
To: Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board

On: 18 August 2020

Report by: Director of Communities, Housing and Planning Services

Heading: Housing Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes:
2020/21 – Award of Funding

1. Summary

- 1.1 Renfrewshire Council has been awarded £1,654,486 for qualifying projects under the Scottish Government's Home Energy Efficiency Programme Scotland: Area Based Schemes (HEEPS: ABS) for 2020/21.
 - 1.2 The report updates members on the outcome of the funding application and the projects which will be supported.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Policy Board:
 - (i) homologates the action taken by the Director of Communities, Housing and Planning in accepting the funding of £1,654,486 that has been awarded for qualifying projects within the Renfrewshire Council area for 2020/21 under the Scottish Government's HEEPS: ABS programme; and
 - (ii) authorises the Director Communities, Housing and Planning Services to oversee delivery and operational management of the programme.
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3. Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland: Area Based Schemes (HEEPS:ABS) 2020/21

- 3.1 The Scottish Government's HEEPS: ABS programme was introduced in 2013/14 and is now entering its eighth 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 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 for their area. To date, a total of over £16m 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.
- 3.4 On 20 April 2020 it was confirmed that Renfrewshire's allocation of the £49m available nationally for HEEPS: ABS was £1,654,486. Local authorities were required to submit qualifying projects for consideration for their allocation in line with Scottish Government guidance in this regard.
- 3.5 The Council was advised on 13 July 2020 of the outcome of the application process which confirmed the award of £1,654,486 for HEEPS: ABS projects in 2020/21.
- 3.6 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:

Project	Value of HEEPS:ABS
External Wall Insulation (Elderslie)	755,856
External Wall Insulation (Johnstone)	487,107
External Wall Insulation (Gallowhill/Lochwinnoch/Foxbar)	411,523
Total	1,654,486

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – HEEPS: ABS allocation of £1,654,486 for 2020/21 to support owner participation in Council projects within the Renfrewshire area.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – None
3. **Community/Council Planning** –
 - **Our Renfrewshire is thriving** – assisting private owners to participate in programme to improve housing conditions, making Renfrewshire a great place to live

- **Our Renfrewshire is well** – improving housing conditions benefitting 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:** 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** – Contracts are in place to deliver this programme of work.
 10. **Risk** - None.
 11. **Privacy Impact** - None.
 12. **COSLA Policy Position** – None
 13. **Climate Risk** - Projects will contribute to reducing carbon emissions and improving energy efficiency of both social rented and private dwellings
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List of Background Papers

- (a) Report to Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board on 20 August 2019 – Home Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes: 2019/20
- (b) Report to Communities, Housing and Planning Policy Board on 12 March 2019 – Home Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes: 2019/20
- (c) Report to Housing & Community Safety Policy Board on 21 August 2018 – Home Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes: 2018/19 - Update
- (d) Report to Housing & Community Safety Policy Board on 22 May 2018 – Home Energy Efficiency and Carbon Reduction Programmes: 2018/19

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