



AFFORDABLE WARMTH & HOME

ENERGY EFFICIENCY STRATEGY - 2019-2023

APPENDICES



Appendix 1: Affordable Warmth and Home Energy Efficiency Implementation Plan

Introduction

The Affordable Warmth and Home Energy Efficiency Strategy (AWHEEs) is a multi-agency Strategy designed to support the provision of warm, energy efficient homes for everyone in the Scottish Borders. The Strategy involves key partners within the Scottish Borders Council (SBC), as well as wide array of stakeholders spanning the full breadth of the energy efficiency and fuel poverty agenda. Covering the period 2019-23, it contains a Vision, Priorities and an Implementation Plan.

The Vision for the AWHEEs is:

More people live in energy efficient and affordably warm homes.

There are 3 Priorities that work towards fulfilling this Vision. They are as follows:

- **Priority 1:** To collectively work with our partners to improve affordable warmth and energy efficiency in homes.
- **Priority 2:** To explore wider measures to better manage energy and increase warmth in the home.
- **Priority 3:** To ensure that the AWHEEs provides opportunities for all in the Scottish Borders.

This draft Implementation Plan sets out clearly and brings together the strategic actions, high level inputs, outcomes and targets that underpin successful delivery. Consequently, the Implementation Plan provides further detail for the programme of work required to support and achieve each of the Strategic Actions in the AWHEEs, to drive implementation and to facilitate monitoring and evaluation. A review will be completed annually to ascertain progress and to enable remedial actions to be instigated promptly should they be required to ensure milestones set out are to be achieved, and that services and partners are on track to deliver specific AWHEEs actions. The progress will be monitored by the Borders Home Energy Forum, as part of its remit. Key AWHEEs outcomes will also be reviewed and evaluated, as part of the ongoing delivery of the LHS, due to the close nature and cross-over of the Strategies.

In this Implementation Plan the Priorities are outlined in turn and include detail on the Outcomes, Actions, relevant indicators, targets (where applicable), lead and wider Partners. It is assumed that the targets either span the duration of the strategy or are to be delivered by the end date.

Priority 1: To collectively work with our partners to improve affordable warmth and energy efficiency in homes

Strategic Outcomes	Relevant Indicator	Baseline (date)	Target	Data Type and Source	Timescale
1. Deliver successful projects under the Energy Efficient Scotland programme.	Average energy efficiency levels of domestic buildings increases.	Mean SAP Rating – 58 Median SAP Rating – 60	>58 >60	Home Analytics (Borders Home Energy Database)	2019-23
	Percentage of domestic properties with loft and wall insulation increases.	Cavity wall 76% Solid brick or stone 13% Loft insulation >100mm 64%	>76% >13% >64%	Home Analytics & SBC HSPD (Housing Strategy, Policy and Development)	2019-23
	Average annual heat demand of domestic buildings decreases.	Further analysis of existing SG heat demand	-	Scottish Government Heat Map	2019-23
	Total renewable and low carbon heat generation for domestic buildings increases.	HES Renewables Loan referral 3 year average 64 p.a. (-2018)	>64 referrals	Home Energy Scotland	2019-23
2. Fuel poverty in the Scottish Borders decreases.	Percentage of households in fuel poverty under the new definition decreases.	Not available until Dec 2019	-	Scottish House Condition Survey	2019-
3. Social housing meets EESSH 1 target and works productively to meet EESSH 2 target.	Percentage of households that meet EESSH 1 target and EESSH 2 target.	68% compliance with EESSH1 (2018)	100% compliance by 2020	Scottish Housing Regulator and RSLs	2020 for EESH1; 2032 for EESSH2

Strategic Actions	Example Actions	Lead	Partners
1.1 Continue to deliver Energy Efficient Scotland projects in the Tweeddale Locality.	Deliver Energy Efficient Scotland projects in the Tweeddale Locality. Review Monitoring and Evaluation Feedback from University of Edinburgh.	SBC HSPD (Housing Strategy, Policy and Development) and Changeworks	
1.2 Continue to develop and deliver a LHEES for Peebles.	Engage internally and externally with Changeworks on the targets and implementation plan. Finalise targets for Peebles LHEES. Develop and finalise implementation plan for Peebles LHEES. Agree sign off within SBC.	SBC (HSPD) and Changeworks	Other SBC teams
1.3 Continue to attract funding for, and deliver HEEPS:ABS.	Deliver 18/19 HEEPS:ABS funding. Scope areas to target for future funding.	SBC (HSPD) and Changeworks	

1.4 Identify new and existing schemes to leverage funding to support the fuel poor.	Maintain active relationship with RSLs and Changeworks Affordable Warmth team to respond to funding calls.	SBC (HSPD)	RSLs and Changeworks
1.5 Apply for future funding to expand the Energy Efficient Scotland projects in the Borders out into other Localities and towns.	Consider a longer-term strategic approach for SBC. Apply for next round of Energy Efficient Scotland funding.	SBC (HSPD), EES Steering Group	
1.6 RSLs to ensure all properties comply with EESSH1 & 2 Standards and identify and support funding opportunities where appropriate.	RSLs to continue to plan and deliver installation of energy efficiency measures in homes that do not comply with EESSH1.	RSLs	SBC (HSPD)
1.7 Proactively inform private landlords of requirements for Energy Efficient Scotland and engage further to outline support, resources, funding opportunities and advice.	Ensure there is a clear linkage for this agenda in the wider communication strategy for the private sector. Prepare written communication with HES and SAL relating to Energy Efficient Scotland targets and support available. Use the Landlord Registration Scotland database to contact landlords accordingly. Communicate to landlords via newsletters and forums. Hold a suite of workshops for private landlords on energy efficiency.	SBC (HSPD)	HES, SAL
1.8 SBC colleagues, Scottish Government, and wider delivery partners to work collectively to understand better approaches to monitor progress against Energy Efficient Scotland, fuel poverty and LHEES targets.	Maintain dialogue with key stakeholders to feed in challenges and barriers to monitoring progress against SG policy.	SBC (HSPD)	Changeworks, Scottish Government, University of Edinburgh
1.9 Use local intelligence, the Borders Home Energy Database and mapping to target areas and tenures eligible for energy efficiency improvements and fuel poverty support.	When applying for funding to use this Database to support the selection of targeted areas.	Changeworks and SBC (HSPD)	
1.10 Gather data relating to the new fuel poverty definition to ensure that the AWHEEs remains fit for purpose.	To await the release of data Dec 2019. Review AWHEEs actions in light of data.	SBC (HSPD)	
1.11 Write and maintain a Statement of Intent for the ECO Flexible Eligibility Local Authority scheme.	To maintain a suitably functioning Sol for ECO3. To finalise an extension to the Sol to cover households that are not within the scope of HEEPS:ABS projects.	Changeworks	SBC (HSPD)
1.12 Ensure the Borders Home Energy Forum remains fit for purpose in terms of membership, networks and priorities.	To review the ToR for the Forum annually.	Forum members	

Priority 2: To explore wider measures to better manage energy and increase warmth in the home

Strategic Outcomes	Relevant Indicator	Baseline (data)	Target	Data Type and Source	Timescale
1. Increase in referrals to trusted organisations on advice relating to energy efficiency measures and behavioural change; fuel debt advocacy services and; income maximisation and money advice.	Percentage of households referred from Home Energy Scotland to trusted schemes.	Referral from HES 3 year average is 1,381.	>1,381	Home Energy Scotland	2019-23
2. Operate a thriving website as a central point of call for affordable warmth and energy efficiency advice, referral mechanisms and funding opportunities.	SBC Strategic Housing and Development Service website is reviewed and updated; number of visits to the website increases.	Out of date website in terms of affordable warmth and energy efficiency support and advice.	Updated website integrating latest HES support and advice, wider support services and best practice.	-	2019
3. More partners, community hubs and training services are able to provide advice and support on affordable warmth and energy efficiency and host relevant events.	Number of partners and community hubs that add affordable warmth to their agenda. Number of frontline staff trained. Number of surgery sessions available.	TBC	An increase in engagement.	SBC data, NHS Borders Data	2019-23

Strategic Actions	Example Actions	Lead	Partners
2.1 Develop opportunities to engage and support households in relation to behavioural change, energy efficiency and affordable warmth in the home.	Identify other trusted organisations in addition to HES. Continue to, and increase household referrals to HES and other organisation through completing actions within this Strategy. Analyse and use the latest Scottish Government and wider research to develop a wider approach for support and engagement on behavioural change. Start to produce best practice guidance on a long-term approach for engagement in the Scottish Borders.	SBC (HSPD)	HES, trusted organisations (to be identified), Changeworks, University of Edinburgh, Scottish Government
2.2 Develop opportunities to engage with households in relation to fuel costs.	Identify other trusted organisations in addition to HES and Citrus Energy. Continue to, and increase referrals households to HES and other organisations through completing actions in Priority 1 and 2. Analyse and use the latest Scottish Government and wider research to develop a wider approach for support and engagement on switching and minimising fuel costs in the household.	SBC (HSPD)	HES, Citrus Energy, trusted organisations (to be identified), Changeworks, University of Edinburgh, Scottish Government

	Start to produce best practice guidance on a long-term approach for engagement in the Scottish Borders.		
2.3 Develop opportunities to engage with households in relation to income maximisation.	<p>Identify other trusted organisations in addition to HES.</p> <p>Engage with Homelessness and Financial Inclusion Team on wider opportunities within this area.</p> <p>Continue to, and increase referrals households to HES and other organisation through completing actions in Priority 1 and 2.</p> <p>Review current advice and support provided by SBC.</p> <p>Provide recommendations to improve this service for SBC, if applicable.</p> <p>Provide links via SBC HSPD web space.</p>	SBC (HSPD)	HES, trusted organisations (to be identified), Homelessness and Financial Inclusion, TBC
2.4 Collaborating with the SBC Communities and Partnerships team, Social Care and Health and NHS Borders, create a database of intermediary community groups and services that can collaborate with SBC, to equip them with advice, support and referral mechanisms on affordable warmth and energy efficiency.	<p>Engage with teams to identify intermediary groups that could support and benefit from affordable warmth advice in terms of training and events.</p> <p>Map and create database of groups.</p> <p>Make contact with the groups.</p> <p>Identify opportunities to add HES affordable warmth material to the events.</p> <p>Add material to the agenda.</p> <p>Engage with Homelessness and Financial Inclusion Team, CAB and RSLs on opportunities for consistent training and increasing referral routes.</p> <p>Engage with the Job Centre to provide fuel poverty material in their Centres.</p> <p>Engage with Shelter Scotland on opportunities related to fuel poverty awareness training.</p>	SBC HSPD and Communities and Partnerships	Social Care and Health, NHS Borders, Homelessness and Financial Inclusion, CAB, RSLs
2.5 Apply for grant funding to increase awareness on energy efficiency and fuel poverty issues throughout households.	<p>Review potential opportunities for funding.</p> <p>Promote and support applications as appropriate.</p>	Changeworks Affordable Warmth Team	SBC (HSPD), RSLs
2.6 Develop an increased web presence on the SBC website and on social media to promote energy efficiency and affordable warmth in the home, referral mechanisms and funding opportunities.	<p>Review current content on SBC HSPD web space.</p> <p>Review content on HES and other Councils websites and identify relevant material to replicate on SBC website.</p> <p>Update content on SBC website.</p> <p>Ensure wider material on funding opportunities kept up to date and Strategy present.</p> <p>Liaise with social media team and HES to explore opportunities to promote energy efficiency and affordable warmth campaigns.</p>	SBC (HSPD)	HES, SBC social media team
2.7 RSLs in the Scottish Borders work collectively to create a clear and concise guide to funding for EESSH.	<p>Engage with the RSLs to develop a funding working group.</p> <p>Action the group to identify and review relevant funding opportunities for affordable warmth and energy efficiency improvements.</p>	RSLs	SBC (HSPD)

Priority 3: To ensure that the AWHEEs provides opportunities for all in the Scottish Borders

Strategic Outcomes	Relevant Indicator	Baseline (data)	Target	Data Type and Source	Timescale
1. Significant increase in the number of referrals to Home Energy Scotland for households that reside in rural, off-gas grid properties and/or contain elderly and vulnerable individuals.	Percentage of households with these characteristics referred to Home Energy Scotland increases.	Discussion to be held with HES to determine whether data can be segregated to this level.	Based on baseline data availability.	Home Energy Scotland	2019-23
2. Significant increase in the number of referrals to Home Energy Scotland for the self-funded, owner occupied market.	Percentage of households with these characteristics referred to Home Energy Scotland increases.	Discussion to be held with HES to determine whether data can be segregated to this level.	Based on baseline data availability.	Home Energy Scotland	2019-23
3. Clear support routes to encourage members of the supply chain to engage in energy efficiency work.	To be able to set actions on implementing the opportunities to develop the supply chain.	-	-		2023

Strategic Actions	Example Actions	Lead	Partners
3.1 Ensure all support extends to, and is relevant for rural and/or off-gas grid areas.	Liaise with HES to ensure that best practice to engage these types of householders and properties are maximised within Priority 2. Develop dialogue with Highlands and Islands Partnership to discuss best practice. Put specific actions in place accordingly.	SBC (HSPD)	HES, Communities and Partnerships
3.2 Ensure all support extends to, and is relevant for; the elderly and vulnerable and; households that are experiencing child poverty.	Liaise with HES to ensure that best practice to engage these types of householders and properties are maximised within Priority 2. Develop dialogue with NHS Borders JHIT to discuss best practice. Put specific actions in place accordingly.	SBC (HSPD)	HES, NHS Borders, Communities and Partnerships
3.3 Develop best practice on engaging the 'self-funded' market to develop a programme of encouragement and support for this these homeowners.	Access best practice, latest research and analysis from SG, Uni of Edinburgh M&E programme and from ongoing Energy Efficient Scotland Projects. Analyse the findings. Start to produce best practice guidance on a long-term approach for Scottish Borders for the 'self-funded' market.	SBC (HSPD)	Changeworks, University of Edinburgh, Scottish Government
3.4 Ensure bottlenecks with regards to mixed tenure blocks are	Ensure SBC HSPD and Changeworks are proactive in engaging RSLs	SBC (HSPD), RSLs and	Private Landlords

minimised.	when developing annual HEEPS:ABS programmes. Ensure all active and/or potential bottlenecks are discussed at the Borders Home Energy Forum.	Changeworks	
3.5 Explore opportunities to understand better the Scottish Borders energy efficiency supply chain, in terms of challenges, barriers and opportunities to increasing work in this area.	Engage at the Borders College Construction Advisory Board meetings, as an access point to engage with the supply chain. Develop contacts across the supply chain to discuss further the opportunities and barriers for the energy efficiency agenda. Realise the actions required to develop the supply chain further.	SBC Economic Development and Borders College	SBC (HSPD)
3.6 Engage with Borders College to explore opportunities to increase training on energy efficiency measures.	Continue to meet with Borders College on the energy efficiency agenda. Support them to explore best practice elsewhere. Engage at Construction Advisory Board meetings. Support development of an evidence base to provide training on the energy efficiency agenda.	Borders College	SBC (HSPD and Economic Development)
3.7 Remain proactive with regards to Borderlands and South of Scotland Economic Partnership funding and projects.	Maintain dialogue with relevant colleagues at SBC.	SBC Economic Development	
3.8 Develop a series of case studies to be used as best practice to incentivise other homeowners to take up and/or invest in energy efficiency in the home.	Liaise with HES, Borders Home Energy Forum, HEEPS:ABS projects and ongoing Energy Efficient Scotland projects regarding data collected on case studies across tenure types. Develop case studies into promotional documents. Explore opportunities to promote these case studies to other households.	Borders Home Energy Forum	HES, Changeworks, Warmworks
3.9 Develop an evidence base relating to the behaviour in the home post energy efficiency improvement.	Liaise with HES, HEEPS:ABS projects and ongoing Energy Efficient Scotland projects regarding data collected on performance of energy efficiency measures post installation. Develop data collected into lessons learned documents. Explore opportunities to understand further and feedback to delivery partners the outcomes of the lessons learned.	SBC (HSPD)	HES, Changeworks
3.10 Develop an evidence base for engagement to understand better the stages at which homeowners drop out of the energy efficiency 'journey' and identify the specific barriers and reasons for their exit.	Liaise with HES and ongoing Energy Efficient Scotland projects regarding customer journeys with HES. Identify and collate barriers and reasons for drop out on the customer journey. Develop an action plan for the Scottish Borders and HES to support homeowners further to minimise the barriers observed.	SBC (HSPD)	HES, Changeworks

Appendix 2: Affordable Warmth and Home Energy Efficiency Local Profile

This Appendix provides an overview of the local context that shapes and influences the operation of the local housing system in the Scottish Borders. In particular, it provides headline data on the Scottish Borders population, economy, rurality, deprivation, localities and the existing and planned housing stock. It then provides information and data on fuel poverty and fuel costs, as well as the energy profile of housing in the Scottish Borders.

A summary of the main points from this analysis is presented below and is repeated in the main Strategy.

Population and household profile

- Estimated population for the Scottish Borders in 2017 was 115,020.
- Between 2016 and 2026 the overall population of the Scottish Borders is not expected to change significantly (+2.0%).
- However, the proportion of over 75s are projected to increase by almost 34%.
- There were 54,306 households in the Scottish Borders in 2017.
- Household projections suggest that number of households will continue to rise, with the projected increase for the Scottish Borders of around 7% for the period 2012-37.

Household economy

- In 2017, 53,500 people were employed in the Scottish Borders.
- The median full-time gross weekly earnings by place of work nationally in 2017 was £547.30 and in the Scottish Borders it was £467.80.
- Unemployment rate in the Scottish Borders in 2017 was 3.4% (1,900 individuals) and in Scotland it was 4.1%.

Rurality

- 53% of the population in the Scottish Borders live in rural areas, compared with the national figure of 21%.
- The Scottish Borders has no large urban areas and only two settlements are classed as other urban areas, Hawick and Galashiels.
- Accessible rural areas accounts for 39% of new private dwellings built over the past ten years; this area has the largest of the Scottish Borders population, with 36% of people in the Borders staying in accessible rural areas.

Deprivation

- Using the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation, 7 datazones fall into the “20% most deprived” in Scotland: these are located in Hawick Central, Burnfoot, Langlee and Selkirk areas.
 - These datazones account for 5.8% of the Scottish Borders population.
- Two datazones fall into the “10% most deprived” in Scotland in Burnfoot and Langlee.
 - These datazones account for 1.4% of the Scottish Borders population.

Localities, population spread and housing stock

- The 5 localities are Berwickshire, Cheviot, Eildon, Teviot and Liddesdale, and Tweeddale.
- There is a higher proportion of 65+ in Cheviot and Teviot and Liddesdale.
- Berwickshire has significantly higher % population in small settlements (<500).
- 56% of households are owner occupied, 18% are privately rented, and 26% are socially rented.
- 36% of households are pre-1945 and 64% are post 1945; 73% are houses and 27% are flats.

Fuel poverty and fuel costs

- 31% of households in the Scottish Borders are fuel poor under the current definition; 8% are extreme poor.
- National measurement of fuel poverty under the new definition is not available currently until December 2019.
- Teviot and Liddesdale has the highest proportion of homes in a Council Tax band A-C (78.6%), whilst Tweeddale has the least (46.8%).
- UK average expenditure on electricity increased by 7.3% between 2016 and 2017; gas expenditure decreased by 4.5%.
 - There has been a gradual increase in total household expenditure on energy over the last 10 years.

Energy profile and housing quality

- Approximately one third of properties are off the gas grid.
 - Berwickshire has less homes connected by mains gas and consequently, there are more homes dependent on alternative forms of heat, namely solid fuel, electric heaters and oil.
 - Eildon also has a large proportion of homes that are dependent on electricity with limited dependency on solid fuels, LPG and oil in comparison to the other localities.
- 68% of appropriate households have had cavity wall insulation; whilst the level of solid wall insulation for appropriate households is relatively low (and in line with the Scottish average).
 - Houses eligible for solid wall insulation account for approximately two thirds of the households in the data set.

Population and Household Profile

The Scottish Borders is a rural local authority area of 473,614 hectares (1,827 square miles) and is the sixth largest council area geographically in Scotland. The estimated population for the Scottish Borders in 2017 was 115,020; an increase of 0.4% in 2016 (NRS, 2018). The population accounts for approximately 2% of the total population of Scotland. In terms of population density, the Scottish Borders is one of the most sparsely populated regions of Scotland, 0.24 persons per hectare, lower than the Scottish average of 0.68. In 2017, 9% of the population are aged 16 to 24 years (NRS, 2018). This is lower than Scotland, where 10.9% are aged 16 to 24 years. Persons aged 65 and over make up 24.1% of the Scottish Borders. This is higher than Scotland, where 18.7% are aged 65 and over. Projecting out to 2026, the overall population is not expected to change significantly (+2.0%). This compares to a projected increase of 3.2% for Scotland as a whole. However, the 16 to 24 age group is projected to see the largest percentage decrease (-8.4%) and the 75 and over age group is projected to see the largest percentage increase (+33.5%). These changes are also expected to be more marked in the Scottish Borders than in Scotland as a whole.

Scottish Borders is a rural local authority where 30% of the population lives in settlements of under 500 people or in isolated hamlets. The largest town is Hawick with a 2016 estimated population of 13,783, followed by Galashiels with 12,601 – although, if neighbouring Tweedbank were included, Galashiels would be the largest town in Scottish Borders. The only other towns with a population of over 5,000 people are Peebles, Kelso and Selkirk. Scottish Borders Council Area is the fourth most sparsely-populated mainland Local Authority areas in Scotland after Highland, Argyll and Bute and Dumfries and Galloway.

There were 54,306 households in the Scottish Borders in 2017; an increase of 0.1% on the previous year and 14.4% since 2001. Between 2016 and 2026, the number of households in Scottish Borders is projected to increase from 53,787 to 56,497. This is a 5.0% increase, which compares to a projected increase of 6.4% for Scotland as a whole. Average household size is expected to continue to decline throughout this period.

Household Economy

In 2017, 53,500 people were employed in the Scottish Borders (ONS NOMIS, 2018). Although gross pay has gradually increased over the last two decades, earnings are below the Scottish average, particularly so for those working within the Scottish Borders area. People who live and work in the Scottish Borders earn just over 81% of the Scottish average wage; those who live in the Scottish Borders and work outside the area earn on average 92% of the Scottish average. This reflects the value of the employment available in the Scottish Borders economy. The median full-time gross weekly earnings by place of work nationally in 2017 was £547.30 and in the Scottish Borders it was £467.80 (ONS, 2017).

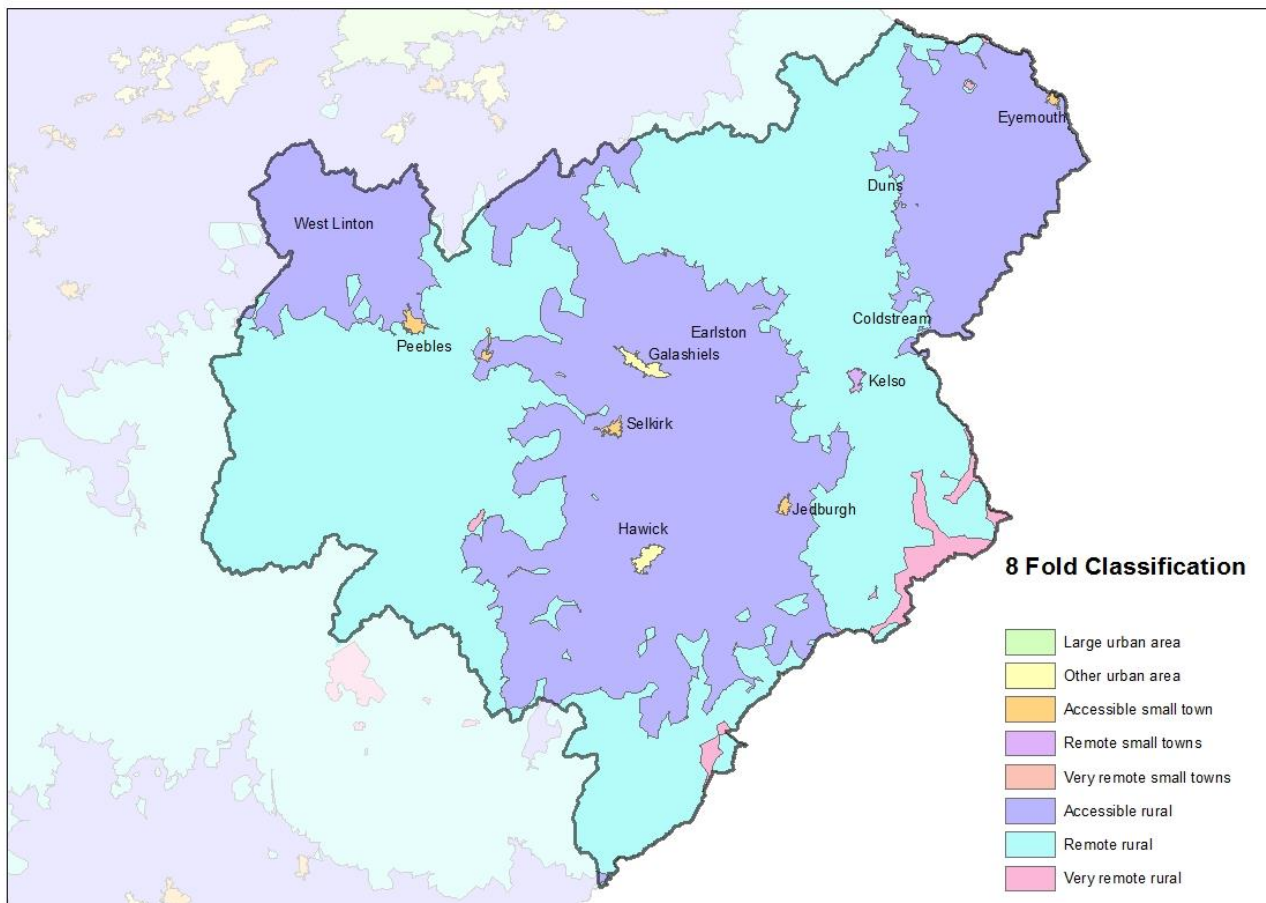
Based on the CACI Paycheck data for 2015, the average income for Scottish Borders households is £32,785; approximately 5% lower than the national average (£34,619). Furthermore, household income levels vary across housing market areas, with incomes particularly low in Berwickshire (£30,407) and Central Borders (£30,624) and considerably higher in the Northern housing market area (£40,846). The gross disposable household income per head in the Scottish Borders in 2016 was £18,923 (ONS, 2016); in Scotland it was £18,231 (ONS, 2016). Since 2011 the growth in the gross disposable household income per head in the Scottish Borders has been favourable.

Unemployment rate in the Scottish Borders in 2017 was 3.4% (1,900 individuals) and in Scotland it was 4.1% (ONS NOMIS, 2018). The level of unemployment in the Scottish Borders peaked in 2012 at 6.2% and has decreased since. The proportion of working age people claiming Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) and those unemployed people claiming or transferring on to Universal Credit (UC) in the Scottish Borders has consistently been below the average level for Scotland. Within the Scottish Borders, the proportion of working age people claiming either JSA or the unemployment related UC in March 2016 ranged from 0.9% for the Leaderdale and Melrose ward to 2.7% for Galashiels and District, Hawick and Hermitage and Hawick and Denholm wards. Across the localities, the numbers claiming jobseeker's allowance has fluctuated over the past ten years, with the highest rates consistently in Teviot and Liddesdale and the lowest in Tweeddale.

Rurality

The Scottish Government Urban Rural Classification provides a standard definition of rural areas in Scotland (Scottish Government, 2018b). Figure A2.1 shows the Urban Rural areas for the Scottish Borders using the 8 fold classification whilst Table A2.1 provides the definitions of the 8 fold urban rural classification. The Scottish Borders has no large urban areas and only two settlements are classed as other urban areas, Hawick and Galashiels.

Figure A2.1: Scottish Government’s Urban Rural Classification



Source: Scottish Government, 2018b

Table A2.1: Scottish Government Urban Rural Classification, 8-fold

Class Name	Description	Scottish Borders Settlement
Large Urban Areas	Settlements of 125,000 people and over.	-
Other Urban Areas	Settlements of 10,000 to 124,999 people.	Galashiels and Hawick
Accessible Small Towns	Settlements of 3,000 to 9,999 people, and within a 30 minute drive time of a Settlement of 10,000 or more.	Eyemouth, Innerleithen, Jedburgh, Peebles, Selkirk
Remote Small Towns	Settlements of 3,000 to 9,999 people, and with a drive time of over 30 minutes but less than or equal to 60 minutes to a Settlement of 10,000 or more.	Kelso
Very Remote Small Towns	Settlements of 3,000 to 9,999 people, and with a drive time of over 60 minutes to a Settlement of 10,000 or more.	-
Accessible Rural Areas	Areas with a population of less than 3,000 people, and within a drive time of 30 minutes to a Settlement of 10,000 or more.	Allanton, Ancrum, Ayton, Chirnside, Coldingham, Coldstream, Darnick, Denholm, Duns, Earliston, Lauder, Melrose, Newtown St Boswells, St Boswells, Stow, Walkerburn, West Linton
Remote Rural Areas	Areas with a population of less than 3,000 people, and with a drive time of over 30 minutes but less than or equal to 60 minutes to a Settlement of 10,000 or more.	Greenlaw, Yetholm

Source: Scottish Government, 2018b

Table A2.2 provides the percent of population in each 8-fold Rural Urban category for the Scottish Borders and Scotland. It shows that 53% of the population in the Scottish Borders live in rural areas, compared with the national figure of 21%.

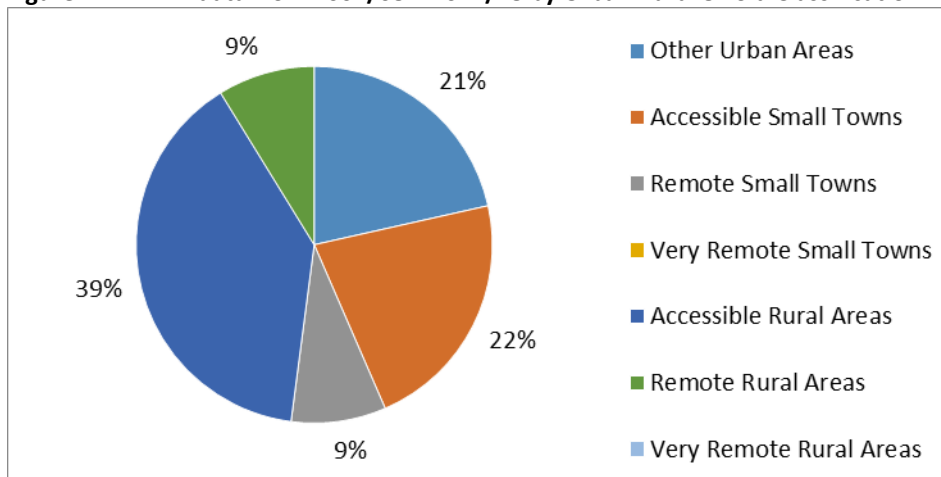
Table A2.2: Percent of population in each 8-fold Rural Urban category for the Scottish Borders and Scotland

	Large Urban Areas	Other Urban Areas	Access. Small Towns	Remote Small Towns	Very Remote Small Towns	Access. Rural	Remote Rural	Very Remote Rural
Scottish Borders	0.0	25.1	22.0	6.0	0.0	36.1	10.7	0.0
Scotland	34.6	36.2	8.5	2.3	1.2	11.2	3.2	2.8

Source: Scottish Government, 2018b

Figure A2.2 shows new private dwellings in the Scottish Borders, classified by the Scottish Governments Urban Rural classification. Accessible rural areas accounts for 39% of new private dwellings built over the past ten years; this area has the largest of the Scottish Borders population, with 36% of people in the Borders staying in accessible rural areas. When comparing new private building and population in the Scottish Borders, the proportions are very similar, meaning that the distribution of new builds aligns with the population in that area.

Figure A2.2: NB2 data from 2007/08 – 2017/18 by Urban Rural 8 Fold Classification



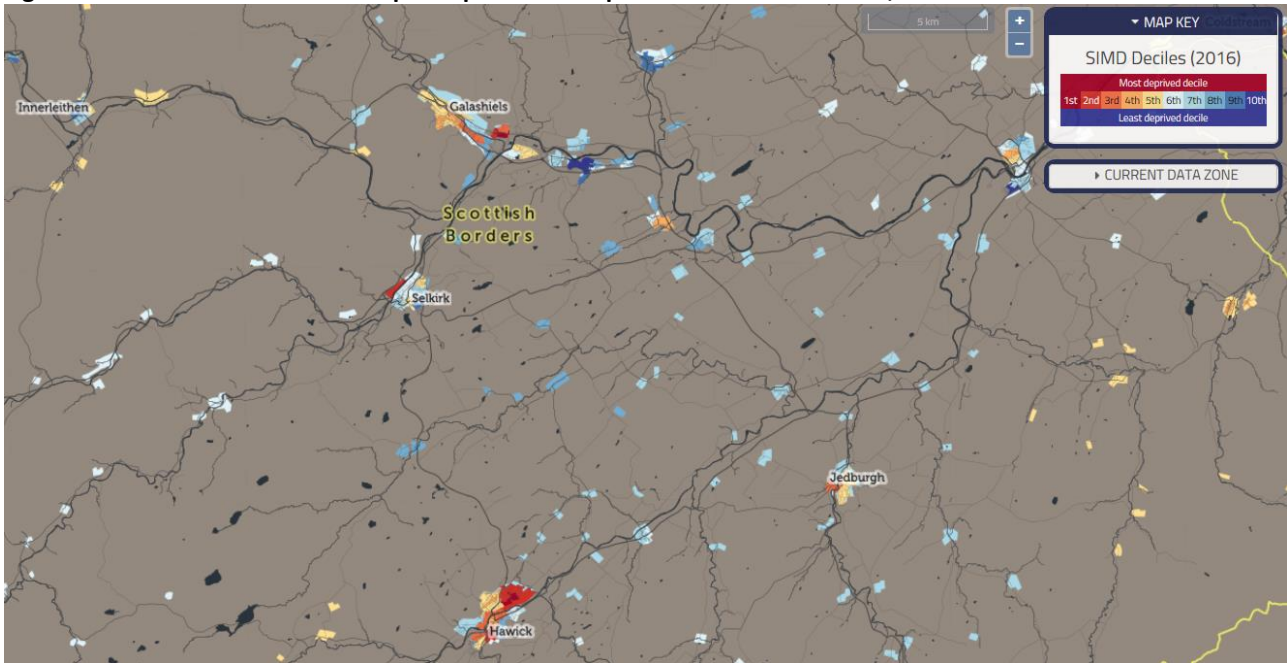
Source: Scottish Government, 2018

Deprivation

Deprivation is measured using the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2016 (SIMD, 2016). This takes account of measures of income, employment, health, education, geographic access, crime and housing. Results from the 2016 SIMD show that most areas (143 datazones) in Scottish Borders are found in the middle rankings (5th, 6th & 7th SIMD deciles). Figure A2.3 outlines the SIMD for the Scottish Borders, with red representing the most deprived and blue the least deprived.

Seven datazones fall into the “20% most deprived” in Scotland: these are located in Hawick Central, Burnfoot, Langlee and Selkirk areas. These datazones account for 5.8% of the Scottish Borders population. Two datazones fall into the “10% most deprived” in Scotland in Burnfoot and Langlee. These datazones account for 1.4% of the Scottish Borders population.

Figure A2.3: Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation Map for the Scottish Borders, 2016



Source: SIMD, 2016

Localities and population spread

The Council and its Community Planning Partners have adopted a Locality Planning approach, establishing five commonly agreed localities and Area Partnerships. The localities are Berwickshire, Cheviot, Eildon, Teviot and Liddesdale, and Tweeddale and are outlined in Figure A2.4. Table A2.3 outlines the Scottish Borders locality profiles. Within the Scottish Borders there are 4 main housing associations: Berwickshire Housing Association Ltd; Eildon Housing Association Ltd; Scottish Borders Housing Association Ltd and; Waverley Housing.

Figure A2.4: Localities map for the Scottish Borders



Table A2.3: Scottish Borders locality profiles

Area	Population				Rurality		Deprivation
	Total	0-15	16-64	65+	% population in small settlements (<500)	No. settlements >500	% population income deprived
Berwickshire	20,567	15%	60%	24%	45%	7	10.4%
Cheviot	19,503	15%	58%	27%	34%	4	9.4%
Eildon	35,190	18%	61%	21%	19%	8	9.8%
Teviot and Liddesdale	17,965	14%	59%	28%	14%	3	14.3%
Tweeddale	20,715	19%	62%	20%	28%	5	7.0%
Scottish Borders	114,030	17%	60%	23%	27%	27	10.9%

Housing Stock

The data for housing stock, and other statistics in this Appendix are based on a sample size of 206, taken from the Scottish Home Condition Survey (Scottish Government, 2018a). Of the households in the Scottish Borders, approximately 56% are owner occupied, 18% are privately rented, and 26% are socially rented (Scottish Government, 2018a). This is compared to Scotland, of which approximately 61% are owner occupied, 14% are privately rented, and 25% are socially rented. Table A2.4 outlines the key household characteristics in the Scottish Borders in terms of dwelling type, tenure and household type.

Table A2.4: Key estimated household characteristics in the Scottish Borders and Scotland for 2017 (presented in 000s, with % share in brackets for Scottish Borders only)

	No. Households by dwelling characteristics (000s)							No. Households by household attributes (000s)					
	Total	Age of dwelling		House or flat		No. Bedrooms		Tenure			Household type		
		Pre-1945	Post-1945	House	Flat	2 or fewer	3+	Owner occupied	Social housing	Private rented	Older	Families	Other
Scottish Borders	54	19 (36%)	34 (64%)	39 (73%)	15 (27%)	22 (42%)	31 (58%)	30 (56%)	14 (26%)	10 (18%)	21 (38%)	13 (24%)	20 (38%)
Scotland	2,450	763	1,687	1,556	894	1,251	1,199	1,498	613	339	760	570	1,121

Source: Scottish Government, 2018a

Fuel Poverty and Fuel Costs

Fuel poverty estimates using the current approach are presented in Table A2.5 and Table A2.6 provides the split of council tax bands for each locality. The data in Table A2.5 indicates that 31% of households in the Scottish Borders are fuel poor under the current definition; 8% are extreme poor. In Table A2.6 just over 50% of households reside in Council Tax band A in Teviot and Liddesdale. This locality also has the highest proportion of homes in a Council Tax band A-C (78.6%), whilst Tweeddale has the least (46.8%). Table A2.7 also presents data of fuel poor households against a series of proxies, taken from the Borders Home Energy Database, completed on behalf of SBC by Changeworks.

Table A2.5: Percentage of fuel poor and extreme fuel poor households in the Scottish Borders under the Scottish Government's previous definition for 2016

	% fuel poverty by dwelling characteristics							% fuel poverty by household attributes					
	% of Scottish Borders LA	Age of dwelling		House or flat		No. Bedrooms		Tenure			Household type		
		Pre-1945	Post-1945	House	Flat	2 or fewer	3+	Owner occupied	Social housing	Private rented	Older	Families	Other
% of fuel poor households	31%	35%	29%	31%	32%	30%	32%	27%	39%	32%	43%	22%	26%
% of households extreme fuel poor	8%	7%	8%	10%	*	7%	9%	7%	10%	*	16%	*	*

Source: Scottish Government, 2018a

Table A2.6: Percentage of households in each council tax band in the Scottish Borders split by locality

Locality	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H	% A-C
Berwickshire	21.4	25.8	14.2	11.4	11.8	8.5	6.3	0.7	61.4
Cheviot	21.6	25.2	15.7	11.0	10.9	7.8	6.9	0.8	62.6
Eildon	28.6	22.8	11.5	10.9	12.3	7.8	5.6	0.5	62.9
Teviot and Liddesdale	52.5	18.1	8.0	7.6	6.5	4.4	2.6	0.3	78.6
Tweeddale	19.3	16.6	10.9	9.0	12.1	12.3	17.9	1.9	46.8

Source: Energy Savings Trust, 2018

Table A2.7: Estimated fuel poor properties split out using different proxies (using the previous definition)

Locality	Estimated No. fuel poor properties using single pensioner proxy	Estimated No. fuel poor properties using unemployed proxy	Estimated No. fuel poor properties using looking after the home or family proxy	Estimated No. fuel poor properties using long-term sick or disabled proxy	Estimated No. fuel poor properties using EPC band E-G proxy	Estimated No. fuel poor properties using central heating system other than gas or electric proxy
Berwickshire	1,228	373	41	174	2,273	867
Cheviot	1,259	342	38	121	1,613	559
Eildon	1,942	930	73	309	3,354	621
Teviot and Liddesdale	1,201	565	55	228	1,485	419
Tweeddale	1,080	312	25	100	1,575	516

Source: Energy Savings Trust, 2018

The total annual UK domestic expenditure on energy by product (including vehicle fuel expenditure) is presented in Table A2.8. Between 2016 and 2017 total expenditure on energy products increased in terms of current prices by 5% - there has been a gradual increase in expenditure over the dataset. Expenditure on energy products accounted for 4.9% of all consumer expenditure in 2017. Expenditure on electricity increased by 7.3% between 2016 and 2017; gas expenditure decreased by 4.5%. Lastly, gas and electricity each account for approximately 25% of total expenditure for energy products – this has remained stable in recent years.

Table A2.8: Total household expenditure on energy (£ million)

	Solid Fuels	Gas	Electricity	Liquid Fuels ^(inc fuel oils and heating oils)	All fuel and power	Vehicle Fuels and Lubricants	Total energy products	Total consumers expenditure
2008	313	12,825	14,175	1,519	28,832	29,727	58,559	986,373
2009	306	13,511	14,378	1,140	29,335	26,621	55,956	960,854
2010	275	14,831	13,896	1,476	30,478	30,820	61,298	984,614
2011	278	13,542	14,038	1,579	29,437	35,415	64,852	1,013,406
2012	286	15,851	15,271	1,655	33,063	35,513	68,576	1,053,663
2013	290	17,153	16,330	1,626	35,399	34,259	69,658	1,098,735
2014	253	14,737	15,129	1,201	31,320	33,067	64,387	1,143,919
2015	302	14,888	15,293	967	31,450	28,297	59,747	1,181,868
2016	291	15,504	15,095	861	31,751	27,604	59,355	1,235,357
2017	299	14,801	16,195	1,097	32,392	29,952	62,344	1,282,038
% change, 2016-17	+2.7	-4.5	+7.3	+27.4	+2.0	+8.5	+5.0	+3.8

Source: BEIS, 2018

Energy Profile and Housing Quality

This Section provides key data relating to energy use, fuel, EPC ratings and housing energy efficiency improvements in the household. The following Tables are taken from different sources (Scottish Household Condition Survey, Home Analytics and the Borders Home Energy Database), are based on samples of data and should be regarded as a good representation for the region. The data is at a level to provide common themes and trends with a reasonable level of confidence.

Table A2.9 explores the condition of housing in the Scottish Borders by dwelling type, tenure and household type. These characteristics provide an indicator of the energy efficiency performance and quality of the housing stock and help to indicate the types of energy efficiency measure that may be appropriate for the household. The data demonstrates that the majority of housing has loft insulation > 100 mm, yet this does not disregard the need to provide further loft insulation and the need to potentially insulate the external walls. The data also shows that approximately one third of properties are off the gas grid and there is significant disrepair to critical elements of the home.

Table A2.9: Percentage of dwellings for key energy efficiency and housing quality statistics in the Scottish Borders for 2016

	% of dwellings by dwelling characteristics							% of dwellings by household attributes					
	% of Scottish Borders (Scotland in brackets)	Age of dwelling		House or flat		No. Bedrooms		Tenure			Household type		
		Pre-1945	Post-1945	House	Flat	2 or fewer	3+	Owner occupied	Social housing	Private rented	Older	Families	Other
Off the gas grid (2016 data)	30% (16%)	42%	23%	41%	*	17%	39%	36%	9%	42%	32%	34%	25%
<100mm loft insulation	8% (7%)	19%	*	6%	*	*	10%	10%	*	*	5%	12%	8%
Disrepair to critical elements	63% (50%)	85%	50%	58%	75%	62%	63%	60%	61%	73%	57%	66%	66%
Rising or penetrating damp	4% (3%)	4%	4%	4%	*	4%	4%	4%	6%	*	6%	*	*
Condensation	9% (8%)	11%	7%	5%	18%	12%	6%	6%	11%	14%	6%	12%	9%

Source: Scottish Government, 2018a

Table A2.10 explores the estimated level of wall insulation in more detail for the Scottish Borders. It is split out between cavity wall insulation and solid/other (likely to imply external/internal). The data implies a reasonable level of properties that are eligible have received cavity wall insulation, whilst the level of solid wall insulation is relatively low (and in line with the Scottish average). It should also be noted that the houses eligible for solid wall insulation account for approximately two thirds of the households in the data set.

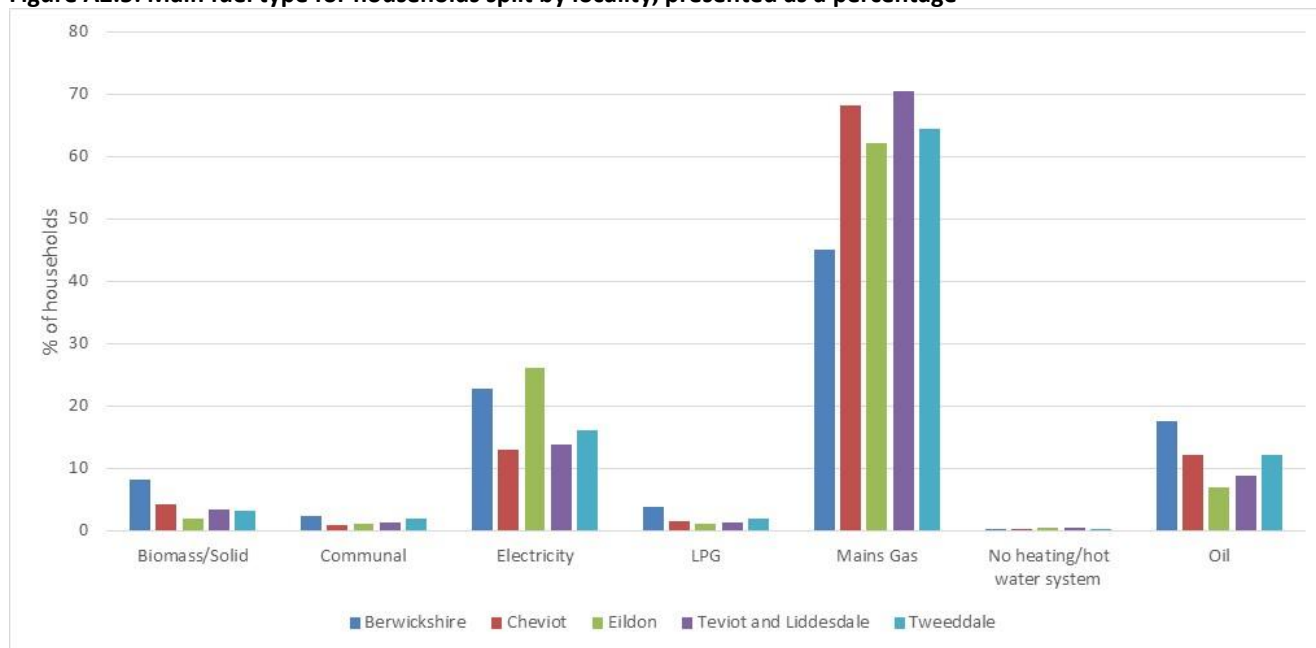
Table A2.10: Estimated level of wall insulation in the Scottish Borders and Scotland for 2016

	Sample	Cavity				Solid/other				Total			
		Not insulated		Insulated		Not insulated		Insulated		Not insulated		Insulated	
		000s	% LA	000s	% LA	000s	% LA	000s	% LA	000s	% LA	000s	% LA
Scottish Borders	206	12	32%	25	68%	15	85%	3	15%	27	50%	27	50%
Scotland	8606	498	27%	1,324	73%	535	85%	93	15%	1,033	42%	1,417	58%

Source: Scottish Government, 2018a

Figure A2.5 explores the main fuel type for households split by locality and presented as a percentage. The data demonstrates the locality of Berwickshire to have less homes connected by mains gas and consequently, there are more homes dependent on alternative forms of heat, namely solid fuel, electric heaters and oil. Eildon also has a large proportion of homes that are dependent on electricity with limited dependency on solid fuels, LPG and oil in comparison to the other localities.

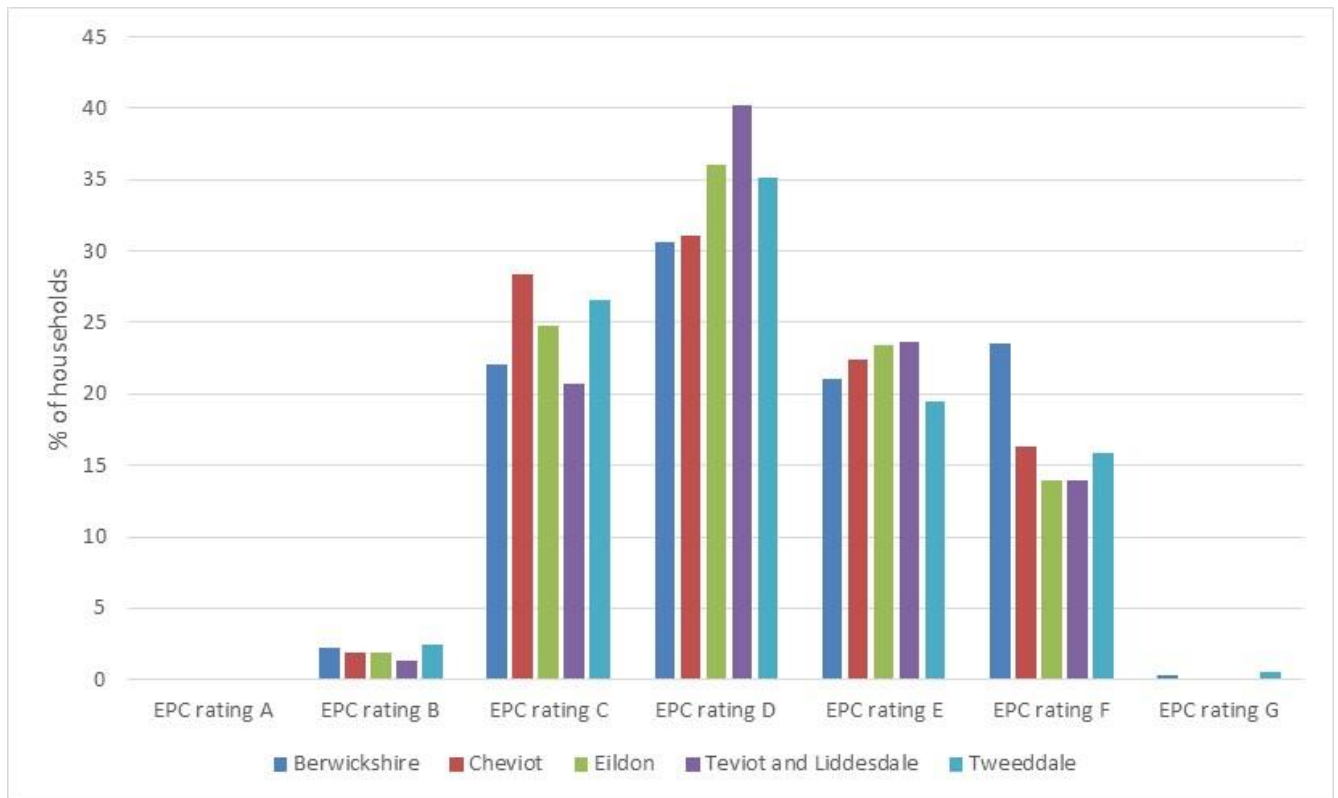
Figure A2.5: Main fuel type for households split by locality, presented as a percentage



Source: Energy Savings Trust, 2018

Figure A2.6 displays the Energy Performance Certificate rating for households in the Scottish Borders, split out by locality. It demonstrates a consistent spread across the localities with no major outliers. In Section 5 in the main report, the progress against the Energy Efficient Scotland route map is outlined further in terms of EPC rating.

Figure A2.6: Estimated EPC ratings for households split by locality, presented as a percentage



Source: Energy Savings Trust, 2018

Appendix 2 References

BEIS, 2018, Annual Domestic Energy Bills

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/719941/table_261.xls access 05/11/18]

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Scottish Government, 2018a, Scottish Household Condition Survey – Local Authority Analyses [<https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/SHCS/keyanalyses> accessed 05/11/18]

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[<https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/About/Methodology/UrbanRuralClassification> accessed 05/11/18]

SIMD, 2016, Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation [<http://simd.scot/2016/#/simd2016/BTTTTFTT/9/-4.0000/55.9000/> accessed 05/11/18]

Appendix 3: Equality Impact Assessment, Part 1 and 3

Scottish Borders Council
Stage 1 Equality Impact Assessment – Start Up

1.	Title of Proposal:	Scottish Borders Affordable Warmth and Home Energy Efficiency Strategy (AWHEEs)
2.	Service Area: Department:	Housing Strategy, Policy and Development The responsibility of developing the Strategy lies with SBC, but its implementation is dependent on a wider partnership working with a range of stakeholders across the energy efficiency and fuel poverty supply chain. In particular the implementation will work with the Borders Home Energy Forum; key partners for delivery of the Strategy include housing associations (RSLs), housing developers, installers, educators and various departments within SBC.
3.	Description:	<p>The AWHEEs forms part of the Scottish Borders Council’s (SBC) Local Housing Strategy (LHS). The LHS sets the strategic direction to tackle housing need and demand in the Scottish Borders and informs future investment in housing and related services across the Scottish Borders. Delivery of the AWHEEs will contribute towards the Scottish Borders LHS’s vision that ‘Every person in the Scottish Borders lives in a home that meets their needs’. The main priority related to the AWHEEs is Priority 2: ‘More people live in good quality, energy efficient homes’.</p> <p>In terms of improving housing quality and energy efficiency, the LHS is required to address the following policy issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National fuel poverty target (2016) and links to energy • Housing’s contribution to climate change • Maintaining the Scottish Housing Quality Standard • Delivering EESSH (Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing) <p>The AWHEEs provides a focus for cross-sector, multi-agency strategic planning, improvement and delivery. It will be developed in consultation with key stakeholders.</p> <p>The strategy supports the Council’s priorities where fuel poverty impacts on their success, particularly for example in reducing inequalities, helping to alleviate the pressure on health and social care services arising from an expanding older population, achieving a low carbon economy and addressing the challenges associated with Welfare Reform.</p> <p>The successful delivery of the AWHEEs will improve the energy efficiency of homes, in turn raising the living standard of all households, in particular those in fuel poverty. It should, as a baseline, support the understanding of housings contribution to climate change, as well as support the delivery of schemes such as Energy Efficient Standard for Social Housing (EESSH) and Energy Efficient Scotland Route Map to raise households out of poverty.</p> <p>The Strategy is in its infancy and so further aim and objectives are not provided at this stage. It should be read in conjunction with the LHS.</p>

4.	<p>Relevance to the Equality Duty.</p> <p>Do you believe your proposal has any relevance to the following duties of the Council under the Equality Act 2010?</p>			
	Duty			Yes/No
	Elimination of discrimination (both direct & indirect), victimisation and harassment.			Yes. The implementation of the AWHEEs will have an impact on the whole population of the Scottish Borders as everyone has a right to live in an energy efficient home that meets their needs.
	Promotion of equality of opportunity?			Yes. The development and implementation of the AWHEEs and the action plan will identify and promote equality of opportunity.
	Foster good relations?			Yes. The implementation of the AWHEEs is dependent on partnership working and requires engagement with a wide range of stakeholders. Through implementation there is also the potential to engage further and to build new relationships
5.	<p>Which groups of people may be impacted (both positively and negatively) if the proposal is advanced?</p>			
1.1.1 Equality Characteristic	1.2 Impact			1.3 Description
	No Impact	Possible Positive Impact	Possible Negative Impact	
Gender, Race Groups, People with Religious or other Beliefs, Pregnancy and Maternity, Sexual orientation, Carers, Employees		X		The delivery of the AWHEEs will improve the access to a more energy efficient home for all. There is likely to be a positive impact on these groups, and the outcomes will be monitored through the life span of the Strategy and the LHS.
Age		X	X	<p>The AWHEEs and the LHS is inclusive to all individuals regardless of age. Providing opportunities to improve the energy efficiency of homes and in turn helping to alleviate fuel poverty should benefit the health and well-being of children, young people and older people.</p> <p>In terms of possible negative impacts, there is a risk that elderly home occupiers may be impacted from disruption associated with the installation of energy efficient measures. However, this would be a short term impact and where possible, any disruption would be minimised through working closely with contractors.</p>
Disability		X	X	The AWHEEs and the LHS is inclusive to all individuals regardless of disability. There are numerous plans linked to the LHS that focus on disability and these should be referred to separately.

					In terms of possible negative impacts, there is a risk that households with disabled occupants who have a disability may be impacted from disruption associated with the installation of energy efficient measures. However, this would be a short term impact and where possible, any disruption would be minimised through working closely with contractors.
	Poverty		X		The AWHEEs and the LHS sets out priority areas and actions for investment in energy efficient measures, including in rural areas and for those in fuel poverty. Both strategies recognise the needs of those on low incomes, identifying the number of households (under different tenure types) eligible for energy efficiency upgrades through a variety of Scottish Government and wider funded initiatives. The strategy considers the needs of those in fuel poverty and sets out the services and actions required to tackle fuel poverty. This includes information and advice on income maximisation, behaviour in the home (relating to energy use) and energy efficiency.
	General – digital exclusion			X	This characteristic has been added as an additional factor to consider. Digital exclusion in this case homeowners may experience exclusion or literacy and numerical issues could be disadvantaged in what is a very complicated energy market. This may leave them in a position where they may not be able to access the most appropriate or ‘best’ options available to them in terms of energy provider etc.
6.	Mitigation				
	Characteristic		Mitigation		
	Age and disability		Impact – temporary disruption and distress during installation of energy efficiency measures. Mitigation – liaising with contractors with directly, through RSLs or delivery agents to ensure minimised.		
	General – digital exclusion		The AWHEEs will look to present opportunities for individuals and homeowners to access services such as Home Energy Scotland and continued services such as community hubs (Change works in Peebles).		
	All		The implementation of the AWHEEs and the LHS will bring many positive outcomes for all communities in the Scottish Borders. The LHS is a high level strategic document, therefore, there are specific strategies including the AWHEEs that feed into the LHS that cover the four priorities. Throughout the development of the AWHEEs any gaps in evidence/ data will be identified and steps will be put in place to ensure these are monitored within the strategy.		
7.	How certain are you of the answers you have given?				

	Answer	Tick One
	Certain - I have populated the evidence base to support my answers.	
	Fairly Certain – but don't have concrete evidence to support my answers so would recommend further assessment is conducted if the proposal is progressed.	✓
	Not Certain – further assessment is recommended if proposal is progressed.	

EIA Completed By			
Name	Donna Bogdanovic	Service Area.	Strategic Housing and Development Service
Post	Senior Housing Strategy Officer	Date	25 th July 2018
Name	Paul Gilbert	Service Area.	Strategic Housing and Development Service
Post	Energy Efficiency Strategy and Policy Officer	Date	12 th July 2018

Signed off by:			
Name	Cathie Fancy	Service Area.	Housing Strategy and Services, Place
Post	Group Manager, Housing Strategy and Services	Date	25 th July 2018
Name	Nile Istephan	Service Area.	Eildon Housing Association Ltd.
Post	Chief Executive	Date	27 th July 2018

Scottish Borders Council
Stage 3 Equality Impact Assessment - Sign Off

3.1	Title of Proposal:	Scottish Borders Affordable Warmth and Home Energy Efficiency Strategy (AWHEEs)
3.2	Service Area: Department:	Housing Strategy, Policy and Development The responsibility of developing this Strategy lies with Scottish Borders Council (SBC), but its implementation is dependent on a wider partnership working with a range of stakeholders across the energy efficiency and fuel poverty supply chain. In particular, the implementation of the Strategy will involve working with the Borders Home Energy Forum; key partners for delivery of the Strategy include housing associations Registered Social Landlords (RSLs), NHS Borders, Health and Social Care, installers, educators and various departments within SBC.
3.3	Description:	<p>The AWHEEs forms part of the SBC Local Housing Strategy (LHS). The LHS sets the strategic direction to tackle housing need and demand in the Scottish Borders and informs future investment in housing and related services across the Scottish Borders. Delivery of the AWHEEs will contribute towards the Borders LHS's vision that 'Every person in the Scottish Borders lives in a home that meets their needs'. The main priority related to the AWHEEs is Priority 2: 'More people live in good quality, energy efficient homes'.</p> <p>Covering the period 2019-23, the Vision for the AWHEEs is for 'more people live in energy efficient and affordably warm homes'. The Priorities that work towards fulfilling this Vision are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority 1: To collectively work with our partners to improve affordable warmth and energy efficiency in homes. • Priority 2: To explore wider measures to better manage energy and increase warmth in the home. • Priority 3: To ensure that the AWHEEs provides opportunities for all in the Scottish Borders. <p>The AWHEEs provides a focus for cross-sector, multi-agency strategic planning, improvement and delivery. It will be developed in consultation with key stakeholders. It demonstrates clearly how its objectives integrate with the local authority's strategic plans across the range of its functions and responsibilities. The strategy supports the Council's priorities where fuel poverty impacts on their success, particularly for example in reducing inequalities, helping to alleviate the pressure on health and social care services arising from an expanding older population, achieving a low carbon economy and addressing the challenges associated with Welfare Reform.</p> <p>The successful delivery of the AWHEEs will improve the energy efficiency of homes, in turn raising the living standard of all households, in</p>

		<p>particular those in fuel poverty. It should, as a baseline, support the understanding of housings contribution to climate change, as well as support the delivery of schemes such as Energy Efficient Standard for Social Housing (ESSH) and Energy Efficient Scotland Route Map to raise households out of poverty.</p> <p>The Strategy should be read in conjunction with the LHS.</p>			
3.4	1.4 Impact Assessment:				
	1.4.1 Equality Characteristic	1.5 Impact			1.6 Description, Mitigation & Recommendations
		No Impact	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	
	Age		X		<p>The implementation of the AWHEEs will impact on a large proportion of households across the Scottish Borders, as there are homeowners that are fuel poor and a substantial amount of homes that require home energy efficiency improvements.</p> <p>The implementation of the AWHEEs will bring many positive aspects for all of the communities of the Scottish Borders; building on from the LHS, this is at the very heart of the strategy. It is a strategic document and there are service areas already in place to support this strategy, including Strategic Housing and Development Service, Health and Social Care, Economic Development and Planning.</p> <p>A diverse range of partners, stakeholders and housing experts participated in developing the AWHEEs. These included SBC departments, NHS Borders, RSLs, Scottish Association of Landlords, Borders College, Community Groups, Home Energy Scotland, Changeworks, Citizens Advice Bureau, Energy Savings Trust. There was also an online public consultation, as noted below. The programme of engagement activity included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation across the Strategic Housing Services and wider services at SBC.
	Disability		X		
	Gender		X		
	Race Groups		X		
	People with Religious or other Beliefs		X		
	Pregnancy & Maternity		X		
	Sexual Orientation		X		
	Carers		X		
Poverty		X			
Employees		X			

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement with the Borders Home Energy Forum focusing on the technical elements of the Actions, and the advice and support elements. • An online public consultation. • A series of semi-structured interviews, face-to-face or over the phone, with members of the Borders Home Energy Forum and their relative colleagues. • Engagement with community representatives, NHS Borders and Health and Social Care. • Engagement with the Energy Efficient Scotland Change Works in Peebles Working group and academics working on the monitoring and evaluation programme at the University of Edinburgh. <p>As the AWHEEs is a high level document, partnership working is an essential part of delivery of the strategy. The AWHEEs will be monitored and evaluated annually against the Action Plan, to ascertain progress and to enable remedial actions to be instigated promptly should they be required, and that services and partners are on track to deliver specific actions. The progress will be monitored by the Borders Home Energy Forum, as part of its remit and reported to the LHS Partnership Group. The Outcomes will also be reviewed and evaluated, as part of the ongoing delivery of the LHS, the overarching strategic plan with the statutory duty to address fuel poverty.</p> <p>The Affordable Warmth and Home Energy Efficiency Strategy Consultative Draft was put to public consultation on the Councils online Consultation Hub from 13th March 2019 and closed on the 21st May 2019. In total, we received 8 responses. All respondents were individuals with 2 living in the social rented sector, and 6 owner occupiers and all were from different areas</p>
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				<p>of the Scottish Borders. The online survey was emailed to a wide range of stakeholders including equality groups and intermediary groups that were able to represent equality groups. It was publicised on the Council’s web space and social media, which was then shared by colleagues further. The Borders Home Energy Forum members also supported the publicising of the online survey.</p> <p>The following is a summary of the main findings from the consultation process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respondents reinforced our concerns about the challenges to make properties more energy efficient due to the nature of the building stock etc and the rural, off gas nature of many of the properties. • Respondents were very familiar with issues around fuel poverty and the importance for the Strategy to address these and to understand fully the root causes in the Borders. • Raising awareness of current support mechanisms was seen as key, as was the role of existing support networks and intermediary groups. • Ensuring hard to reach and vulnerable groups are engaged and supported was a key issue to address, which reinforced Priority 3 of the Strategy. • Respondents commented on the use of acronyms and stressed that support and funding schemes should be easily understandable by the public. • Respondents provided comments on the measures they are already taking within this domain.
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3.5	1.7 Relevance to the Equality Duty in Summary:	
	What impact will your proposal have on the following :	
	1.7.1 Equality Duty	1.7.2 Reasoning:
	<p>Elimination of discrimination (both direct & indirect), victimisation and harassment. <i>(Will proposal discriminate? Or help eliminate discrimination?)</i></p>	<p>The implementation of the AWHEEs will have a positive impact on a large proportion of households across the Scottish Borders, as there are homeowners that are fuel poor and a substantial amount of homes that require home energy efficiency improvements.</p> <p>Some services are already set up to help support the four main priorities in the strategy (such as Housing Support, Energy Efficiency Advice).</p> <p>The strategy will contribute towards eliminating discrimination, victimisation and harassment.</p>
<p>Promotion of equality of opportunity? <i>(Will your proposal help or hinder the Council with this)</i></p>	<p>The implementation of the AWHEEs will help to identify and promote equal opportunity.</p> <p>The strategy will help the Council and its partners with the duty to promote the equality of opportunity.</p>	
<p>Foster good relations? <i>(Will your proposal help or hinder the Council's relationships with those who have equality characteristics?)</i></p>	<p>There has been a wide ranging consultation period during the development of the AWHEEs and this will continue through partnerships set up in the Strategy's Action Plans. This will include strengthening already established partnerships and developing new partnerships to support the delivery and implementation of the AWHEEs, so that 'more people live in energy efficient and affordably warm homes'.</p> <p>Implemented</p> <p>The strategy implemented fairly and respectfully will ultimately contribute to the fostering of good relations.</p>	
3.6	1.7.3 Recommendations & Mitigation:	
	Characteristic	Mitigation/Recommendation
		Approved

		Yes/No
All	<p>It is important to ensure that all services that work alongside the AWHEEs are protected and consideration to all the protected characteristics and themes relevant to the strategy has been included. Any new policies/ service/ work that comes out of the AWHEEs will need to also be considerate of all the protected characteristics and themes of the AWHEEs. The AWHEEs Action Plan will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis and adjusted accordingly.</p> <p>Vulnerable and hard to reach groups were engaged through the use of intermediary groups such as RSLs, community groups and through colleagues in Health and Social Care and NHS Borders. To address issues around digital exclusion, paper copies were sent to intermediary groups that requested them and these were then made available at meetings etc with members of the community or with social tenants.</p> <p>With regards to recommendations and further issues arising from the public consultation, these were minimal. In the large, this process provided a strong reinforcement for our Priorities and Actions and provided confidence that we were looking to tackle the correct issues and were aware of the main challenges and barriers. The main change from the public consultation resulted in a full review of the language used in the actions in Priority 2 and Priority 3, to provide more tangible terms instead of using terms like 'explore' and 'ensure'. The consultation also reminded us of the need to ensure that acronyms are minimised and to ensure that support is packaged to the public in a style that is accessible and easy to understand.</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>

EIA Completed By:			
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Post:	Principal Officer	Date:	31 st May 2019
Name:	Paul Gilbert	Service Area:	Strategic Housing and Development Service
Post:	Energy Efficiency Strategy and Policy Officer	Date:	21 st May 2019

Signed Off By:			
Name:	Ian Aikman	Directorate:	Regulatory Services
Post:	Chief Planning & Housing Officer	Date:	3 rd June 2019

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HOUSING STRATEGY, POLICY & DEVELOPMENT

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