funds available to assist private owners with the costs of a range of insulation and heating measures through an interest free loan scheme which is administered by Home Energy Scotland (HES). In order to assist owners in wholly private blocks whose properties are not included in our mixed tenure investment programme, the Council will work in partnership with Home Energy Scotland to assess homeowners' eligibility for a range of energy efficiency measures and offer advice on the financial support available to support the installation of these measures.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – HEEPS:ABS allocation of £1,518,477 for 2018/19 to support owner participation in Council and partner projects within the Renfrewshire area.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** - None.
3. **Community/Council Planning** –
 - Tackling inequality, ensuring opportunities for all – improving housing conditions benefiting tenants and private owners. Addressing fuel poverty.
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**

- (a) 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** - Reference should be made to the corporate Privacy Impact Assessments (PIAs) procedure that PIAs should be conducted, by all Services, in circumstances where policies and decisions have implications for the use of personal and/or sensitive personal information held by the Council. Advice is available from the Principal Information Officer.

12. **Cosla Policy Position - N/A**

List of Background Papers

- (a) *Report to Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board on 13 March 2018 – Home Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes: 2018/19*
- (b) *Report to Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board on 7 November 2017 – Home Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes: 2017/18 Update*
- (c) *Report to Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board on 6 June 2017 – Home Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes: 2017/18*
- (d) *Report to Housing and Community Safety Policy Board on 14 March 2017 – Home Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes: 2017/18*

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

FC/LF
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