



AFFORDABLE WARMTH & HOME

ENERGY EFFICIENCY STRATEGY - 2019-2023



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1. Introduction

Scottish Borders Council is committed to creating a region that is fair for everyone and where we all have an equal and positive chance to succeed. Tackling fuel poverty will be a key step towards achieving this. Our aim is to provide affordable warmth and healthy homes for everyone living in the Borders.

Our Community Plan sets out the commitment to reduce inequalities and one of the key identified outcomes of that plan is that “More people are able to afford to heat their homes”. The Local Housing Strategy (LHS) 2017-2022 is our key strategic document for planning and delivering initiatives to reduce fuel poverty and improve home energy efficiency. Priority 2 of the LHS is that “More people live in good quality, energy efficient homes”.



Fuel poverty occurs when households cannot afford to keep their homes adequately warm because the costs of heating are higher than average and paying for those costs leave them below the poverty line. This affects around 31% of households in the Borders, where the rural nature of the area, the type of housing and the low wage economy, contributes to higher levels than the Scottish average.

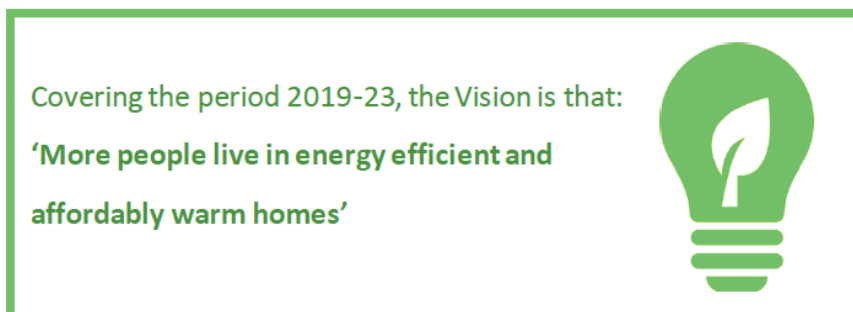


To support Priority 2 of the LHS the new Borders Home Energy Forum has developed this Affordable Warmth and Energy Efficiency Strategy (AWHEEs) with a series of Priorities, Outcomes and Actions. The Forum consists of council officers from different service areas, Registered Social Landlords, Health and Social Care and third sector organisations. The Strategy will run to 2023 and will be regularly reviewed by the LHS Partnership Group and the Borders Home Energy Forum.

Our work will support the Scottish Government’s ambitious policies and strategies in place to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (Scottish Government, 2018a and 2018b). From a housing perspective the Government’s Energy Efficient Route Map (Scottish Government, 2018c) sits at the heart of addressing both climate change and fuel poverty – targeting an increase in the energy efficiency of existing buildings. Addressing fuel poverty in tandem with energy efficiency is essential, as poor energy efficiency at a household level is a contributor to those in fuel poverty. The negative impacts of fuel poverty on individuals, households and communities can cause distress, discomfort, ill-health and debt. Living in a cold home can be very damaging to physical and mental health and older people, children and those with disabilities are often at the most risk. The Scottish Government issued recently the new draft Fuel Poverty Bill (Scottish Government, 2018d) and have set a target that by 2040, no more than 5% of households in Scotland are in fuel poverty.

With such momentum and commitment at a national level, there is a need to deliver it in practice at the local level. The AWHEEs takes lead and inspiration from the Councils commitments to fuel poverty and home energy efficiency, as well as the ongoing wider Scottish Government support to provide an effective Strategy that works for all in the Scottish Borders. It accounts for the interests, challenges and priorities that make the Scottish Borders what it is. Importantly, it provides Actions to deliver affordable warmth for those that need it most and, a requirement to increase the energy efficiency of all homes regardless of

circumstance – providing multiple benefits that reach out to the homeowner, providers and the wider supply chain. There is substantial evidence of the wider co-benefits associated with pursuing energy efficiency; there are also wider benefits associated with raising households out of fuel poverty. An overarching priority for the Strategy is that the co-benefits are maximised and any unintended impacts of installing energy efficiency measures are minimised, ensuring appropriate mitigation plans are put in place. All actions and interventions within this Strategy are based around the particular needs of homeowners and not just the house and tenure type, as well as being outcome focused, rather than just target compliance based.



The Priorities that work towards fulfilling this Vision are:

<p>Priority 1 To collectively work with our partners to improve affordable warmth and energy efficiency in homes.</p>	<p>Priority 2 To explore wider measures to better manage energy and increase warmth in the home.</p>	<p>Priority 3 To ensure that the AWHEEs provides opportunities for all in the Scottish Borders.</p>
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1.1 Engagement and Consultation

Engagement and consultation is an essential part of the development and implementation of the Strategy. The main aspects for the engagement and consultation centred on:

1. The successful development and finalisation of the Vision and Priorities.
2. Identifying the main opportunities, challenges and issues related to home energy efficiency and affordable warmth in the Scottish Borders.
3. The proposal of a suitable Implementation Plan and solutions that will address these challenges and issues, as well as Outcomes that demonstrate the actions have been met.

A diverse range of partners, stakeholders and housing experts participated in developing the AWHEEs. The programme of engagement activity included the following:

- Consultation across the Strategic Housing Services and wider services at SBC.
- 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.

The content and outcomes from the engagement was collated, reviewed and analysed. The engagement helped to support the emerging Priorities, challenges and wider key themes. The information from the consultations was used throughout the drafting of the AWHEEs, to inform the development of the Priorities and Actions. As the AWHEEs moved towards its final draft, the material from the consultations contributed to the sense-checking and validation of the Strategy, particularly around the vision, the range of issues covered by the Strategy and the Priorities.

1.2 Equalities Statement

Scottish Borders Council embraces the commitments required under the Equality Act 2010, which brings the general duty to nine equality strands of age, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion and belief, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership. We view the Scottish Borders as a place where:

- Everyone matters
- Everyone should have equal opportunities
- Everyone should be treated with dignity and respect

SBC's Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is a 3 stage process which: enables development of policies, strategies, functions & services that meet the demands of Equality and Human Rights legislation and do not discriminate. Local authorities are required to start the EIA early in the development process of a Strategy, so it can help shape and steer it to meet the public sector equality duties to:

1. Eliminate discrimination;
2. Promote equality of opportunity; and
3. Foster good relations between those who have an equality characteristic and those who do not.

The equality impact assessment process started at the beginning of the development of AWHEEs and will be completed when the final draft is signed off. Officers have considered the range of people who might be affected by the AWHEEs. The assessment shows that the strategy has many positive impacts on all of the equality impact groups.

A full copy of the impact assessment is located in Appendix 3.

2 Defining Affordable Warmth and Energy Efficiency

This Section defines relevant terms that feature in the AWHEEs. It starts by covering affordable warmth and fuel poverty and then goes on to discuss energy efficiency and energy intensity. It outlines the industry, policy and academic literature on the links between energy efficiency and fuel poverty, as well as the multiple benefits and potential trade-offs of addressing both priorities in parallel.

2.1 Defining Affordable Warmth and Fuel Poverty

Affordable warmth is the ability for a homeowner to heat their home to an adequate level to achieve household comfort and health without incurring a debt. In Scotland, a household is considered to be in fuel poverty if it spends more than 10% of household income on fuel, and in extreme fuel poverty if it spends more than 20%. Within the new draft Fuel Poverty Bill it is proposed that a household is in fuel poverty if the fuel costs necessary for the home in which members of the household live are more than 10% of the household's adjusted net income and; after deducting such fuel costs, benefits received for a care need or disability and the household's childcare costs, the household's remaining adjusted net income is insufficient to maintain an acceptable standard of living for members of the household (Scottish Government, 2018d). The proposed future target is that in the year 2040, no more than 5% of households in Scotland are in fuel poverty and no more than 1% in extreme fuel poverty.

2.1.1 Factors that influence those in fuel poverty

There are three main factors that influence whether a household is in fuel poverty:

1. Household income – the cost of heating a property forms a greater proportion of total income for those on low incomes.
2. Fuel costs – the prices of different types of fuels varies considerably; in some areas/properties consumers are unable to choose an economical type of heating systems. Even with high levels of investment in energy efficiency measures, the recent increases in fuel prices have pushed many families back into fuel poverty.
3. Energy efficiency – thermal quality of the building and the efficiency of the heating source impact on heating costs.

A fourth factor has also been identified as a cause of fuel poverty:

4. How people use their heating systems and live within their home.

While this fourth factor is not unique to fuel poor households, the absence of energy efficiency behaviours can increase vulnerability to, and entrench people within, fuel poverty. Vulnerable households can also find it more challenging to develop strategies to tackle fuel poverty themselves and participate in support programmes.

2.1.2 The direct and indirect health impacts of fuel poverty

The main direct health impacts of fuel poverty are (Marmot Review Team and Friends of the Earth, 2011):

- There is a relationship between Excess Winter Deaths (EWD), low indoor temperatures and house thermal efficiency. Houses with a higher level of energy efficiency have lower EWD.

- There is a strong relationship between cold homes and respiratory and cardio-vascular diseases. Children living in fuel poverty are twice as likely to suffer from these diseases compared to those that are not in poverty.
- Mental health is affected negatively by fuel poverty and cold housing.
- The level of minor illnesses such as flu and colds increases in cold houses; conditions such as arthritis and rheumatism are also exasperated.

The main indirect health impacts of fuel poverty are as follows:

- Cold housing affects negatively children's education achievement, emotional well-being and resilience.
- Fuel poverty affects negatively dietary opportunities and food choices.
- Cold housing affects negatively dexterity, resulting in an increased level of accidents and injuries in the home.

2.1.3 Considerations for rural and off-gas grid areas

The Scottish Borders is a largely rural region, with many off-gas grid houses. It is worth considering the implications of improving affordable warmth opportunities in these types of regions. The Scottish Rural Fuel Poverty Task Force has set out actions to deliver affordable warmth in Scotland (Scottish Rural Fuel Poverty Task Force, 2016). The main rural dimensions to fuel poverty are summarised below and were considered during the development of the AWHEEs:

- **Individuals living in rural areas on average spend more to achieve the UK average 'Minimum Income Standard' level, with typically higher costs for travelling, heating homes (including delivery of fuel) and purchasing goods.**
- **Fuel poverty levels are significantly higher in rural Scotland than the national average; over 50% of rural or remote households live in fuel poverty and 23% live in extreme fuel poverty.**
- **There is a greater exposure to extreme weather such as cold, strong wind and driving rain, resulting in a more pronounced heat loss and damage to property.**
- **Proportionally higher level of larger, detached and older houses in poor condition, with hard to treat features such as solid walls.**

- The term rural is characterised here as a number of small, scattered and often hard to reach communities, which bring additional policy, service delivery, cost and funding challenges.
- There is proportionally much less social housing and much more owner occupied and privately rented housing. These tend to be older houses in poorer condition and are generally less exposed to energy efficient opportunities.
- More rural communities tend to have a higher level of elderly people, in particular pensioners living alone, in old hard to treat properties and in fuel poverty.
- Only 40% of rural households have access to the gas grid and the most remote communities remain off-gas. Consequently, these households rely on alternative, more expensive fuels to provide hot water and space heating for example, coal, oil and electricity.
- Although many households could save money by switching providers, there is a lack of confidence and an absence of a trusted voice to receive advice from.
- Many vulnerable households in remoter areas have not received the same level of priority service. Furthermore, knowledge of one-to-one poverty advice and support is not yet penetrating into rural areas.

2.2 Understanding Energy Efficiency

Energy efficiency from a household perspective is defined as providing the same goods and services using less energy.

2.2.1 Measures to reduce emissions

For Governments and households to reduce their emissions there is the energy management hierarchy to refer to; this is displayed in Figure 1 below. To use this hierarchy effectively, Government, Local Authorities and homeowners should target the top of this hierarchy first, exhausting all cost effective measures before looking at measures lower down the hierarchy – accepting that not all measures are relevant for all homeowners and that some measures may not be compatible.

Figure 1: The energy management hierarchy for households

<p>Energy Reduction Demand management, behavioural change, smart systems, passive design</p>
<p>Energy Efficient Systems Better insulation, efficient appliances and lighting, upgraded boilers</p>
<p>Renewable Energy Solar PV, wind, biomass, hydro</p>
<p>Low carbon energy Heat pumps, CHP</p>
<p>Conventional Energy Efficient conventional options, offsetting</p>

The main resource for homeowners to manage their energy use in the home and in turn, reduce their emissions is Home Energy Scotland. The advice and support provided by Home Energy Scotland is detailed in Section 4.3 and forms a central part of the Implementation Plan outlined in Section 6.

To support the pledges made in the National climate change policy (see also Section 3.1.2), a wide range of efforts are required around energy reduction, behavioural change and demand management. These measures are generally challenging to incentivise and equally challenging to quantify, in terms of effectiveness. Yet, they are measures that can be introduced in the short-term, and can be cost beneficial for the homeowner. The three key behavioural change measures identified in the Scottish Government’s Behaviours Framework are (Natural Scotland, 2010):

- Keeping the heat in through insulation, draft proofing, double glazing.
- Improved heating management and control.
- Installing more energy efficient heating systems and appliances.

Based on this, this Strategy provides Actions that targets behavioural change, advice and support in addition to technological solutions. Furthermore, it will provide support in terms of education and training, to ensure the technology measures are taken up and function as intended.

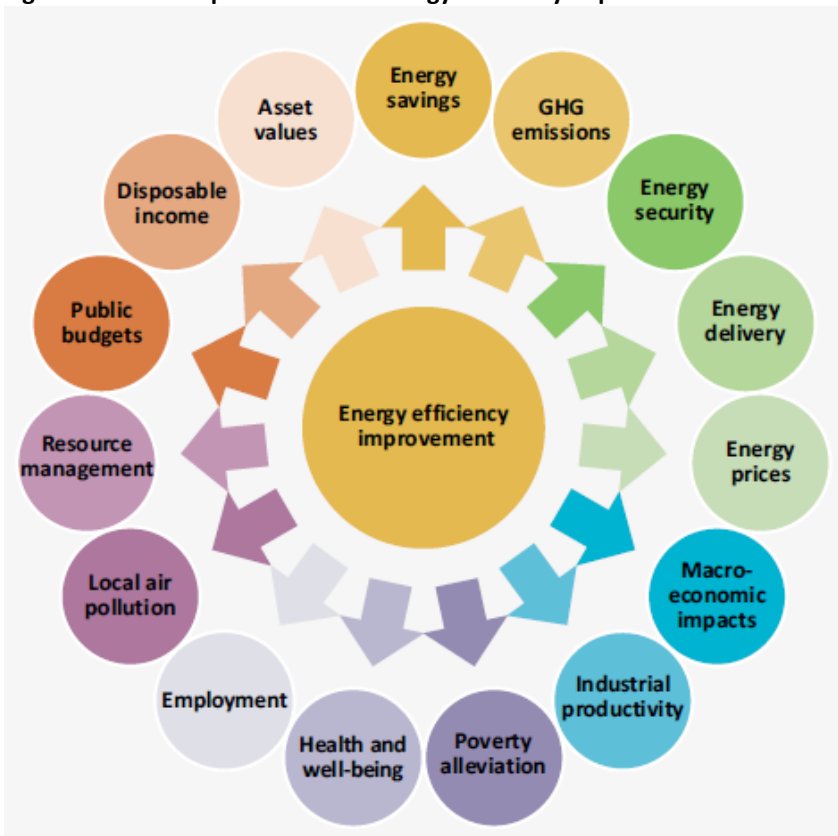
2.3 The Links between Energy Efficiency and Affordable Warmth

We recognise the importance of energy efficiency in supporting the wider climate change and fuel poverty agendas; however, there are wider benefits to the homeowner and society that becoming more energy efficient in the home can provide. The sub-sections below detail these multiple benefits as well as potential trade-offs of energy efficiency and addressing energy efficiency and affordable warmth in parallel.

2.3.1 Multiple benefits approach to energy efficiency

The International Energy Agency (IEA) has explored the multiple benefits of energy efficiency beyond reducing energy demand and carbon reduction (International Energy Agency, 2014). The benefits are captured in Figure 2 below.

Figure 2: The multiple benefits of energy efficiency improvements



(Source: International Energy Agency, 2014)

The multiple benefits are separated into 5 main themes: economic development, social development, environmental sustainability, increasing prosperity, enhancing the sustainability of the energy system. These are covered below taking insight from the IEA and the Scottish Government (Scottish Government, 2018b).

Economic development

- Positive macroeconomic impacts, such as boosting GDP and employment.
- Wider indirect impacts such as lower energy expenditure, economy wide investment in energy efficiency and increased consumer spending.
- At a local level there is improved business competitiveness by ensuring money invested in energy is maximised in productivity.

Social development

- Affordable energy bills, supporting the eradication of fuel poverty, and enabling the investment in more energy efficient measures and other activities.
- Deliver health, well-being and early years improvements through warmer homes, in particular for vulnerable group such as elderly, children and those with existing illnesses.
- Relief of wider impacts associated with fuel poverty outlined in Section 2.1.2, page 4.
- Support to regenerate communities through the improvement of building stock.
- Installing energy efficiency measures can provide direct and indirect benefits relating to employment. A reduction in unemployment can improve household income as well as reducing budgets required for unemployment benefits.

Environmental sustainability

- Contribution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, allowing Scottish Government to meet their climate change targets.
- Increasing the level of energy efficient measures in society and reducing energy consumption, resulting in the reduction in use of fossil fuels can reduce the level of local and regional air pollution – improving air quality.
- Reducing energy consumption and emissions via energy efficiency contributes to the reduction in waste and associated pollution of land and water – leading to reducing the impacts on biodiversity.

Increasing prosperity

- Support the creation of a Scottish market and supply chain for energy efficiency services.
- Energy efficiency measures are able to reduce energy bills and increase disposable income for home owners.
- Evidence suggests that individuals are often willing to pay a premium for more energy efficient housing.

Enhancing the sustainability of the energy system

- All else being equal, if there is an improvement to energy efficiency with a subsequent reduction in demand for energy services across a range of sectors, there should be a reduction in energy prices. This would reduce the burden at the household level, as the provision of energy is more affordable.

3 Policy and Strategy Context

This Section outlines the main national and local policies and strategies, their aims and intended outcomes, as well as other integral documents that support the framing of the AWHEEs.

The linkages between the national and local policies and strategies are outlined in Figure 3. The intended delivery mechanisms for this at the domestic and non-domestic level, as proposed by Scottish Government, are outlined in Figure 4.

Figure 3: National and Local Policies and Strategies related to climate change, energy efficiency and fuel poverty

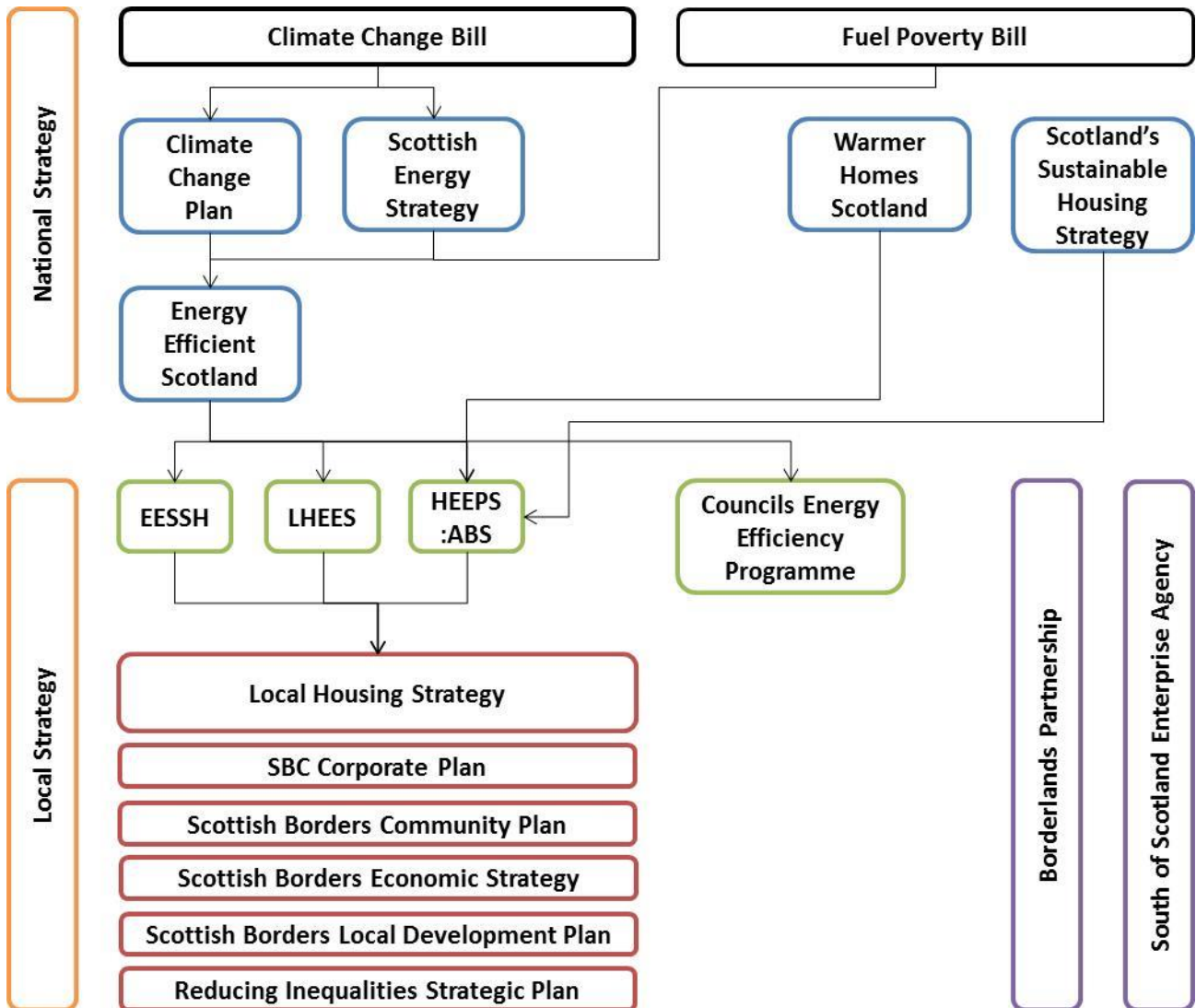
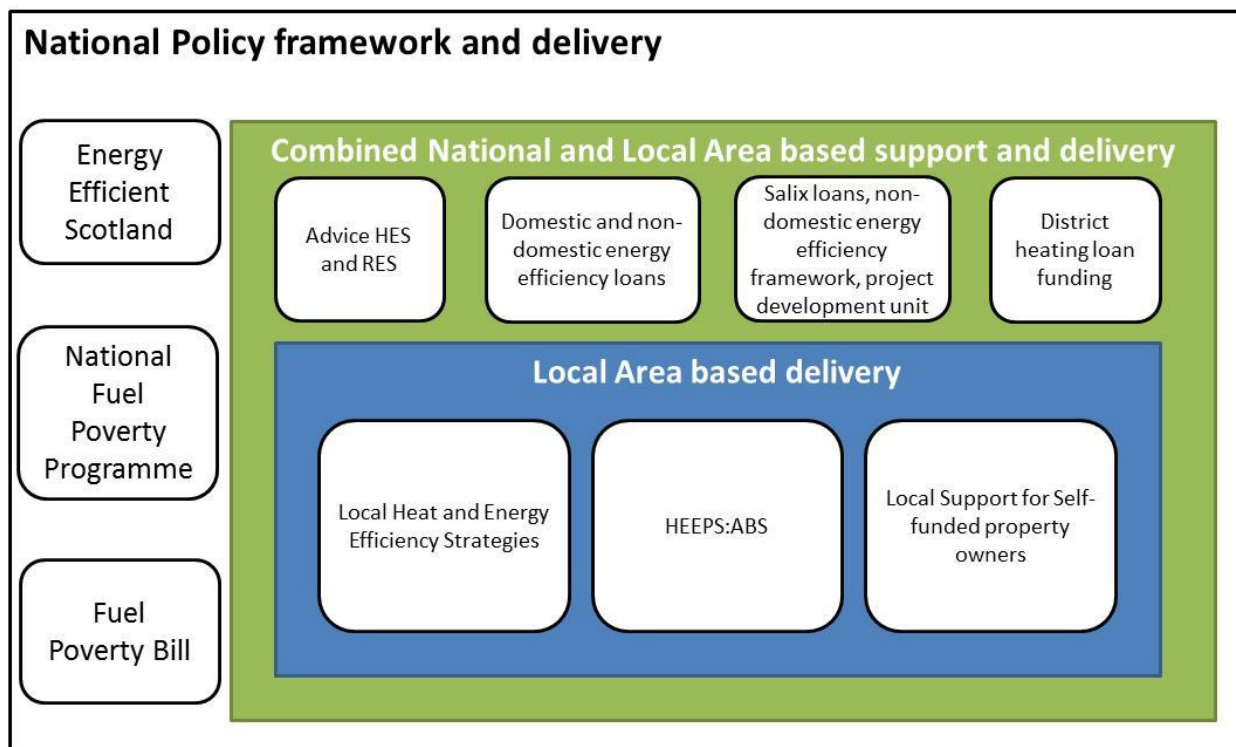


Figure 4: Delivery Mechanisms for Energy Efficiency and Fuel Poverty



3.1 Scottish Government

The following Scottish Government policies and strategies are separated out into those that consider housing and fuel poverty, and those that consider energy efficiency and climate change – noting that there are strong linkages between these two sub-sections.

3.1.1 Housing and fuel poverty

Fuel Poverty (Target, Definition and Strategy)

The new draft fuel poverty target and definition are outlined in Section 2.1 (Scottish Government, 2018d). The Scottish Government are now to develop a long-term fuel poverty strategy, alongside updates against the strategy every 5 years. The three principles for the Strategy are (Scottish Government, 2018e):

1. It is based on the principle of social justice and creating a healthier, fairer and more equal society, irrespective of whether individuals live in urban or rural Scotland, placing people and their needs at the heart of our approach to service design and delivery.
2. It addresses all four drivers of fuel poverty: income (earnings and benefits), energy costs, poor energy efficiency, and how energy is used in the home.
3. It sets out a statutory target relating to the eradication of fuel poverty, measured and overseen by Ministers and delivered via partnership structures at a local level.

The targets will be achieved through:

- Continuing to grant fund low income households to install energy efficiency measures through area based and national fuel poverty programmes.
- Improving energy efficiency by introducing new standards for all tenures within the Energy Efficient Scotland Route Map.

- Providing advice and support to householders on ways to save energy and improve access to affordable energy, including by switching suppliers.
- Maximising incomes, through increasing the availability of low carbon jobs in local communities and addressing poverty and inequalities through actions set out in the Fairer Scotland Action Plan, such as encouraging benefits take-up.

Scotland's Sustainable Housing Strategy

In 2013, the SG set out its Sustainable Housing Strategy (Scottish Government, 2013), which outlined its position for warm, high-quality, affordable and low carbon homes, and a housing sector that supports the establishment of a low carbon economy. The 3 main actions within the Strategy are:

- Delivery of the Home Energy Efficiency Programmes for Scotland (HEEPS).
- Appropriate use of standards and regulation.
- Market transformation.

The initiation of these actions were largely set in motion in 2013; yet, the upcoming milestones on the route-map include delivering: the 2020 target for EESSH; the 2020 milestones on insulation, energy efficient boilers and renewable heat and; the Energy Efficient Action Plan target to ensure energy consumption is 12% lower than 2005-07.



Joint Housing Delivery Plan

The delivery of Scotland's Economic Strategy in 2015 (Scottish Government, 2015a) provided an appropriate time to restate and refocus Scotland's housing policies. Consequently, through building on previous policies and completing an in-depth consultation process resulted in the delivery of the Joint Plan (Scottish Government, 2015b). Actions 14-16 within the Plan aim to develop long-term plans to tackle fuel poverty and energy efficiency issues in off-gas and rural areas, and behavioural change. They are outlined below and are already being taken up in policies outlined above.

- **Action 14:** Develop a long-term plan to cover climate change and fuel poverty with more robust and measureable milestones and resource allocation to ensure delivery of the Sustainable Housing Strategy.
- **Action 15:** Tackle issues of persistent high levels of fuel poverty and low energy efficiency in rural and off gas areas.
- **Action 16:** Change people's perceptions to place more value on energy efficiency of their homes and in investing in energy efficient measures.

Child Poverty Act

The Act is a series of targets aimed to eradicate child poverty by 2030 (Scottish Government, 2017b). Specifically of children living in households in Scotland, the target stipulates that: less than 10% fall within relative poverty; less than 5% fall within absolute poverty; less than 5% fall within a household which has combined low income and material deprivation and; less than 5% fall within persistent poverty. Scottish Ministers are to prepare a delivery plan at 3 points over the duration of the Act, the first one for the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2022 – setting out the progress made to deliver the Act. At the end of each reporting year, local authorities and each relevant Health Board are to jointly prepare and publish a Local child poverty action report.

3.1.2 Energy efficiency and climate change

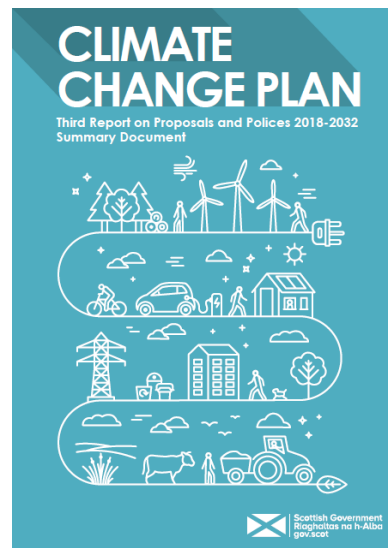
Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) Bill

This new draft Bill (Scottish Government, 2018a) is to replace the existing Climate Change Act (2009) and sets a target of a 90% reduction in carbon emissions by 2050, from 1990 levels. It also plans to go further by looking to achieve 'net-zero' emissions by 2050 (100% reduction) when demonstrably feasible. This tightening of the target is to impact the rate at which the residential sector is to reduce its emissions out to 2050, as well as the total carbon budget it is able to consume. The pathway for the residential sector out to 2032 is outlined in the Climate Change Plan.

Climate Change Plan

The Climate Change Plan (Scottish Government, 2018b) outlines the strategic framework to transition to a low carbon Scotland. The plan includes policies and strategies to reduce the emissions associated with buildings (residential and non-residential), as well as all other sectors of the economy, as part of the wider goal of meeting the emission reduction targets in the years 2018-2032.

In 2015, emissions from residential buildings were 6.1 Mt CO₂e (~13% of Scotland's emissions). Since the introduction of the Climate Change Act in 2009, the emissions from this sector have fallen by 1.1 Mt CO₂e. Over the period of the Plan, the target is to reduce the emissions from the residential sector by 23%.



The plan aims to achieve the following:

- Where technically feasible by 2020, 60% of walls to be insulated and 70% of lofts to have at least 200mm of insulation.
- Where technically feasible by 2032, 35% of domestic heat to be supplied using low carbon technologies (including electrification of heat) and the buildings to be insulated to the maximum level
- By 2032, improvements to the building fabric of domestic buildings to result in a 15% reduction in domestic heat demand.

The effectiveness of the plan is measured against reducing energy and emission intensity in the sector. The 2 policy outcomes related to the residential sector are as follows:

1. By 2032, the energy intensity of Scotland's residential buildings will fall by 30% on 2015 levels.
2. By 2032, the emissions intensity of residential buildings will fall by at least 30% on 2015 levels.

To deliver these 2 policy outcomes there are a series of additional policies, policy development milestones and policy proposals. The policies are centred on delivery of the Energy Efficient Scotland Route Map, low carbon and district heating (including Renewable Heat Incentives (RHI)) and roll-out of smart metering. The policy milestones are measured through the delivery of the Energy Efficient Scotland Route Map.

The implementation indicators relevant for the policy outcomes above are detail below and helped to formulate the indicators for the AWHEEs:

1. Average energy efficiency levels of domestic buildings increases.
2. Grouped domestic energy efficiency ratings improve.

3. Percentage of domestic properties with loft and wall insulation increases.
4. Total renewable heat generation in Scotland increases.
5. Amount of renewable heat paid for under the domestic RHI scheme in Scotland increases.

Scottish Energy Strategy: The future of energy in Scotland

The 2050 vision for energy in Scotland is to provide a ‘flourishing, competitive local and national energy sector, delivering secure, affordable, clean energy for Scotland’s households, communities and businesses’ (Scottish Government, 2017a, Page 6). The strategy will support and guide decisions to deliver climate change targets and address the impact of poor energy provision. Its 3 core principles are to: take a whole-system view; provide an inclusive energy transition and; have a smarter local energy model. By 2030, the strategy has set a target that by 2030, the equivalent of 50% of the energy for Scotland’s heat, transport and electricity consumption to be supplied from renewable sources.

Energy Efficient Scotland

Energy Efficient Scotland is the renaming of Scotland’s Energy Efficiency programme (SEEP). The purpose of the 20-year Route map (Scottish Government, 2018c) is to define a set of actions aimed at making Scotland’s buildings near zero carbon by 2050, in a way that is socially and economically feasible. It considers two main policy areas: fuel poverty and climate change. It is one of the main Scottish Government policies relevant for the AWHEEs.

The two main objectives are to:

1. Remove poor energy efficiency as a driver for fuel poverty.
2. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through more energy efficient buildings and the decarbonisation of heat supply.



To achieve these objectives there will be long-term mandatory energy performance targets for all buildings in Scotland to reach by 2040 (with more ambitious targets for properties with fuel poor households). This will be achieved in a phased way, noting that domestic and non-domestic buildings will improve at different rates, from different starting points. The standards will be achieved via a mix of encouragement and regulation, in addition to encouraging and supporting low carbon heat; advice and support to meet these standards will be provided. The Route Map will not cover new buildings.

There are 5 measures proposed to improve the energy efficiency in domestic buildings. They are summarised in turn below.

1. **By 2040 all Scottish homes achieve an EPC C, where technically and financially feasible.** EPC will remain the favoured metric for now, but the SG is consulting on how it may be improved. Work will be completed in the next 2 years to identify building stock that will not meet this EPC standard.
2. **Maximise the number of social rented homes achieving EPC B by 2032.** This aims to continue on the success of the Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing (ESSH) (see further below). The target will also include air quality and environmental impact requirements. It is also proposed that no social housing should be rented if the EPC rating is D or lower.
3. **Privately rented homes to reach EPC E by 2022, EPC D by 2025, and EPC C by 2030, where technically and financially feasible.**
4. **All owner occupied homes to reach EPC C by 2040, where technically and financially feasible.** These homes account for 61% of domestic housing; 34% of these are EPC C or above. This measure will not be mandatory, but there will be encouragement and support for local authorities to deliver area based schemes. It is proposed that this standard will be considered a

requirement post-2030.

5. **All homes with households in fuel poverty to reach EPC C by 2030 and EPC B by 2040, where technically and financially feasible.**

Home Energy Efficiency Programmes for Scotland: Area Based Schemes (HEEPS:ABS)

This is a grant award made available by Scottish Government for local authorities to develop and deliver fuel poverty programmes in areas they identify as having high fuel poverty (Energy Savings Trust, 2018). Depending on individual circumstances, all private households are eligible. Programmes typically include external and internal wall insulation installation and cavity wall insulation.

Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing (EESH)

The Standard aims to improve the energy efficiency of social housing in Scotland and will be delivered alongside the Energy Efficient Scotland Route Map. In the first phase (EESH1) social landlords are required to reach a set energy efficiency rating for a household based on the housing type and fuel type used to heat it. For all applicable social housing, the first milestone to reach the minimum rating is 31st December 2020 – so, by this date in the main, no social property will be lower than an EPC C or D. The Standard has been funded by public and regulated energy company funded energy programmes. As part of the Energy Efficient Scotland Route Map, there is an additional £3.5m available for social landlords. The EESH2 is currently under review and consultation to provide guidance and to set longer-term milestones (including incorporating more innovative technology measures).

Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies (LHEES)

LHEES is designed to be a coordinated programme to support the local planning and delivery for improving the energy efficiency of homes and buildings in the public, commercial and industrial sectors, in addition to supporting the decarbonisation of their heat supply. A key arm of LHEES is to be the regulation and strategic delivery of district heating. It will sit inside the remit of the Energy Efficient Scotland Route Map. To date, local authorities have been encouraged on a voluntary basis, to develop district heating strategies, as well as to outline plans to improve energy efficiency and heat decarbonisation within households.

3.2 Scottish Borders Council and wider initiatives

The following are SBC policies and strategies and wider initiatives that support the framing of the AWHEEs.

Local Housing Strategy

As discussed in Section 1, the LHS is the key planning document, providing a framework of action, investment and partnership-working to deliver on a series of local priorities. The main priority related to the AWHEEs is Priority 2: ‘More people live in good quality, energy efficient homes’.

In terms of improving housing quality and energy efficiency, the LHS is required to address the following policy issues. The outcomes of Priority 2 are outlined in Table 1.

- National fuel poverty target (2016) and links to energy.
- Housing’s contribution to climate change.
- Maintaining the Scottish Housing Quality Standard.
- Delivering EESH.



Table 1: LHS Priority 2 Outcomes

Collaboration	Prevention	Innovation
Establish a local Home Energy Forum	Educate households on disrepair, poor energy efficiency and fuel poverty	Using local intelligence to target: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy efficiency of homes • Income maximisation • Mechanisms to local domestic fuel costs
Work in partnership with RSLs to ensure all properties meet EESSH Standards by 2020	Proactively engage with private landlords to support property maintenance	
Work in partnership to maximise opportunities for HEEPS and SEEP funding	Organise fuel poverty awareness sessions	
	Strategic review of the Scheme of Assistance to shift activity to preventative investment	

Scottish Borders Council Strategic Plan for 2018-2023

The Corporate Plan sets a direction for SBC for the period 2018-2023. It aims to empower and enable communities to contribute to a prospering and thriving local economy.

Scottish Borders Community Plan

The Community Plan focuses on improving outcomes and reducing inequalities for the whole of the Scottish Borders. It is best addressed through a Borders-wide approach, with community planning partners collectively working together, and with local communities and businesses. The 4 core themes relate to: economy, skills and learning; health, care and well-being; quality of life and; place and sustainability.



Scottish Borders Local Development Plan

The Local Development Plan outlines the key challenges faced for the Scottish Borders in the coming years on demographics, economy, infrastructure, environment and climate change. It sets a clear plan in place to deliver a series of key outcomes. The two relevant outcomes for the AWHEEs are:

- The focus of development on sustainable locations.
- The development of the area’s full potential for electricity and heat from renewable sources, in line with national climate change targets, giving due regard to relevant environmental, community and cumulative impact considerations.

There are two policies that support the delivery of the above outcomes: Policy making and design – sustainability and; Economic development – renewable energy development.

Concerning sustainability, in preparing development briefs and planning applications the Council will have regard to the efficient use of energy and resources; the support to community services and facilities; the provision of new jobs and support to the local economy; the involvement of the local community in the design, management and improvement of their environment.

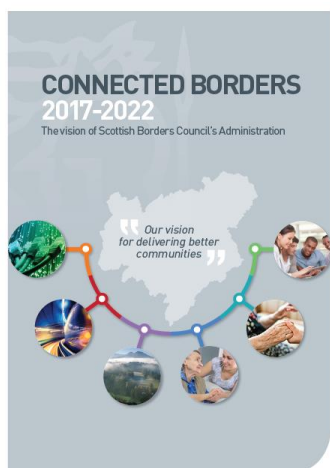
Concerning renewable energy development, small-scale or domestic renewable energy developments including community schemes, single turbines and solar PV will be encouraged where they can be satisfactorily accommodated into their surroundings in accordance with the protection of residential amenity and the historic and natural environment.

Scottish Borders Economic Strategy

The economic strategy sets out a vision for a prosperous economy in the Scottish Borders and a strategic approach for the development of the economy. It includes the development and implementation of infrastructure, support to business, increasing employment, the facilitation of external funding and European investment, and national, UK and European lobbying. As part of the objective: 'creating the conditions for businesses to compete', a key focus is to attract and generate entrepreneurial people who can start a new business or 'bring one with them' when they relocate to the Scottish Borders; increasing market share export sales of existing firms and/ or cost reduction, for example around energy efficiency.

Strategic Housing Investment Plan

The Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) is the key document for identifying strategic housing projects to assist in supporting the operational delivery of the programme. The SHIP is a five year operational plan that, not only assists Government meet its ambitious affordable housing target, but reinforces Councils as the strategic housing authority and sets out its strategic investment priorities for affordable housing in order to achieve the priorities identified in its LHS and, to inform the Scottish Government's investment Decisions.



Connected Borders 2017-2022

This document presents the Administration of Scottish Borders Council's vision for the years 2017-2022. As well as stating the key principles that will guide the Councils work, it articulates the type of communities it wants to create and the progress that needs to be made in order to achieve a more Connected Borders.

Scottish Borders Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan

This Plan sets out what the Health and Social Care Partnership want to achieve to improve health and well-being in the Borders through integrating health and social care services. There are issues in the Scottish Borders related to health and social care, as there is an increasing demand for services, resulting in an increased pressure on a limited set of resources.

3.3 Summary of the Local Profile

This summary 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. Further detail on the local context is located in Appendix 2.

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.

4 Ongoing work and Performance against Fuel Poverty, Energy Efficiency and Climate Change Targets

This Section provides an overview of some of the ongoing work on improving affordable warmth and energy efficiency of households in the Scottish Borders. It is not an exhaustive summary, but provides an indicator of the work being completed by a range of stakeholders and serves as the foundations for a lot of the Actions in Section 6. It also presents approximate, current progress against existing and planned climate change, energy efficiency and fuel poverty targets. The Scottish House Condition Survey and Home Analytics are used mainly to explore this progress. Although many of these targets reside out into the future at 2032 and 2040, it is appropriate to understand the current progress for the Scottish Borders.

4.1 Home Energy Efficiency Programme Scotland: Area Based Schemes

This is one of the main fuel poverty programmes of work we are involved with. Table 2 below outlines the total spend to the Scottish Borders, from the Scottish Government for HEEPS:ABS. Over the last 10 years of working on private tenure energy efficiency programmes in the Scottish Borders, there have been a significant number of installations of a range of measures. Key facts across all programmes include:

1. 10,784 measures have been installed across 8,171 households;
2. This has been funded using £8.5m of Scottish Government funding and leveraged £1.1m of CERT funding and £2.6m ECO funding into the Scottish domestic energy efficiency sector;
3. Installations have resulted in lifetime financial savings of £49m; £5,960 per household assisted (£149 per annum) and; £4,516 per measure (£113 per annum);
4. Installations have resulted in lifetime CO₂ savings of 136,573 tonnes; 17 tonnes per household assisted (0.41 tonnes per annum) and; 13 tonnes per measure installed (0.32 tonnes per annum).

In 2017/18 funding was received to deliver targeted schemes focusing on external and internal wall insulation and hard to treat cavity wall insulation. In 2018/19 additional funding has been awarded to continue the installation of measures, again in targeted areas. Areas are prioritised in the first instance using available data on council tax and fuel poor areas and the extent to which homes in these areas are insulated (walls and loft).

Table 2: Allocated spend to the Scottish Borders for HEEPS:ABS

	Scottish Government Spend	ECO Spend	No of measures installed	No. Households supported
HEEPS ABS 2013/14	£1.62m	£1.28m	1,231	545
HEEPS ABS 2014/15	£1.62m	£323k	328	328
HEEPS ABS 2015/16	£1.46m	£220k	311	311
HEEPS ABS 2016/17	£1.1m	£614k	1,256	1,256
HEEPS ABS 2017/18	£1.23m	£173k	735	678

The HEEPS:ABS Programme has delivered multiple social, local economic and community benefits. These include:

- Residents finding that their homes are easier to keep warm post installation of external wall insulation.
- The level of mould and/or condensation has reduced post installation of external wall insulation.
- Homeowners feeling less stress and anxious about energy bills.
- Homeowners reporting that the external appearance of their home is more appealing.
- Local school engagement on the practical aspects of, and importance of insulation.
- Employment of local tradespeople from the area when recruiting contractors.
- Local work experience opportunities and education support activities.

4.2 Fuel Poverty Delivery Plan 2013-16

The overall aim of the delivery plan was to eradicate fuel poverty so far as reasonably practicable by implementing a range of actions in the period 2013 - 2016. The plan had four aims:

1. Continue to monitor fuel poverty in the Scottish Borders to improve targets
2. Provide good quality information and advice on fuel poverty and energy efficiency
3. To facilitate fuel poverty programmes in private sector and housing association properties
4. Improve access to information and advice to help maximise incomes

In 2016 a health check was carried out on the plan to review the current delivery, identifying any strengths and gaps. The health check identified key achievements and recommendations to be taken forward for the next plan.

4.3 Advice and support on affordable warmth and energy efficiency

Home Energy Scotland

Home Energy Scotland (HES) is funded by the Scottish Government and managed by the Energy Saving Trust to provide free and impartial advice on ways to save energy, reduce fuel bills and make homes cheaper and easier to heat. They have a network of 5 advice centres across Scotland to help them reach householders, community organisations, businesses and local authorities and to reduce fuel poverty and carbon emissions. They can provide advice on energy efficiency, renewables, saving water and sustainable transport.

HES advise householders on ways to make simple changes in the home to save money. They also offer income maximisation services such as signposting and referring for benefit checks and tariff support, as well as signposting and referring customers to their switching services if they want to find out about switching energy supplier. They can check if someone might be eligible for support in the form of government grants and loans. This could be for a range of energy efficiency improvements including insulation, or a new boiler or heating system to make their home warmer and cosier. Lastly, they offer a home visit service for those householders who may struggle to speak over the telephone.



Table 3 to Table 4 show the last 3 years of data from Home Energy Scotland for the Scottish Borders for interactions, by type and referrals, by type.

Table 3: Number of Home Energy Scotland interactions per year, by type in the Scottish Borders

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Inbound calls	1,175	934	1,245
Outbound calls	592	705	977
Events	299	1,379	945
Other (e.g. emails, letters, home visits)	2,521	2,106	2,244
HEEPS:ABS	0	0	0
Total advice interactions	4,587	5,124	5,411

Table 4: Number of Home Energy Scotland referrals per year, by type in the Scottish Borders

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Benefits and Tax Check	157	81	3
Domestic LCT Application	n/a	15	16
Social Tariff	49	117	49
HEEPS - Area Based Schemes	95	230	165
HEEPS - ABS Loan	30	2	5
HEEPS - Cashback	58	0	0
HES - Loans	75	202	30
eBike - Loans	n/a	n/a	30
HEEPS - Warmer Homes Scotland	106	173	97
HHCRO	3	0	0
Renewables Loan	56	16	0
Gas Infil	8	3	0
Third Party Local Referral	6	2	11
Citrus Energy Supplier Switching	100	290	39
Water Saving Pack	18	1,002	187
Change Works in Peebles	n/a	n/a	32
Other	0	0	6
Total	761	2,133	847

Warmworks

Warmworks delivers the Scottish Government's nationwide energy efficiency scheme, Warmer Homes Scotland. The scheme provides grant funding for insulation, efficient heating and renewable technologies in the homes of households who are struggling with the cost of high energy bills. It receives referrals to the Warmer Homes Scotland scheme from Home Energy Scotland.



Over 1,600 householders who live in the Scottish Borders have been referred to the scheme, with the average fuel bill savings for householders who have had energy efficiency measures installed running at £395 per year, which is 9% higher than the national average. Nearly 70% of householders in this area have received multiple energy efficiency measures as part of their application. This is because the scheme relies on a 'whole house approach' and seeks to install the most appropriate, holistic package of improvements for all households, taking into account specific circumstances and characteristics.

Warmer Homes Scotland plays a key role in tackling fuel poverty in the Scottish Borders and beyond and is driven by a high-quality service to those who are identified as the most in need of help.

Citizens Advice Scotland

Citizens Advice Scotland is a registered charity which supports Scottish Citizens Advice Bureau by providing expertise on things like management and fundraising, resources such as IT support, tools and training to support advice giving, and help with running campaigns. As part of this support, they are also able to advice on issues related to energy bills and utilities.

Table 5: Border CABx Enquiries related to Utilities

Year	Regulated (gas & electricity)			Non-Regulated			Total
	CB	R & B	P	CB	R & B	P	
2014	188	358	86	3	6	3	644
2015	195	440	94	2	10	2	743
2016	185	439	115	0	1	2	742
2017	134	314	69	3	4	3	527
2018	141	240	71	1	6	7	466

CB – Central Borders CAB; R&B – Roxburgh and Berwickshire CAB; P – Peebles and District CAB

Registered Social Landlords

Many of the RSLs have the support of Financial Inclusion Officers and Tenant Support Officers that are able to assist tenants with issues such as obtaining Warm Homes Discount and switching utility provider. SBHA have continued to receive Warm Homes Grant aligned to delivering gas infrastructure and gas heating systems, which amounted to £218k in 18/19. They are also working with Changeworks Affordable Warmth team, engaged to assist tenants with energy advice aligned with their heating programmes and help with meters, tariffs, system training etc.

Changeworks Affordable Warmth team

Since April 2015, the Affordable Warmth team have worked with over 525 households in the Scottish Borders. Their service supports people to manage their energy use and costs, as well as advocating on their behalf where complaints need to be escalated or taken to an ombudsman level. They deliver their service via home visits, telephone advice, surgeries, workshops and other public engagement events, to help people:

- Keep their home affordably warm and dry, even if they are on a low income
- Understand their electricity, heating and/or gas bills
- Access the best way to pay for clients' needs
- Manage energy debt
- Know how to save energy in the home, including how to use their heating system to the best advantage
- Read and understand their meters, pre-payment meters, smart meters
- Switch to cheaper suppliers or tariffs
- Access energy efficiency grants for large or small measures

The Affordable Warmth Team currently operates 3 projects in the Borders region:

- **Borders HELP with SBHA.** This is a People and Communities Fund (PCF) funded project, which in 2018-19 completed a 5-year run. The project aims were to provide in depth fuel poverty advocacy and fuel billing support as well as food waste prevention workshops to SBHA tenants through home visits, advice surgeries, workshops, events, telephone support, and through ongoing advocacy and resolution of in-depth casework. In 2018-19, the project reached its target to engage with 180 tenants.
- Changeworks has also been delivering the **SBHA- Tenant Liaison Officer (TLO) project.** This was originally to have been a 6-month project from October 2018 to March 2019, however this

extended another 4-months to end July. The project aims were to support and facilitate SBHA's programme of heating system upgrades, by engaging with tenants and acting in a liaison capacity to facilitate a seamless install process, and to support tenants in the understanding and effective use of their new systems. In total to 3 May, the project has had 636 referrals and attempts have been made to engage with 493 of them. CW have engaged with 373 individuals against a pro-rated target to date of 278-351.

- Changeworks is at the end of 2018-19 at the end of year 3 in a 5-year National Lottery funded project called **Canny Tenants**. This project was originally developed as an attempt to evaluate to what extent people who were entering their first tenancy and not bringing fuel debt with them, would be able to prevent fuel debt or other unmanageable household debt from accumulating, as a result of our support. CW would provide support and information on energy cost and bills management, on food waste prevention, and basic information (and referrals to money advisors) on household budgeting. Against these three advice areas, they would monitor progress over a 6-month period, after the first home visit was delivered, checking in at the 3 month and 6-month marks to see if they were managing to maintain a manageable household energy, food cost and budgeting regime to stay out of unmanageable debt. There would be a control group who refused the support, but would agree to take part in the evaluation. Currently across the 2 regions (Borders and Midlothian) they have in varying degrees of depth, engaged with over 350 tenants.

4.4 Borders Healthy Living Network

The Borders Joint Health Improvement Team provides a specialist health improvement service for the whole of the Borders which includes SBC, NHS Borders, voluntary organisations, local businesses and the community. They focus on early intervention to prevent ill health, reducing inequalities in health and building the capacity of our communities to improve health and well-being.



The Borders Healthy Living Network (HLN) aims to work in partnership to reduce health inequalities and build community capacity for health improvement. They take a more focused approach and focus on working in Langlee, Burnfoot and Eyemouth. HLN staff are co-located to support partnership working, early intervention and prevention and new ways of working that promote wellness. HLN recruits, trains and develops local people to become NHS Borders community health volunteers. In terms of fuel poverty, the Healthy Living Network have:

- Attended one Home Energy South East Networking Event, 'Heating or Eating', Helping Families to Keep Warm for Less this Winter. The HLN Volunteer has had conversations with two mums in Eyemouth and signposted them to the Social Security Scotland Best Start Grant. Leaflets have been shared with Community Food Workers and PowerPoint presentation has been shared with wider Joint Health Improvement Team. HES Winter Competition resources were left in local Early Years Centres and taken up by families;
- Produced a good food partnership newsletter which includes a specific article on 'Fuelling Your Budget'. This provided a link to the Affordable Warmth and Home Energy Efficiency Strategy 2019-2023 Consultation and information about Changeworks Affordable Warmth courses.

There are opportunities to integrate key messages about affordable warmth into health improvement training and activity sessions; Actions are outlined accordingly in Section 6.3.

4.5 What Matters Hubs

The What Matters Hubs offer drop in sessions and appointments where the general public can meet with people from community groups and voluntary organisations across the Scottish Borders and; meet with SBC staff such as social workers and occupational therapists. The benefits of the Hubs are that they:

- Help people to get information and advice quickly to remain in their own home and get involved in their community;
- Help people find the support they need to stay independent, such as equipment, transport or help at home;
- Provide advice for carers about support available in their area;
- Provide information about what is happening in the local area and where attendees could meet new people;
- Provide information about volunteering opportunities.

During the What Matters assessment, if fuel poverty is identified as a concern, the hub staff will refer people to partner organisations such as Home Energy Scotland or pass on details of other supporting organisations such as the Red Cross. Home Energy Scotland also attend the What Matters hubs on a regular basis to provide advice and support directly to anyone in need. In future, the initiative is looking to install sensors that will monitor people's homes to develop an evidence base on factors that affect people's health (i.e. humidity and temperature). This would help to identify individuals in fuel poverty.

4.6 Progress against the Climate Change Plan

The targets for the Scottish Government's Climate Change Plan for the residential sector are stipulated in Section 3.1.2.

In the Scottish Borders, approximately 52% of domestic houses, as covered in Home Analytics have walls that are insulated. In terms of loft insulation, approximately 24% of domestic houses have loft insulation of thickness 100-249mm and; 40% have loft insulation of thickness >250mm (64% in total). There are approximately 39% of domestic houses that have both wall insulation and loft insulation >100mm.

According to the Scottish Borders Heat Map supplied by the Scottish Government, the total heat demand provided in the dataset for 2015 and 2016 of all domestic properties was approximately 683,761 MWh. Given that this is not a per annum figure, it is not possible to explore the 15% reduction in demand through improvements to the building fabric, nor the amount that should be supplied by low carbon technologies. In terms of monitoring progress against domestic heat demand targets, the data is dependent on updates from Scottish Government's heat map on an annual basis.

4.7 Energy Efficient Scotland

Change Works in Peebles Hub

The Energy Efficient Scotland project in Peebles (Change Works in Peebles hub – CWiP) focuses specifically on behavioural change and is engaging and supporting local householders and businesses to reduce energy consumption and fuel bills, as well as increasing the uptake of energy efficient measures (Changeworks, 2018). To date, over 1,600 people have visited the hub (this includes repeat visits and multiple person visits); there have been 1,111 individual household requests for support (this does not include any repeat enquiries). Additionally, workshops and



**Change Works
in Peebles**

events are being held regularly; a survey of all Peebles based businesses has been carried out; school interviews have been completed for the capital works programme and; research across the supply chain on barriers and opportunities to implement energy efficiency measures has been completed. In the recent Energy Efficient Scotland funding (2018-19), SBC partnered again with Changeworks and were awarded funding to expand the CWiP Hub out to the whole of Tweeddale, exploring specifically the self-funded market. The primary target for this self-funded project is owner occupiers with an EPC rating lower than C.

LHEES

Over the last year, SBC worked in collaboration with Changeworks to develop a pilot LHEES in Peebles. The output is a draft pilot strategy and implementation plan to increase the level of energy efficiency measures and low carbon heat in Peebles. The implementation plan provides a series of short term and aspirational targets for the support of owner occupied, private rented, social rented and fuel poor households, as well as the non-domestic sector.

Progress against Energy Efficient Scotland targets

The current target in the Energy Efficient Route Map is that by 2040 all Scottish homes achieve an EPC C, where technically and financially feasible. Furthermore, it will maximise the number of social rented homes achieving EPC B by 2032 and for all homes with households in fuel poverty to reach EPC C by 2030 and EPC B by 2040, where technically and financially feasible. No household data is available for the latter target on fuel poverty. Using Home Analytics data, Table 6 demonstrates approximate current compliance with the Route Map by locality and tenure type, assuming that all household improvements are technical and financially feasible – there are approximately 57,000 households. The data demonstrates the scale of the challenge for the Scottish Borders, in particular for the owner occupied sector, where currently the Government policy is for encouragement only. The data was valid for November 2018 and there would since be anticipated improvement in each category as households improve their EPC rating.

Table 6: Current compliance with Energy Efficient Scotland EPC ratings, by locality and tenure type, presented as % of stock

Locality	Compliant with EPC C or higher (by 2040)			Compliant with EPC B (by 2032)
	Owner Occupied	Social Housing	Privately Rented	Social Housing
Berwickshire	21%	45%	12%	7%
Cheviot	29%	45%	21%	2%
Eildon	25%	36%	21%	2%
Teviot and Liddesdale	18%	36%	17%	3%
Tweeddale	27%	46%	22%	6%

4.8 Progress against EESSH1

The approximate progress against EESSH1 for the 4 main Housing Associations in the Scottish Borders is outlined in Table 7 – noting that improvements are made on a continual basis and that some properties may have a temporary exemption from EESSH1.



Table 7: Progress against EESSH1 for the 4 main housing associations in the Scottish Borders

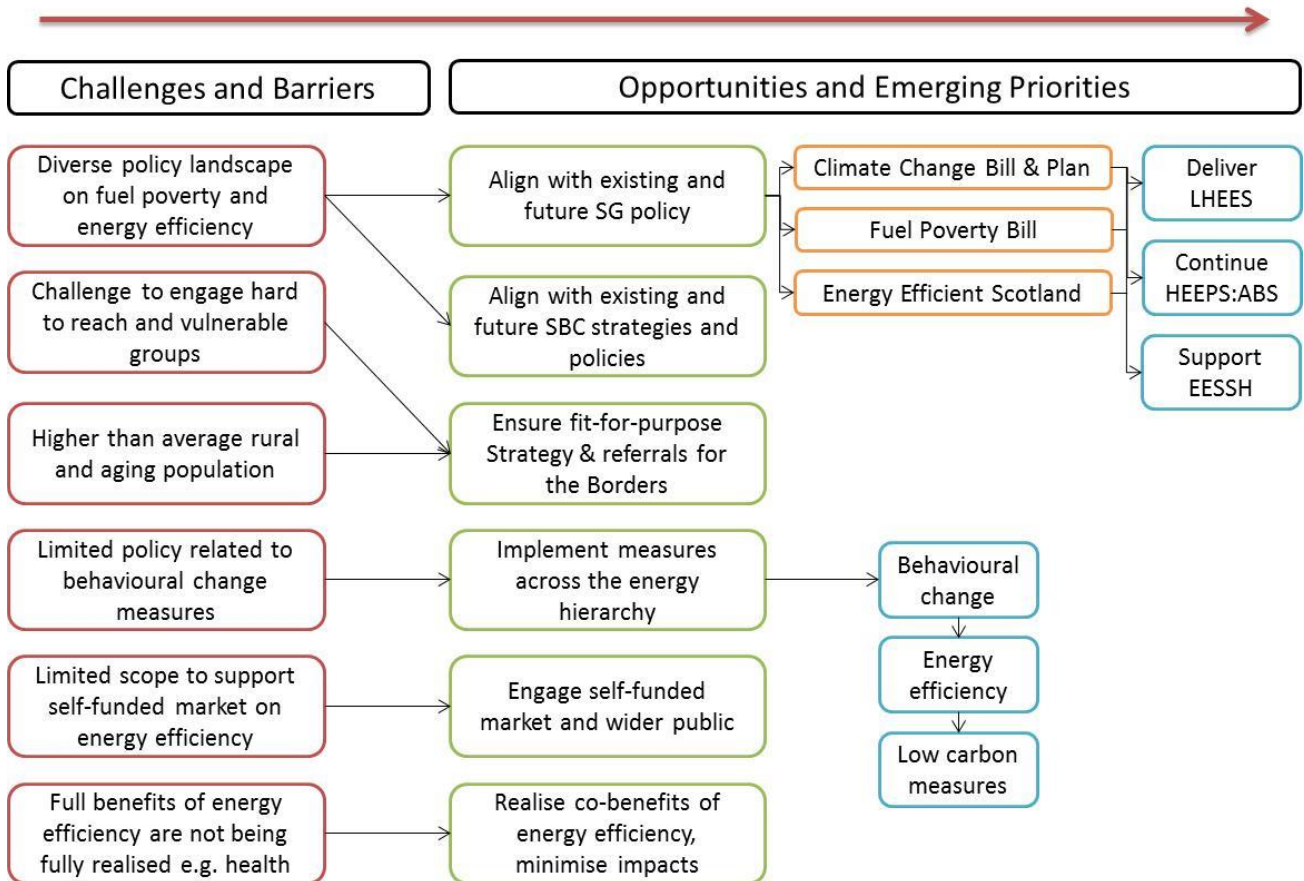
	Berwickshire Housing Association	Eildon Housing Association	Scottish Borders Housing Association	Waverley Housing
Date updated	31/3/19	17/18 SHR	31/3/19	31/3/19
Self-contained properties – Total	1,784	2,270	5,646	1,529
Self-contained properties that do not meet EESSH – Total	779	59	1,121	208
Self-contained properties that meet EESSH - Total	1,032	2,211	4,455	1,321
Percentage self-contained properties that meet EESSH	57	97.4	79	86.4

Source: Scottish Housing Regulator, 2018

5 Main Challenges, Barriers and Emerging Priorities in the AWHEEs

This Section draws together the challenges, issues and barriers that the AWHEEs sets out to address. These are informed in part through stakeholder engagement through the Borders Home Energy Forum. They go on to form the building blocks for the priorities and implementation plans outlined in Section 6.

Figure 5: Overview of the Challenges, Issues and Emerging Priorities for the AWHEEs



5.1 Ensuring the AWHEEs aligns with existing Scottish Policy on climate change and fuel poverty

The Scottish Government have set out targets relating to climate change, energy efficiency and fuel poverty. Consequently, as feasibly as possible, the AWHEEs should also set Outcomes and Actions that support the Scottish Government, which are measurable, can be monitored and are ‘ready’ for any future policy. However, as demonstrated in Section 4, accurate and consistent data relating to these Scottish Government policies do not align fully with the targets that have been set. Additionally, data for the new draft Fuel Poverty Bill will not be available until late 2019 at the earliest.

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency

There are implications of a tightening of the Scottish Climate Change target to a 90% reduction by 2050, as a higher rate of decarbonisation could be required in the residential sector. This would require potentially a more rapid delivery of energy efficiency measures, deeper levels of retrofitting and an acceleration of lower carbon technologies. Yet, there will be a need to look beyond technological measures and to consider an

increased focus on behavioural change measures and demand management to decarbonise households, ensuring that each household are still able to meet their needs sustainably.

The interpretation and implementation of the Climate Change Plan is also integral when framing the Actions for the AWHEEs. The Plan sets clear aims, outcomes and milestones for the residential sector that need to be built upon and so care must be taken to understand what this means for the Scottish Borders when setting similar goals in the AWHEEs. The intensity metrics would be a logical approach in terms of monitoring, but again, data is unlikely to be available at sufficient granularity.

The AWHEEs should also align itself where feasible to the Standards set out in the Energy Efficient Scotland Route Map and should outline how we plan to work with housing associations, landlords and the wider supply chain to fund and support the delivery of the Standards. This will require early stakeholder engagement to be embedded throughout the Priorities and Actions.

Qualitative Standards

There are qualitative sentiments within many of the Scottish Government strategies including the Scottish Energy Strategy and Scotland's Sustainable Housing Strategy. For example, in the Energy Strategy the priorities relevant for the AWHEEs are outlined below.

- Consumer engagement and protection – minimising avoidable costs and promoting smarter appliances and systems.
- Energy efficiency – taking direct and supporting actions to improve the use and management of energy in homes.
- Innovative local energy – empowering communities to develop innovative and integrated local energy systems.
- Renewable and low carbon systems – champion these to deliver local and national targets.

The AWHEEs should be mindful of these priorities, building on the experience of the Scottish Government funded Energy Efficient Scotland projects in the Borders – in particular, the establishment of a flourishing, competitive local energy sector across the full supply chain and the delivery of local heat decarbonisation. In particular, the approach of the Energy Strategy is one that the AWHEEs is likely to adopt – a whole-systems, multi-agency view that engages and enables the full supply chain and wider community to drive towards increasing energy efficiency and alleviating fuel poverty.

The development and delivery of LHEES in the Scottish Borders

The LHEES is yet to become a statutory requirement; however, the development of a pilot in Peebles, as part of the ongoing CWiP Hub is fundamental in terms of: informing Scottish Government on best practice; developing a collective understanding amongst the Council and wider community of what a LHEES entails and; developing the blueprints of a methodology that can be applied successfully elsewhere in the Borders. Consequently, the early stages of the AWHEEs should look to inform the Scottish Government on the format and nature of the LHEES and to ensure the LHEES delivers for the Borders. The AWHEEs should also be flexible to adapt to any final outcome of LHEES.

Continue to deliver HEEPS:ABS and maintain ongoing support for EESSH1 & 2

It is anticipated that Scottish Government will continue to provide funding for HEEPS:ABS in the short- to medium-term. The AWHEEs should continue to support this scheme; identify new homes eligible for improvements and; for the longer-term, act as a conduit to work with relevant stakeholders and community groups to secure buy-in and support. Additionally, the AWHEEs should be explicit on its continued support for delivering EESSH1 & 2 alongside registered social landlords to both satisfy the LHS and wider Scottish Government policy.

Support for Fuel Poverty and the Child Poverty Act

The AWHEEs should align itself where feasible to the target and strategy set out in the draft new Fuel Poverty Bill and should outline how we plan to work with advice and support centres, housing associations, landlords and the wider supply chain to fund and support the delivery of the Bill. This will require early stakeholder engagement to be embedded throughout the Priorities and Actions, ensuring that all 4 drivers of fuel poverty are accounted for and that the Scottish Borders are able to capitalise on the support provided on fuel poverty from the Scottish Government.

Building on the advice from the Scottish Fuel Poverty Strategic Working Group, the AWHEEs should where feasible (Scottish Fuel Poverty Strategic Working Group, 2016):

- Identify new and existing schemes to leverage funding and advice for the fuel poor, or those near to being in fuel poverty, on energy management in the home, switching, understanding billing etc.
- Seek to provide routine assessment of the need for additional fuel poverty support to all recipients of Winter Fuel Payments and Cold Weather Payments.
- Identify specific measures relevant for rural and/or off-gas grid areas (see Section 2.1.3).
- Align specifically with the Standards set out in the Energy Efficient Scotland Route Map (outlined in Section 3.1.2).
- Be mindful of Energy Efficient Scotland objective to remove poor energy efficiency as a driver for fuel poverty and include a milestone towards addressing this.
- Complete data analysis and mapping to identify areas of fuel poverty and in turn provide specific actions for support.
- Use the latest Scottish Government advice and wider research on the best approaches for support and engagement on behavioural change, including the use of heating and energy efficient measures.
- Ensure all actions and interventions are based around the particular needs of homeowners.
- Include the participation of local, trusted organisations to help provide wider support to householders on the use and management of heating systems.

Lastly, progress against delivering the AWHEEs should contribute content to the Local child poverty action report, as well as indirectly contributing to the Act by supporting the wider Scottish Government energy efficiency policies – designed to alleviate fuel poverty.

5.2 Ensure the AWHEEs aligns with existing SBC Strategies and Policy

As outlined in Section 3.2, there is a wide array of existing and ongoing strategies and policies within SBC. Many of these refer explicitly to energy efficiency, climate change and fuel poverty. There are several that do not – however, AWHEEs can contribute to these indirectly, by supporting the Council to fulfil its other actions and, directly by building on the existing strategies and policies and furthering their agenda.

The alignment with the **LHS** is essential and the AWHEEs will lead on and contribute to Priority 2, as summarised in Section 3.2. Support for the other Strategies, Policies and Plans are summarised briefly below.

The inclusion of the low carbon agenda in the **Community Planning Partnership** cements the importance of the theme in SBC policy and with the opportunity to add performance targets means that the AWHEEs can look to deliver change in line with wider SG policies and strategies. Additionally the Strategy will contribute

to the Theme of Reducing Inequalities, by working directly in deprived areas to increase home energy efficiency and help alleviate fuel poverty.

The **Scottish Borders Community Plan** signifies that affordable warmth and eliminating fuel poverty should receive high importance. The Strategy will look to cut across the wider 4 core themes in the **Community Plan**. Energy and renewables are seen as a key growth sector and so the AWHEEs should ensure that actions are put in place to promote and develop sustainable supply chains to deliver on energy efficiency measures in households and beyond. In many cases the installation of energy efficiency measures will require additional training for engineers and construction workers and so the AWHEEs should ensure that measures are in place for the provision of this across the full career spectrum. Through the support and delivery of the Energy Efficient Scotland Route Map, the AWHEEs should ensure that actions are set to ensure that more people are able to afford to heat their homes. Lastly, the AWHEEs should contribute actions to ensure more sustainable housing in terms of households being warmer and the houses being more environmentally sound.

The AWHEEs should take inspiration from the guidance set out in **Scottish Borders Local Development Plan** – in particular its stance on a low carbon economy, and use it to lever further interest on supporting LHEES for heat decarbonisation, as well as providing energy efficient housing for the community.

On affordable warmth, the AWHEEs should also sit alongside the **Strategic Housing Investment Plan** to maximise the opportunities for energy efficiency and affordable warmth. Furthermore, to align with the **Connected Borders** and **Scottish Borders Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan** document through the provision of affordable warmth, the AWHEEs should provide actions that support the elderly, vulnerable and wider well-being of the community – in turn, potentially putting less pressure on services.

5.3 Ensuring the AWHEEs is Fit-for-purpose for the Scottish Borders

The AWHEEs should ensure that it is able to capture and deal with effectively the challenges and nuances that are specific to the Scottish Borders. In particular the Implementation Plan and Priorities should be supportive and demonstrate explicit consideration towards rural and off-grid properties, and the specific challenges these face with regards to improving against energy efficiency and fuel poverty and; it should support the ageing population that is prominent in the Scottish Borders. The fuel poverty challenges are summarised in Section 2.1.

It terms of stimulating the supply chain, the current prospects for a high quality, relevant and local supply chain to deliver on energy efficiency is limited in the Scottish Borders. Consequently, the AWHEEs needs to tap into this gap in the market and understand and stimulate its prospects across the full supply chain, including education and training. Specific actions should capitalise on this significant investment opportunity to improve, expand and develop the skills base, infrastructure and economic base. This would involve the support of existing businesses to step up to the low carbon challenge, as well as encouraging new business ventures to thrive in what will be a key opportunity for the local economy.

5.4 Implementing energy reduction measures across the energy management hierarchy

The AWHEEs, whilst set up to target energy efficiency explicitly, should also include actions to increase the uptake of measures across the full spectrum of the energy management hierarchy (see Figure 1). In particular, there should be actions that deal with energy reduction, demand management and behavioural change that build off the experiences of the Scottish Government funded Energy Efficient Scotland projects in the Borders. These actions should cut across the relevant stakeholders for each type of housing.

5.5 Engaging the Self-funded Market and the Wider Public on Energy Efficiency

The owner occupied, self-funded homeowners are the largest share of the housing market and are arguably going to be the most difficult tenure type to incentivise and influence in terms of delivering on energy efficiency. As a result, there will be challenges ahead for SG and Local Authorities to support the uptake of energy efficiency measures in this tenure type and the AWHEEs will need to develop fitting actions that are able to, at this stage, best influence and incentivise homeowners to adopt measures and wider behavioural change practices.

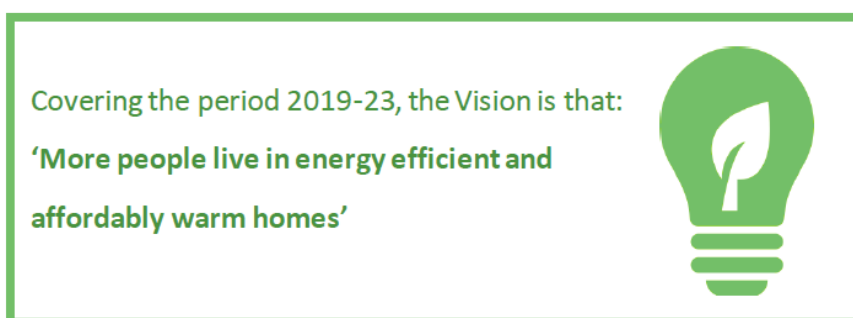
In addition to this, the challenge is how to bring the collective public on board with increasing energy efficiency in homes and increasing community awareness on the options available, as well as raising awareness on what EPCs are. When providing support and advice on energy efficiency it may be more beneficial to target what the Strategy is trying to achieve, instead of how to reach an EPC Band (i.e. reducing bills, heating homes, improved comfort, improved health, reducing poverty and being more efficient). Co-benefits of reaching a certain EPC rating would have more appetite than reaching explicitly that EPC rating.

6 The Affordable Warmth and Home Energy Efficiency Strategy

This Section sets out the Vision for the AWHEEs and a series of Priorities that work towards fulfilling this Vision. Each sub-section that follows is then dedicated to each Priority. The Vision and Priorities build in part from the LHS, as well as the evidence presented throughout this Strategy. For each Priority there are a series of Outcomes, which should be worked towards during the duration of the Strategy. There are also a series of Strategic Actions for each Priority that cover actions specific for SBC and for wider stakeholders. These Actions have materialised through the evidence base gathered in the Sections previous and through the stakeholder engagement outlined in Section 1.1. The wider Actions ensure that the AWHEEs remains a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary Strategy that collectively delivers on affordable warmth and energy efficiency across the Scottish Borders. The implementation and monitoring and evaluation processes are outlined further in Section 7 and the full, detailed Action Plan is in Appendix 1.

6.1 AWHEEs Vision and Priorities

The Vision for the AWHEEs is that:



The Priorities that work towards fulfilling this Vision are:

<p>Priority 1 To collectively work with our partners to improve affordable warmth and energy efficiency in homes.</p>	<p>Priority 2 To explore wider measures to better manage energy and increase warmth in the home.</p>	<p>Priority 3 To ensure that the AWHEEs provides opportunities for all in the Scottish Borders.</p>
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The AWHEEs should ensure all actions and interventions are based around the particular needs of homeowners and not just the house and tenure type. Additionally, it should ensure all actions and interventions are outcome focused, rather than just meeting targets – for example, delivering on improving warmth and providing cheaper home energy bills.

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

The priority here is that the Scottish Borders are able to collectively work together to improve affordable warmth and energy efficiency in homes. With the release of the new Fuel Poverty Bill and the Energy Efficient Scotland Route Map by the Scottish Government there is considerable effort and interest in delivering energy efficiency and affordable warmth to all households across Scotland. Success will be determined by delivering on the Strategic Outcomes and by actions that can attract funding for and deliver mechanisms towards achieving national Government priorities.

The Strategic Actions include actions for wider stakeholders where applicable; the implementation of the Implementation Plan is detailed further in Section 7.

The Outcomes for Priority 1 are:

1. Deliver successful projects under the Energy Efficient Scotland programme.
2. Fuel poverty in the Scottish Borders decreases.
3. Social housing meets EESSH 1 target and works productively to meet EESSH 2 target.

The Actions for Priority 1 are:

1.1	Continue to deliver Energy Efficient Scotland projects in the Tweeddale Locality.
1.2	Continue to develop and deliver a LHEES for Peebles.
1.3	Continue to attract funding for, and deliver HEEPS:ABS.
1.4	Identify new and existing schemes to leverage funding to support the fuel poor.
1.5	Apply for future funding to expand the Energy Efficient Scotland projects in the Borders out into other Localities and towns.
1.6	RSLs to ensure all properties comply with EESSH1 & 2 Standards and identify and support funding opportunities where appropriate.
1.7	Proactively inform private landlords of requirements for Energy Efficient Scotland and engage further to outline support, resources, funding opportunities and advice.
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.
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.
1.10	Gather data relating to the new fuel poverty definition to ensure that the AWHEEs remains fit for purpose.
1.11	Write and maintain a Statement of Intent for the ECO Flexible Eligibility Local Authority scheme.
1.12	Ensure the Borders Home Energy Forum remains fit for purpose in terms of membership, networks and priorities.

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

Whilst the majority of Scottish Government policy is exhaustive in its inclusion on energy efficient measures, the policies tend to focus more so on technology based solutions. As a result, this Priority focuses on wider measures, approaches and mechanisms that are able to support poorer households and energy inefficient homes. In particular it outlines wider measures to address affordable warmth in addition to increasing energy efficiency.

The Outcomes for Priority 2 are:

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.
2. Operate a thriving website as a central point of call for affordable warmth and energy efficiency advice, referral mechanisms and funding opportunities.
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.

The Actions for Priority 2 are:

2.1	Develop opportunities to engage and support households in relation to behavioural change, energy efficiency and affordable warmth in the home.
2.2	Develop opportunities to engage with households in relation to fuel costs.
2.3	Develop opportunities to engage with households in relation to income maximisation.
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.
2.5	Apply for grant funding to increase awareness on energy efficiency and fuel poverty issues throughout households.
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.
2.7	RSLs in the Scottish Borders work collectively to create a clear and concise guide to funding for EESSH.

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

The AWHEEs should mean something to all individuals in the Scottish Borders. It should support all tenure types and homeowners to be more energy efficient and to have access to affordable warmth. Additionally, the AWHEEs needs to cut across the full supply chain and provide enablers for all relevant stakeholders to progress and prosper in the opportunities the energy efficiency agenda presents.

The Outcomes for Priority 3 are:

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.
2. Significant increase in the number of referrals to Home Energy Scotland for the self-funded, owner occupied market.
3. Clear support routes to encourage members of the supply chain to engage in energy efficiency work.

The Actions for Priority 3 are:

3.1	Ensure all support extends to, and is relevant for rural and/or off-gas grid areas.
3.2	Ensure all support extends to, and is relevant for the elderly and vulnerable and; households that are experiencing child poverty.
3.3	Develop best practice on engaging the 'self-funded' market to develop a programme of encouragement and support for this these homeowners.
3.4	Ensure bottlenecks with regards to mixed tenure blocks are minimised.
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.
3.6	Engage with Borders College to explore opportunities to increase training on energy efficiency measures.
3.7	Remain proactive with regards to Borderlands and South of Scotland Economic Partnership funding and projects.
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.
3.9	Develop an evidence base relating to the behaviour in the home post energy efficiency improvement.
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.

7 Delivering AWHEEs Priorities

Section 7 details the method to implement the Priorities and Strategic Actions outlined in Section 6. It outlines the approach to monitor and evaluate progress against the Strategic Actions, including the indicators necessary to measure the success of the AWHEEs; the legacy of ‘lessons learned’ from the Strategy are discussed in principle too. Finally the resources are summarised that enable the delivery of the AWHEEs.

7.1 Implementation

The approach to deliver the AWHEEs takes inspiration from the LHS, and as set out by the Christie Commission, consisting of Collaborative, Preventative and Innovative measures.

Collaborative	Preventative	Innovative
<p>The delivery of the Strategic Actions will be built around people and communities, their needs, aspirations, capacities and skills. The AWHEEs will work effectively with partner stakeholders, mainly through the Borders Home Energy Forum, to achieve outcomes specifically, by delivering integrated solutions that help to ensure more people live in energy efficient and</p>	<p>The AWHEEs will actively seek to prioritise the reduction and prevention of those living in fuel poverty. Building from the LHS it will help to reduce inequalities and promote equality when relevant.</p>	<p>The AWHEEs will constantly seek to improve the energy performance of homes and support the reduction of fuel costs to the homeowner. Through keeping up to date with best practice, it will implement innovative support and advice to the homeowners on behaviour in the home. It will be open, transparent, accountable and will continuously improve on performance.</p>

7.1.1 LHS Partnership Group, Borders Home Energy Forum and wider Partnerships

The Strategic Actions in the AWHEEs are to be delivered through a managed network of strong partnership relations. The Borders Home Energy Forum, colleagues across NHS Borders and Health and Social Care and in part the partnership with ongoing Energy Efficient Scotland projects are to be the main mechanisms to stimulate and coordinate this partnership activity. Activity will then be reported to the LHS Partnership Group annually. The main objectives of the Borders Home Energy Forum are arranged into 4 sub-headings below. The Forum includes the key delivery partners who are involved in agreeing the AWHEEs Actions.

Affordable Warmth and Home Energy Efficiency Strategy

- Establish and coordinate a core writing group to design the Affordable Warmth and Home Energy Efficiency Strategy
- Establish and agree an annual work plan in accordance with the Affordable Warmth and Home Energy Efficiency Strategy
- For members of the Partnership to critique and provide feedback on the development of the Strategy prior to its implementation – or to seek experts within their organisation that are able to do so
- To support the delivery and implementation of the Strategy through the design and delivery of an associated monitoring and evaluation plan

Supporting wider Energy Efficiency strategies

- Where possible, to engage, support and implement wider Scottish Government strategies on energy efficiency, in particular the Energy Efficient Scotland route map, EESSH2, HEEPS-ABS and LHEES.

Resource mapping and advice

- Draw together available resources from Scottish Government and other sources on alleviating fuel poverty and increasing energy efficiency in households
- Develop and maintain a dataset to help to identify households in fuel poverty and use this information to target assistance

Promoting and supporting measures

- Promote and facilitate measures and schemes that target alleviating fuel poverty and increasing energy efficiency in households, in particular households most at risk of cold related ill health
- Direct members of the public towards fuel bill, benefits and energy efficiency advice to increase household disposable income, by increasing co-ordination between these services
- Co-ordinate and assist partner and voluntary organisations to help households obtain energy advice and measures, and to educate them about the importance of keeping a warm home

7.2 Monitoring Progress, Measuring Success and Legacy

A wider Implementation Plan is required to set out clearly and bring together the outcomes, high level inputs, indicators and targets that underpin a successful delivery. Consequently, the Implementation Plan is located in a separate document and sets out in further detail the programme of work required to achieve each of the Priorities and Outcomes in the AWHEEs, to drive implementation and facilitate monitoring, evaluation and review.

The AWHEEs will be monitored and evaluated annually against the Implementation 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.

In addition to strategic monitoring, partners will be responsible for monitoring of their own operational functions, as they relate to the LHS outcomes.

The success and legacy of the Strategy will be measured through the ability of the project to deliver towards the Vision, Priorities and Outcomes set out in Section 6, and through completion of the specific actions set out in the Implementation Plan. Success will also focus on the ability of the Strategy to build capacity to tackle home energy and affordable warmth in the Council and within the functioning of the Borders Home Energy Forum. It will be an ongoing task for those working within the Strategy to ensure there is lasting legacy from any work undertaken and that the learning outcomes and wider lessons can be adopted successfully across the Scottish Borders. The AWHEEs will need to be future proof from the early stages to ensure that it continues to remain relevant.

7.3 Resources

Whilst the AWHEEs sets out an ambitious framework for action, investment and partnership to increase the home energy efficiency and affordable warmth in the Scottish Borders, it also must be set in the context of the likely resources available to support implementation. As covered already in Section 4 page 19, the data

that exists is incomplete in part and may not be available in a timely manner. Furthermore, the full implementation of the AWHEEs will be subject to major challenges given the major constraints to public sector funding, the scale of resource and capacity required to deliver programmes such as Energy Efficient Scotland and the unknown impacts of factors such as Brexit. This takes place against a backdrop of increasing need for public services and substantial demand for affordably warm and energy efficient housing locally.

7.4 Partners

Through the Borders Home Energy Forum and the wider network of community groups and support networks there are a multitude of partners that will support the successful delivery of the AWHEEs. These include:

- Wider partners at SBC (Economic Development, Communities and Partnerships, Planning, Health and Social Care, Financial Inclusion)
- 4 main Borders RSLs (Berwickshire Housing Association, Eildon Housing, SBHA, Waverley Housing)
- Home Energy Scotland
- NHS Borders
- Borders College
- Changeworks
- Citizen Advice Bureau
- Scottish Association of Landlords

8 Glossary

AWHEEs	Affordable Warmth and Home Energy Efficiency Strategy
BEIS	UK Governments Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
CWiP	Change Works in Peebles Hub
EESSH	Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing
EPC	Energy Performance Certificate
EWD	Excess Winter Deaths
HEEPS:ABS	Home Energy Efficiency Programmes for Scotland: Area Based Schemes
HES	Home Energy Scotland
HLN	Borders Healthy Living Network
JSA	Job Seekers Allowance
LHEES	Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies
LHS	Local Housing Strategy
MIS	Minimum Income Standard
RHI	Renewable Heat Incentives
RSL	Registered Social Landlord
SBC	Scottish Borders Council
SEEP	Scottish Energy Efficiency Programme (now Energy Efficient Scotland)
SG	Scottish Government
SHIP	Strategic Housing Investment Plan
SIMD	Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation
SMEs	Small to medium enterprises
UC	Universal Credit

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