

To: Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board

On: 30 October 2018

Report by: Director of Communities, Housing and Planning Services

Heading: Housing Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes:
Update

1. Summary

- 1.1 On 22 May 2018 the Board approved a report noting the outcome of the application for resources under the Scottish Government's Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland: Area Based Schemes (HEEPS:ABS) for 2018/19 and on 21 August 2018 the Board noted the allocation of additional resources under this scheme.
 - 1.2 This report advises members of a further allocation of additional resources in the HEEPS:ABS programme, which have been allocated from 2017/18 resources from Scottish Government.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board:
 - (i) note that Renfrewshire Council has been allocated an additional £224,250 for qualifying projects within the Renfrewshire Council area as part of the Scottish Government's 2017/18 HEEPS:ABS programme; and
 - (ii) authorises the Director of Communities, Housing and Planning Services to accept this offer of grant and oversee the delivery and operational management of the programme for Renfrewshire Council.
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3. Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland: Area Based Schemes (HEEPS:ABS)

- 3.1 The Scottish Government's HEEP:ABS programme was introduced in 2013/14 and its 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 the 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 for their area. To date, a total of over £13.2m has been secured for Renfrewshire which has enabled a range of energy efficiency improvement programmes to be carried out by the Council and local Housing Associations.
 - 3.4 On 22 May 2018 this Board noted that Renfrewshire Council had been awarded £1,518,477 for HEEPS:ABS projects in 2018/19 for qualifying projects within the Renfrewshire area.
 - 3.5 On 21 August 2018 this Board noted that Renfrewshire Council had been awarded additional grant of £97,175, taking the total grant for 2018/19 to £1,615,652.
 - 3.6 On 8 October 2018 the Scottish Government advised that additional funding of £224,250 was available from 2017/18 resources due to funds returned from other local authorities. Renfrewshire Council confirmed it would be able to allocate these funds to qualifying projects and meet the Scottish Government's requirement to draw down this funding by 31st December 2018. This additional funding will be utilised to extend the current wall insulation programme within the Lochfield area to more owners within mixed tenure blocks.
 - 3.7 As reported to this Board on 22 May 2018, 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 a variety of grants, interest free loan and equity loan schemes which are 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 continue to 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.
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Implications of the Report

1. **Financial:** Scottish Government allocation of £244,250 to support owner participation in energy efficiency 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:** Variation to existing contracts.
10. **Risk:** None
11. **Privacy Impact:** None
12. **COSLA Policy Position:** N/A.

List of Background Papers

- (a) Report to Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board on 21 August 2018 – Housing Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes: 2018/19
- (b) Report to Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board on 22 May 2018 - Housing Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes: 2018/19
- (c) Report to Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board on 13 March 2018 - Housing Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes: 2018/19

- (d) Report to Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board on 7 November 2017 - Housing Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes: 2017/18 Update
- (e) Report to Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board on 6 June 2017 – Housing Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes: 2017/18

The foregoing background papers will be retained within Communities, Housing and Planning 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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