

RESPONSE TO SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON IMPLEMENTATION FOLLOWING SCRUTINY REVIEW

Title of Review:	Review of the Council's Energy Policy for Local Housing				
Timescale of Review:	July 2023-July 2024		Post-Monitoring Period:	6 months commencing October 2024. Interim report due spring 2025. Second interim report due Autumn 2025.	
Date agreed by Scrutiny:	March 2023		Date agreed by Executive:	April 2023	
Total No. of Recommendations and Sub Recommendations	Achieved	1	On track	0	Extended 3
	Achieved (Behind target)	1	Overdue	0	Alert 0

Key Achievements:

- Savills have concluded the Stock Conditions Survey access gained 92.7%.
- **Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund** Government funding to increase social housing EPCs to level C.
- BDC were successfully awarded 40% of the funding which will enable the Council to improve energy efficiencies at 100 identified properties (3-year project) - extra projects in the pipeline that are contributing to the original review and recommendations.
- **Warm Homes: Local Grant** government funding to increase private rented/owner occupier housing to EPC C.
- Information regarding energy grants have been published on the Council website under Energy Advice.
- The Council has updated its website and published educational articles, alongside plans for a communication strategy to support the Climate Plan.
- Funding has been secured to deliver housing improvements, enabling DDL and Bassetlaw to carry out work on both Council and private properties.

Reasons for non-implementation of Recommendations:

- **Stock Condition Survey / MEES:** Implementation has been delayed due to extended timescales for verifying survey data and awaiting the outcome of the Government's MEES consultation.
- **EV Education / Strategy:** Implementation has been deferred as EV education is scheduled to be incorporated into the forthcoming Climate Change Strategy (2026).

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PERFORM Code	Recommendation	Lead Officer	Target Date	Completion Date	Status	Resources	Progress/Action
CCCSC 23-24 2.1	That the Council establish a Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard (MEES) for all new build property within 3 months. Upon completion of the Housing Stock Condition Survey (estimated April 2025) the Council must establish a strategy for improving energy efficiency within Council Housing Stock.	Housing Strategy and Development Officer in consultation with: Assistant Director Housing Management and Enforcement	June 2025 (extended estimated date: December 2025)		Extended	Officer time	<p><u>First Interim Report</u> Savills have concluded the Stock Conditions Survey, with access gained to 92.7%. Full report including EPCs for these properties due end of April 2026.</p> <p>(Some of the 350 that weren't accessed during the SCS may have additional data on how the Council can assess their EPC levels. Currently collating additional information).</p> <p><u>Second Interim Report</u> Verifying the data from the Stock Condition Survey has taken longer than anticipated. The Government has launched a consultation on a proposal to set MEES. Decision taken to await the outcome of Government consultation before</p>

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							finalising any strategy related to new build standards and retrofit of existing stock - although continuing to look at energy efficiency (on going).
CCCSC 23-24 2.2	That the Council publishes information regarding grants and energy efficiency on the Council website.	Climate Change Officer in consultation with: Communications Marketing and Design Manager	January 2025	November 2024	Achieved	Officer time	<u>First Interim Report</u> The Climate Change officer has published information regarding energy grants under Energy Advice of the Council website. The information was originally uploaded November 2024 and was updated January 2025. The Council will also be including this information on the Housing page on the website for ease of access. Additionally, the Council has secured Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund (for Bolsover District Homes properties) and the Warm Homes: Local Grant (for private properties).

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CCCSC 23-24 2.3	That the Council continues to feature educational articles in <i>Intouch</i> magazine and Bolsover TV on energy efficiency grants for homes.	Climate Change Officer in consultation with: Communications Marketing and Design Manager	January 2025	Summer 2025	Achieved (Behind target)		<p><u>First Interim Report</u> The Climate Officer and the Comms Manager are currently awaiting information on grants from EMCCA.</p> <p><u>Second Interim Report</u> BTV has now been discontinued. The website has been updated with information on the new grants from EMCCA, alongside DESNZ funding for Warm Homes: Local Grant and Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund. Several educational articles have also been published on the website. Comms and the CCO intend to develop a communication strategy to accompany the Climate Plan, to increase the amount of information available to the public. This is part of continuous ongoing work.</p>

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CCCSC 23-24 2.4	That following the Council's appointment of the new Climate Change Officer, opportunities be investigated for realistic ways that the Council and Dragonfly Development Ltd can work together to offer energy improvements to the owner-occupier sector and to assess whether a pragmatic package can be put together to achieve this.	Climate Change Officer in consultation with: Director of Property & Construction, Dragonfly Development Ltd.	June 2025	Summer 2025	Extended	Officer time	<p><u>First Interim Report</u> DDL has approached the Council to discuss how the Council and DDL can work together. DDL awaiting a response for an action plan.</p> <p>6th March Portfolio Holder for Climate Change was appointed – undertook a review of Climate Change project management.</p> <p><u>Second Interim Report</u> There has been a shortage of funding from DDL for work on private properties. However, BDC has secured funding for local housing through the Warm Homes: Local Grant and the Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund. The Council will use these funds to work with DDL, with DDL carrying out the work on Council houses while Bassetlaw</p>

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							manages the projects on private properties under contract to BDC. Decision taken to bring DDL back in-house, so overall recommendation requires review as to deliverability.
CCCSC 23-24 2.5	That the Council consolidates all existing policies, strategies and plans regarding EV charging stations for Bolsover District into one clear document/ web page article dedicated to the topic of the Council's approach to EV charging points.	Climate Change Officer in consultation with: Communications Marketing and Design Manager	June 2025 (Extended to April 2026)		Extended	Officer time	<p><u>First Interim Report</u> Progress is currently underway from the Climate Change Officer in collaboration with Environmental Health.</p> <p><u>Second Interim Report</u> An article on EV charging stations will feature in InTouch magazine in the October 2025 issue. The CCO also plans to include links to the DCC website and to resources such as Zapmap, which provides an EV charging station map. EV education will form part of the Climate Change Strategy,</p>

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							expected in 2026, with Environmental Health continuing to lead on EVs in collaboration with the Climate Change Officer.