

To: Housing and Community Safety Policy Board

On: 14 March 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 which will be submitted for funding for financial year 2017/18 under the Scottish Government's Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland: Area Based Schemes (HEEPS:ABS) initiative.
 - 1.2 The report also updates members on the Scottish Government's Scotland's Energy Efficiency Programme (SEEP) pilot programme.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Policy Board:
 - (i) Note that Renfrewshire Council has been allocated £1,380,417 for 2017/18 for qualifying projects as part of the Scottish Government's HEEPS:ABS programme and authorise the Director of Development and Housing Services to bid for projects as set out in Section 3 of this report.
 - (ii) Authorise the Director of Development and Housing Services to oversee delivery and operational management of the programme and note that a further report will be submitted to the Board confirming the outcome of the HEEPS:ABS application.

- (ii) Note the position with the SEEP pilot programme and approve the approach being adopted as set out in Section 4 of this report.
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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.
- 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 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.
- 3.5. On 1st 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 17th March 2017. Following consultation with Housing Association partners a bid of £1,380,417 will be submitted as set out in the table below:

Co ordinating Partner	Project	Value of HEEPS:ABS	No of Owners in Project	No of tenants in Project
Renfrewshire Council	External Wall Insulation	1,206,217	212	203
Paisley Housing Association	External Wall Insulation	59,800	8	136
Bridgewater Housing Association	External Wall Insulation	114,400	16	23
Total		£1,380,417	236	362

- 3.5 This year's bid focuses 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). 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).
- 3.6 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.
- 3.7 The Scottish Government has indicated that local authorities will be advised of approved HEEPS:ABS projects during week commencing 10th April 2017. A report will be submitted to the next meeting of this Board advising members of the outcome of the application process.

4 Scotland's Energy Efficiency Programme (SEEP)

- 4.1 The Scottish Government announced Scotland's Energy Efficiency Programme (SEEP) in January 2016. The aim of SEEP is to improve the energy efficiency rating of domestic and non domestic buildings over a 15 – 20 year period, contributing to the Scottish Government's broader ambitions around reducing fuel poverty, energy demand and carbon emissions to assist in reaching climate change targets.
- 4.2 SEEP will build upon the successful HEEPS:ABS and Low Carbon Infrastructure Transition Programmes (LCITP) and it is anticipated that local authorities will play a key leadership role in developing integrated and innovative approaches to deliver this.
- 4.3 The SEEP programme is organised in two phases of delivery; Phase 1 from 2016 – 2018 concentrates on the piloting of new approaches and programme scoping and Phase 2 which will commence in 2018 and will mark the initial phase of the integrated programme of support for domestic and non domestic sectors.
- 4.4 The Scottish Government has indicated up to £11m will be available in 2017/18 and will seek expressions of interest from local authorities in March for pilot projects. It is expected that these projects should demonstrate how existing privately owned properties can be retrofitted with insulation and renewable heating systems, in order to reduce carbon emissions and contribute to meeting climate change targets.
- 4.5 Members are asked to note that the Council is currently considering its strategy to respond to the requirements of the SEEP pilot programme for 2017/18 and seeking to identify whether the Council can support or deliver any potential projects that would meet the requirements of SEEPS funding. Any application for funding will be reported to a future meeting of this Board.
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Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** - HEEPS:ABS allocation of £1,380,417 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
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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

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7 March 2017

Appendix 1

Renfrewshire Council External Wall Insulation Programme 2017/18			
Project Area	No of Owners	No of Tenants	Total Properties
Bridge of Weir	60	32	92
Elderslie	14	22	36
Houston	31	29	60
Kilbarchan	53	36	89
Linwood	27	45	72
Paisley South	7	29	36
Renfrew	20	10	30
Total	212	203	415