

## WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

### Report by Acting Director of Housing, Regeneration & Environmental Services (Housing & Regeneration Services)

Community Safety and Environmental Services Committee : 6 December 2006

---

**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 Council's Efficient Government Strategy. The Council is committed to tackling fuel poverty, reducing energy demands and carbon emissions, and using renewable energy sources.

#### **3. Main Issues**

- 3.1** An extensive £33,500 insulation upgrade project to a number of schools was completed during the school holidays. The project was funded through the Council Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) and included insulating all hot water and heating pipes within fourteen primary schools and upgrading loft insulation to meet current standards within six of these schools. The project is expected to save around £7,800 annually. A further fifteen schools have been surveyed and will be involved in a similar project before the end of the financial year.
- 3.2** Of the eight projects financed by the CEEF the largest is at the Meadow Sports Centre. The financial savings generated have been calculated by comparing energy usage with the same periods of 2005. Electricity savings are £8,875 for a five month period and gas savings are £3,259 for four months. In terms of CO2 emissions these have reduced by 38 tonnes for the four month period. The project is now projected to save around £28,000 annually compared to the original estimated saving of £18,000.
- 3.3** In recognition of the benefit to the environment made by the project at the Meadow Sports Centre, the Council was chosen recently as a Green Apple Award winner for Environmental Best Practice.

- 3.4** Water saving devices which are proposed at two leisure centres are expected to deliver savings of around £2,600 annually for an outlay of £3,100 and the previously reported energy management software system has been ordered for installation within the next few weeks.
- 3.5** School projects valued at around £250,000 will proceed soon. These will include adding some fifteen schools to the existing Trend Building Management System, upgrading heating systems within fifteen schools by installing thermostatic radiator valves and foil panels behind radiators and completing insulation works to boiler houses. The projects will all be financed from the additional School Fund allocation.
- 3.6** The Council and its partner contractor, Solas recently launched an Energy Survey project, which combines energy advice, an NHER rating for the household and any appropriate energy efficiency measures. The project has been rolled out to around 700 council tenants since April 2006.
- 3.7** The Council and its partner contractor Clyde Insulation are finalising details of the 2006/2007 Cavity Wall /Loft Insulation Programme, which should result in around £150,000 of insulation measures being carried out to multi-tenure blocks.
- 3.8** Discussions have commenced with Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) operating within West Dunbartonshire to establish closer links and joint working on HECA and Fuel Poverty issues. This could lead to RSLs becoming members of the West Dunbartonshire HECA Partnership.

#### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1** Including CEEF projects valued at £147,000, the total investment in energy efficiency measures carried out by the Energy Management Team at 31 October 2006 was £244,000.
- 4.2** CEEF projects are required to have a payback period of no more than five years. Services that make cost savings as a result of a CEEF project have undertaken to refund the cost of the project to the CEEF based on the estimated payback period of the project.

#### **5. Personnel Issues**

- 5.1** There are no personnel issues.

#### **6. Conclusion**

**6.1** Of the original Scottish Executive allocation to the Council, the remaining fund available for CEEF projects is £157,000. Contributions to the fund are due to commence soon based on the savings realised by each project.

**7. Recommendation**

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

**Irving Hodgson  
Acting Director of Housing, Regeneration & Environmental Services  
(Housing & Regeneration Services)  
Date: 10 November 2006**

---

<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All
<b>Appendix:</b>	None
<b>Background Papers:</b>	Report to CS & ES Committee on 2 August 2006 entitled "Energy Efficiency Review Update"
<b>Person to Contact:</b>	Don Findlay - Manager of Technical Services Telephone: 01389 608333