

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL and MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL

From: Fuel Poverty Task and Finish Group	Report Number: JSC/02/15
To: Joint Scrutiny Committee	Date of meeting: 28 January 2015

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE FUEL POVERTY TASK AND FINISH GROUP

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To present the Fuel Poverty Task and Finish Group's proposed recommendations following the Joint Scrutiny Committee Review on Fuel Poverty at the meeting on 23 July 2014.

2. Recommendations

The Fuel Poverty Task and Finish Group propose the following recommendations for consideration and approval by the Joint Scrutiny Committee with a view to making appropriate recommendations to Executive and Strategy Committees:

That:

- 2.1 A single lead officer be assigned the responsibility for co-ordinating the Councils' approach to the cross cutting issue of fuel poverty.
- 2.2 The Councils work actively with partners such as the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership and the Health and Wellbeing Board on developing and promoting fuel poverty initiatives.
- 2.3 The Councils ensure our tenants are able to make effective use of their heating systems by providing adequate briefing and support especially when new systems and technology are installed.
- 2.4 An approach to lobbying and working with Housing Associations within our Districts is determined to ensure that cost effective heating systems are installed in their new properties and the replacement of inefficient heating systems in their existing properties.
- 2.5 The Councils take a proactive approach to seeking out grants and the use of new technologies to enable the most cost effective approach to fuel efficiency to be implemented.
- 2.6 The Councils derive an approach to working with private landlords to improve awareness of the potential benefits to them of effectively heated properties, grants and funding available, and the future statutory requirements.
- 2.7 The Councils explore the potential for working with developers and Housing Associations to improve the energy efficiency of new housing by offering loans to allow additional energy efficiency measures to be installed at the time of construction. This could be a potential income stream to the Councils and would alleviate future fuel poverty.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no specific financial implications identified in this report. However the cost of implementation of the recommendations will have to be quantified to determine if this can be met from existing budgets or if there needs to be consideration of additional cost through an appropriate business case process.

4. Risk Management

- 4.1 The nature of this report is such, that a risk management assessment is not needed.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 N/A

6. Equality Analysis

- 6.1 The content of this report is such that there are no equality issues arising from the report itself although implementation of the recommendations will need to consider any equality impacts.

7. Shared Service / Partnership Implications

- 7.1 This report in itself has no shared service / partnership implications. However, much of the work to implement the recommendations will be carried out in partnership with others.

8. Key Information

- 8.1 The Fuel Poverty Task and Finish Group was formed to develop a set of proposed recommendations from the emerging issues and discussion areas which came out of the Joint Scrutiny Committee review of fuel poverty. The task group met twice, supported by officers and have produced the draft recommendations contained in this report.

9. Appendices

None.

10. Background Documents

Scrutiny Review on Fuel Poverty [JSC-14-14](#)

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