



Home Energy Conservation Act 1995

A further report on behalf of the

The Nottingham and Derbyshire

Local Authority Energy Partnership

(LAEP)

and

Erewash Borough Council

March 2013

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1. The Local Authority Energy Partnership (LAEP)

The LAEP is a non-statutory partnership of all 20 councils across Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. The LAEP was formed in 1996 in response to drivers such as the introduction of the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 and increasing awareness of the impact of fuel poverty across the two counties.

Partnership activities are delivered via a membership service and a communications service which are funded through separate subscriptions. Councils benefit from support, information and communication services and collaborate on carbon reduction, affordable warmth and sustainable energy projects, sharing expertise and best practice.

A high level of confidence and trust amongst partners provides a platform from which to develop solutions that could not have been achieved, or afforded alone and results in the sharing of expertise, experience, ideas and information. The partnership's size and reputation means it can draw in support from influential experts and agencies and also helps to get early sight of new policy and guidance

Each council is represented on the Officer Working Group (OWG) which runs the partnership. The OWG is chaired by Phil Keynes, Nottinghamshire County Council, and Vice Chair David Arkle, Amber Valley District Council.

Funds are held by Derbyshire County Council and managed by the Treasurer Kathryn Warrington. Rina Jones, LAEP co-ordinator, is employed by the partnership to manage and initiate LAEP activities and her post is hosted by Derbyshire County Council.

The partnership continues to provide an excellent model of how councils can work together for mutual benefit.

The LAEP has carried out a consultation exercise amongst partners to agree the contents of this combined report.

Chair's introduction

The production of this report by our Partnership, which complements the individual reports of our member councils, is yet another example of how our long-standing collaboration has provided huge benefit and exceptional value to our partners over the years. In increasingly challenging times for local government, this report provides evidence of how our partnership is striving to maximise the economic, social and environmental benefits to our councils and residents through its work on home energy conservation - and long may it continue to do so.

Phil Keynes
Team Manager, Energy and Carbon Management
Nottingham County Council

2. HECA 2013

This HECA report presents information about the strategies and initiatives being delivered by LAEP authorities as they work together to reduce domestic carbon dioxide emissions and fuel poverty.

The attached annex presents information about the activities of Erewash Borough Council.

The LAEP includes 16 housing authorities and two County Councils.

Nottinghamshire County Council	Derbyshire County Council
Nottingham City Council	Derby City Council
Ashfield DC	North East Derbyshire DC
Newark and Sherwood DC	
Rushcliffe BC	South Derbyshire DC
Bassetlaw DC	Amber Valley BC
Broxtowe BC	Bolsover DC
Gedling BC	Chesterfield BC
Mansfield DC	Derbyshire Dales DC
	Erewash BC
	High Peak BC

3. A collective LAEP ambition to reduce carbon dioxide and fuel poverty

The LAEP acknowledges the legal requirements for local government to improve the energy efficiency of residential accommodation as outlined in the Climate Change Act 2008.

In addition, the LAEP will contribute to the delivery of the carbon emission reduction targets presented in the DECC Carbon Plan 2011.

The LAEP will support the following aims of the Carbon Plan:

- To continue to reduce greenhouse gas (CO₂) emissions from domestic buildings;
- To insulate all cavities and lofts, where practical, by 2020;
- To continue to insulate solid walls where possible;
- To continue to promote low carbon sources of heating and power

In addition, the LAEP will support the aims of the 2001 UK Fuel Poverty Strategy to eradicate fuel poverty in England as far as reasonably practicable by 2016.

The practical outcome of the LAEP contributing to these carbon reduction and fuel poverty aims will be:

- Improved opportunities for local economic and physical regeneration
- Support for the creation of local green businesses, jobs and skills
- Help to reduce fuel bills for local residents
- Help to make homes warmer and healthier
- A vital contribution to reducing local and national carbon emissions

- Support for wider strategic priorities on issues such as health and poverty

4. The Climate Local initiative

The Climate Local initiative aims to help local authorities across the country to capture the opportunities and benefits of action on climate change, such as through saving on their energy bills, generating income from renewable energy, attracting new jobs and investment in 'green' industries, reducing flood risks and managing the impacts of extreme weather, such as drought, tackling fuel poverty and protecting our natural environment.

Following a consultation exercise the LAEP has agreed that as a partnership we endorse the aims of the Climate Local Commitment.

The LAEP agrees that local authorities and partners working together towards the common purpose of addressing climate change will help to:

- Deliver economic and social benefits
- Demonstrate our collective commitment, ambition and achievements
- Demonstrate leadership on climate change
- Provide a shared structure around which our efforts may be channelled
- Provide a forum for peer to peer learning and support for local authorities

As such:

We will progressively address the risks and pursue the opportunities presented by a changing climate, in line with local priorities, through our role as:

- *Community leader* – helping local people and businesses to be smarter about their energy use and to prepare for climate impacts;
- *Service provider* – delivering services that are resource efficient, less carbon intensive, resilient and that protect those who are most vulnerable to climate impacts;
- *Estate manager* – ensuring that our own buildings and operations are resource efficient, use clean energy, and are well prepared for the impacts of a changing climate.

In signing this commitment, we will:

- Set locally-owned and determined commitments and actions to reduce carbon emissions and to manage climate impacts. These will be specific, measurable and challenging;
- Publish our commitments, actions and progress, enabling local communities to hold us to account;
- Share the learning from our experiences and achievements with other councils; and
- Regularly refresh our commitments and actions to ensure they are current and continue to reflect local priorities.

Individual LAEP authorities may decide to include specific Climate Local Commitments in their own local authority HECA annex.

5. A collective baseline of information across the LAEP area

The LAEP has agreed to establish a baseline of information around the following issues to help authorities understand the impact of initiatives over time and where to effectively target efforts.

- 5.1 Levels of fuel poverty
- 5.2 Fuel consumption
- 5.3 Co2 emissions
- 5.4 CERT measures
- 5.5 PV installations etc.

Some authorities may choose to break this data down to their local authority level and even further to lower super output areas. In doing so, they will be in a position to understand how they may affect these issues at a very local area level.

The following data has been collated from DECC 2010 data aggregated for the two county areas.

5.1 Levels of fuel poverty across the LAEP

A householder is considered to be in fuel poverty when they are spending more than 10% of their income on home energy to heat the home to 21 degrees in main living area and 18 degrees for other occupied rooms. Levels of fuel poverty are affected by the cost of domestic energy, the energy efficiency of the home, the way that energy is used in the home and household income . Rising fuel prices, and incomes reducing in real terms will both contribute to the challenge of eradicating fuel poverty.

Using 2010 Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) data we find that about 19% of the households in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire are vulnerable to fuel poverty.

The average across England is 16.3%.

Derbyshire			Nottinghamshire (including Ashfield DC)		
Estimated Number of households	Estimated number of households in fuel poverty	% of fuel poor	Estimated Number of households	Estimated number of households in fuel poverty	% of fuel poor
425,450	80,766	19.0	459,912	87,171	19.0

The following table shows levels of fuel poverty at a local authority level.

Local Authority	Number of fuel poor households	% of fuel poor
Bassetlaw	9,334	19.7%
Broxtowe	7,825	16.5%
Gedling	8,085	16.2%
Mansfield	8,782	19.9%
Newark and Sherwood	9,221	18.9%
Rushcliffe	6,818	14.8%
Amber Valley	9,918	19.1%
Bolsover	6,564	20.6%
Chesterfield	9,191	20.0%
Derbyshire Dales	7,483	24.4%
Erewash	8,429	17.5%
High Peak	7,027	17.8%
North East Derbyshire	7,876	18.6%
South Derbyshire	5,867	15.5%

Some LAEP authorities analyse fuel poverty data to a lower super output area level (a ward level of around 500 houses) to give them a clearer picture of where pockets of fuel poverty exist. This information may be presented in an annex to this report.

Using DECC 2010 data, the ward area with the highest level of fuel poverty is Dunkirk and Lenton in Nottingham with 38.3% and the area with the lowest level of fuel poverty is Hilton in South Derbyshire with just 3.7%.

5.2 Domestic fuel consumption and CO₂ emissions

This table shows 2010 LAEP domestic gas and electricity consumption figures.

Local Authority	Gas kWh	Electricity kWh
Amber Valley	808,262,871	225,222,583
Bassetlaw	607,563,541	211,298,205
Bolsover	469,166,232	125,366,526
Broxtowe	745,755,405	188,151,275
Chesterfield	674,368,385	168,748,487
Derby	1,449,822,529	405,694,501
Derbyshire Dales	442,524,525	155,472,063
Erewash	717,940,638	195,076,916
Gedling	779,458,187	208,782,772
High Peak	629,490,739	167,845,562
Mansfield	692,663,175	168,530,190
Newark and Sherwood	673,480,484	217,894,817
North East Derbyshire	669,375,838	168,435,891
Nottingham	1,621,741,510	490,210,443
Rushcliffe	759,527,216	205,489,464
South Derbyshire	537,575,522	167,217,616

Totals	12,278,716,797	3,469,437,311
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5.3 Domestic carbon dioxide emissions

The release of carbon dioxide from human activities makes up the main greenhouse gas responsible for climate change. Energy used to heat, cool, light and cook in our homes, accounts for around a 1/3rd of all emissions.

Local Authority	Total tonnes Co₂
Amber Valley	264,579
Bassetlaw	218,076
Bolsover	151,126
Broxtowe	235,136
Chesterfield	211,992
Derby	475,367
Derbyshire Dales	159,556
Erewash	232,738
Gedling	251,305
High Peak	202,604
Mansfield	215,551
Newark and Sherwood	234,274
North East Derbyshire	210,850
Nottingham	548,374
Rushcliffe	245,814
South Derbyshire	183,934
Total	4,041,276

The per capita domestic CO₂ emission across the LAEP area is around 2.5 tonnes per year. The total CO₂ emissions per capita (including transport and business activities) is around 8 tonnes although this varies between areas.

5.4 CERT measures

The Carbon Emission Reduction Target (CERT) programme closes at the end of March 2013 and is to be replaced by the Energy Company Obligation (ECO). The ECO programme provides funding to households who would otherwise struggle to achieve energy savings without support e.g. those struggling to achieve affordable warmth, those in hard to treat properties and vulnerable or low income households.

All LAEP councils have worked hard to promote CERT since it started by developing partnerships with various installation companies and agents.

In July 2011, Apex Carbon Solutions were awarded an endorsement agreement by the LAEP to run a loft and cavity wall insulation scheme known as 'Warmstreets'. The scheme includes eleven councils. Importantly, surveyors collect energy housing data for the local council when they visit households which will help target energy efficiency and Green Deal/ECO offers in future.

The table below shows Warmstreets installations from July 2011 to end December 2012. The scheme has collectively saved householders over a million pounds through reduced fuel bills and nearly 5,800 tonnes of CO₂ which is equivalent to about 2,300 people's annual domestic carbon emissions.

	total measures	lofts	cavity	£ savings	t CO₂ Savings
Amber Valley	1543	1050	493	£169,360	897.34
Bassetlaw	1207	936	271	£122,740	549.41
Bolsover	470	287	183	£52,125	276.25
Derby City	872	592	280	£90,970	481.38
Derbyshire Dales	450	334	116	£46,220	244.48
Erewash	1158	756	402	£127,710	676.74
Gedling	955	704	251	£116,300	617.7
High Peak	743	424	319	£80,335	425.49
Newark & Sherwood	1243	828	415	£133,915	709.21
Rushcliffe	1168	726	442	£113,740	600.76
South Derbyshire	601	321	280	£63,130	334.12
Totals	10410	6958	3452	£1,116,545	5812.88

The table below presents information about the number of **total CERT** funded measures that have been installed over the last four years from 31/3/2008 to 31/3/12. There is a 'data gap' of approximately 9% with the quality of this data.

	Cavity	Loft	Homes Treated	% homes treated
Amber Valley	3,272	5,014	7,069	18.0%
Ashfield	2,984	6,098	8,099	18.2%
Bassetlaw	3,571	5,503	7,626	16.7%
Bolsover	2,002	3,272	4,451	10.6%
Broxtowe	3,510	6,157	8,208	19.3%
Chesterfield	2,713	3,817	5,503	12.7%
Derby North	2,493	4,348	5,909	13.8%
Derby South	2,346	4,982	6,438	14.3%
Derbyshire Dales	2,006	3,472	4,663	13.0%
Erewash	2,731	5,857	7,479	17.8%
Gedling	3,169	5,530	7,393	17.9%
High Peak	3,010	4,025	5,970	14.7%
Mansfield	3,340	5,817	7,894	16.7%
North East Derbyshire	3,773	4,650	6,792	16.9%
Nottingham East	1,061	4,476	4,999	11.6%
Nottingham North	2,405	5,349	6,489	15.2%
Nottingham South	1,895	4,775	5,755	13.2%
Rushcliffe	2,576	4,454	5,999	15.0%
Newark & Sherwood	3,251	4,982	6,926	17.1%
South Derbyshire	2,685	4,140	5,888	15.2%

5.5 Renewable technology installations

This section focuses on the number of domestic photovoltaic (PV) panels installed to generate renewable electricity across the LAEP. Many PV systems provide up to 4kWh peak of electricity which can make a useful contribution towards reducing household Co2 emissions.

Local Authority	Total number of PV installations up to Sept 2012
Amber Valley	636
Bassetlaw	1223
Bolsover	595
Broxtowe	532
Chesterfield	1067
Derby	1775
Derbyshire Dales	723
Erewash	625
Gedling	591
High Peak	343
Mansfield	571
Newark and Sherwood	1270
North East Derbyshire	713
Nottingham	3,033
Rushcliffe	1019
South Derbyshire	562
Total	15,278

Other renewable and low carbon technologies have been installed, such as: Solar thermal (hot water), air source heat pumps, ground and water source heat pumps, air to air heat pumps and biomass boilers.

Often these technologies attract a renewable heat incentive tariff to help subsidise the investment. DECC data for the number of installations of this type only currently exists at a regional level.

6.0 Collective Green Deal and fuel poverty plans

The LAEP is playing an active part in the evolution of the government's flagship Green Deal programme and Energy Company Obligation in the region.

In January 2013, the LAEP successfully bid to DECC to fund a proposal to create demand for the Green Deal and provide support for fuel poor households. The aim of the scheme is to achieve high take up of both, through innovative targeting of households and promotional activities across the two counties. The project will be delivered through the LAEP and involve community and voluntary organisations, not-for-profit agencies, the health sector and managing agents and others.

The funding will be used to buy a housing energy database software package (UNO), energy performance certificates and Mosaic (socio economic) datasets and Green Deal Plans. Some LAEP councils have already piloted these tools and achieved efficient targeting and enhanced uptake of measures. All councils in Nottinghamshire already have a populated UNO housing energy database thanks to funding secured from the Nottinghamshire Fuel Poverty fund.

The software will identify property and householder circumstances and tailor promotions accordingly to maximise interest and benefit. This highly cost effective approach will be used by all councils to target households likely to be:

- vulnerable and/or in fuel poverty
- suitable for a Green Deal Plan and likely to be interested in one
- eligible for ECO funding

It will be used to deliver:

- 1130 loft and cavity measures (helping fuel poor)
- 980 boiler and heating measures (helping fuel poor)
- 56 heating systems (helping fuel poor)
- 4 area-based Green Deal and ECO projects
- 400 Green Deal Assessments and 200 Green Deal Plans
- 50 Green Deal installations

Supporting activities include:

- Green Deal promotions - Refurb Roadshow and Eco-homes Open Week
- Conference on delivering affordable warmth through Green Deal and ECO
- Housing data collected during the programme will be added to existing UNO data which will:
 - provide an increasingly accurate picture of the condition of the area's housing stock and demographics
 - provide strategic information for councils' HECA reports.
 - Key legacies will be a proven demand for the Green Deal and ECO and a robust data and analytical resource to enable effective long-term targeting.

Input from DECC and other councils at a LAEP Green Deal conference in December 2012, helped raise awareness about the policy amongst council departments which will be affected (eg. finance, economic development, private sector housing, health and wellbeing), and explored a variety of delivery models being trialled elsewhere.

The LAEP regularly holds such events for partners e.g. on 21st June 2012, Abigail Burrige, Senior Advisor from the Local Government Association ran a Green Deal and Energy seminar for the LAEP, attended by 33 officers and elected members from 16 LAEP councils. The seminar provided an excellent briefing on current and forthcoming policy around local government delivery on climate change and energy, including the Green Deal, HECA and Climate Local, the LGA's Memorandum of Understanding with DECC to assist local councils to tackle climate change.

Other equally useful events have been run by the partnership, such as:

- Workshop 1 - Exploring the role of GD Provider (July 12th 2012 Chesterfield)
- Workshop 2 - Exploring the role of GD Partner (September 20th 2012 Broxtowe)
- Green Deal and Affordable Warmth Dissemination Event (March 2012)
- Warm, Efficient and Healthy Homes - Making the Green Deal and ECO work for all your residents (Dec 2011)
- 'Hot Money' - How to make the Renewable Heat Incentive work for your council (May 2011)
- Green House Gas Emissions from LA Estate and Operations - New DECC reporting requirements (March 2011)
- 'Power and Money' - How to pay for renewables and make renewables pay (January 2011)
- Progress on LAEP's domestic insulation projects (October 2010)
- Warm Homes, Greener Homes (April 2010)
- Our Communities Tackling Climate Change (November 2009)

Looking ahead

The position of the LAEP is clearly one of engagement with the Green Deal programme and a consensus is that individual authorities will at least promote the scheme, while some may wish to extend their commitment to exploring a partnership role with a Green Deal Provider.

The key to tackling fuel poverty in the future will be the increasingly useful information provided by UNO which will maximise the value for money for installations and minimise programme costs by, for example, identifying households in fuel poverty with G-rated boilers who did not qualify for Warmfront. Some would be identified through previous surveys, some through cross-referencing of purchased new data and local knowledge. Mosaic data has been used in combination with UNO by Newark and Sherwood District Council to double conversion rates for loft and cavity measures by tailoring introductory letters to the householder. This approach will be rolled out across the area.

7.0 LAEP information, advice, education and promotion of energy efficiency

The LAEP Advice and Information Group

Providing residents with impartial advice and information about energy efficiency has been a key feature of the LAEP since 1996. One of the first groups to be formed within the LAEP was the Advice and Information Group.

This group has (amongst many other things) over the years:

- operated a mobile energy efficiency advice vehicle;
- supported a Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Energy Efficiency Advice Centre;
- run many community energy saving events and road shows;
- produced information, advice and guidance booklets for householders;
- developed specific projects to address fuel poverty;
- developed 'warmer and healthier' advice and information with public health and NHS bodies
- providing practical advice to LAEP members about the effectiveness of new energy efficiency technologies and products.

The Advice and Information Group is Chaired by Chris Gilchrist from Newark and Sherwood District Council.

The LAEP Communications Service

The community focused communications service is funded by an optional £1500 p.a. subscription per authority. The service is partially tailored to each partner's requirements and provides advice and information on energy efficiency, sustainable energy and affordable warmth directly to communities, schools, local authority staff, businesses and the general public on behalf of the LAEP.

The Communications Service has been provided by the charity Marches Energy Agency (MEA) through Service Level Agreements (SLA) since 2009. Sixteen local authorities participated in the LAEP Communications Service in 2012-13.

A range of innovative and flexible resources are used, including the well visited LAEP website www.everybodys-talking.org and a versatile mobile exhibition vehicle which promotes domestic energy and water efficiency at public events. MEA also provide information and guidance to community groups through the LAEP's Community Climate Action Network.

Collective procurement of services from MEA has achieved a level and quality of delivery that would have been unaffordable for individual councils.

The LAEP will continue to provide honest, impartial advice to residents at a time when there is an increasing array of options and offerings being made to householders, many of whom are potentially vulnerable and at risk.

8.0 A timeframe for delivery and partners involved in LAEP schemes

Delivery timeframe

In addition to LAEP led initiatives, individual councils will deliver local projects at a timescale that suits them. The timescale for delivery of these individual local authority projects will be reported in their annex attached to this report.

The following LAEP led initiatives will be delivered during 2013-2015.

1. To evaluate and learn lessons from the DECC funded Green Deal and Fuel poverty project which will have been completed by the end of March 2013.
2. To continue to populate UNO with housing information to target suitable properties for ECO and Green Deal assessments
3. To develop more area based schemes using UNO and Mosaic information
4. To provide impartial advice about the Green Deal and fuel poverty to residents
5. To continue to promote the Green Deal and explore the implications of developing a partnership with a Green Deal Provider.
6. To continue to deliver advice and information to householders about ways to save energy and tackle climate change.
7. To engage community groups through the Community Climate Action Network.
8. To develop programmes with Health Authorities to address winter warmth issues.
9. To continue to provide timely events and conferences for LAEP partners about emerging energy initiatives, policy changes, funding opportunities or consultations.

The LAEP is always able to respond quickly to events and will modify this programme to suit new opportunities as they arise.

Progress against these items will be included in the next 'further' HECA report.

LAEP Partners

- Nationally, the LAEP receives support from DECC, LGA and the LGIU around policy issues and new initiatives designed to tackle domestic energy efficiency issues and climate change.
- The LAEP also works occasionally with specialist partners such as NEA and CSE on fuel poverty projects.
- The LAEP operates on a community level with a wide range of groups through the Marches Energy Agency led Community Climate Action Network (CCAN). The CCAN supports more than 300 individuals representing more than 80 community groups, plus a number of third sector organisations, who are all working to tackle climate change.
- LAEP members have partnerships with organisations such as Groundwork, CVS, Rural Action Groups, Transition Groups, Sustainable Community Groups.
- In addition, members of the LAEP work with organisations such as The Citizen Advice Bureaux, Age Concern, Credit Unions and other local service providers.
- The LAEP has partnerships with Apex Carbon Solutions and The Nottingham Energy Partnership to deliver a range of household energy saving and fuel poverty projects.
- A large number of surveyors, installers and contractors work with different LAEP authorities.
- In addition, some councils have partnerships with energy companies to operate area specific schemes.
- LAEP members also work closely with social housing providers, either through ALMO's, Stock Transfer Companies or directly with in house service providers.

The range of organisations involved in delivering energy efficiency improvements across the LAEP is enormous and provides an ever changing partnership landscape.

Members of the LAEP are very well connected with national, regional and local partners and this provides a fantastic basis from which to respond to this agenda and to continue to deliver initiatives for the benefit of our residents.

For further information about the contents of this report, please contact:

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