

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environment and Economic Development (Housing and Regeneration Services)

Housing, Environment and Economic Development Committee:
5 September 2007

Subject: Energy Efficiency Review Update

1. Purpose

- 1.1** To advise the Committee on progress with general energy efficiency issues relating to Council buildings and on the projects and initiatives under development by the Corporate Energy Team (CET) and Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) Officer.

2. Background

- 2.1** Energy Efficiency Review is one of several subjects included on the Efficient Government agenda. West Dunbartonshire Council is committed to tackling fuel poverty, reducing energy demands and carbon emissions and developing the use of renewable energy sources wherever possible. A total of £300,000 has been allocated to the Council from the Central Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) to implement relevant projects.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1** The table below lists the programme of projects with which there are associated actual or potential cost savings since the inception of the Energy Team within the Housing, Environment and Economic Development Department.

Project Description	Actual Refunds	Anticipated Annual Savings
Refunds received from Service Providers	£59,000	
Tariff Changes		£ 26,000
Identified Tariff Queries		£ 14,000
CEEF projects		£ 56,000
Water Saving Projects		£197,000
Building Management system improvements		£ 25,000
Heating System Improvements		£ 26,000
Spend to save projects		£ 49,000
Total Estimated Saving	£59,000	£393,000

- 3.2** The installation and development of the STC Navigator energy management software system provides the ability to manage payments made for actual energy use compared with estimated use as submitted by service providers in the past. This issue will be discussed, developed and reported on following the next CET meeting and will allow property managers to monitor and control their energy budgets more effectively with the potential for savings in both energy usage and cost.
- 3.3** At present the department's Energy Team consists of an Energy Officer and an Administrative Assistant. The current workload is such that the scope for development of new energy initiatives is limited as is the consequent future saving in energy costs. Energy initiatives are being continuously developed and introduced by Central Government through various agencies and in order to take advantage of these opportunities it is felt that the deployment of additional resources should be considered. It is proposed to present the case for this in a future report.
- 3.4** HECA Projects have delivered the following advice and projects through partnership arrangements:
- (a) Approximately 1000 households have received energy advice since 2006.
 - (b) Officers are preparing a bid for a further £268k from the Warm Deal Fund which if granted will allow the extension of the Energy Survey Project carried out by Solas.

4. Personnel Issues

- 4.1** Staff resources committed to energy management work and HECA responsibilities are under review. Findings and recommendations will be the subject of a future report to committee.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1** The budget available to the Council for projects through the CEEF funding arrangement for 2007/2008 is £200,000.
- 5.2** The current allocations of HRA Capital and Warm Deal monies are £100,000 and £32,000 respectively.
- 5.3** Table 3.2 above indicates the total anticipated annual savings, including client funded "spend to save" projects, generated during 2006/2007.

6. Risk Analysis

- 6.1** No risks were identified in the preparation of this report

7. Conclusion

- 7.1** Projects are proceeding well with resultant savings being assessed and reported to service departments through the Corporate Energy Team.

8. Recommendation

- 8.1** The Committee is invited to note the content of this report.

Irving Hodgson

**Acting Executive Director of Housing, Environment
and Economic Development (Housing and Regeneration Services)**

Date: 13 August 2007

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Appendices: None

Background Papers: Report to CS & ES Committee on 13 June 2007 entitled
“Energy Efficiency Review Update”

Wards Affected: All