

# Enfield Council Predictive Equality Impact Assessment/Analysis

**NB if there is likely to be an impact on different groups of staff as a result of this proposal, please also complete a restructuring predictive EQIA form**

<b>Department:</b>	Regeneration & Environment	<b>Service:</b>	Sustainability
<b>Title of decision:</b>	Fuel Poverty Strategy and Action Plan	<b>Date completed:</b>	29/07/2015
<b>Author:</b>	Liam Preston	<b>Contact details:</b>	020 8379 5760

<b>1</b>	<b>Type of change being proposed:</b> (please tick)						
Service delivery change/ new service/cut in service		Policy change or new policy	✓	Grants and commissioning		Budget change	

<b>2</b>	<p><b>Describe the change, why it is needed, what is the objective of the change and what is the possible impact of the change:</b></p> <p>The Sustainability Service is seeking to have the Fuel Poverty Strategy and Action Plan adopted as official Council Policy. There are 12,927 households suffering from fuel poverty in Enfield, this is the 6<sup>th</sup> largest total in London and the 37<sup>th</sup> largest total in England. Fuel poverty has major impact on health, it suppresses Enfield's economy, it impacts the long term outcomes of children, increases the borough's carbon footprint and highlights poor quality housing.</p> <p>The Action Plan is divided into 3 sections, detailing the initial steps that need to be taken.</p> <p><b>Data</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We need to use the data we already have access to more effectively to enable us identify fuel poor residents with greater accuracy than the national statistics currently allow.</li> </ul> <p><b>Raising Awareness, Improving advice and Maximising Income</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fuel poor residents are not always aware that help is available or willing to accept it. We need to promote the professional help available in the borough and the steps that residents can take to help themselves.</li> <li>- Removing someone from fuel poverty doesn't always require major building work. Good quality advice can have</li> </ul>
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a major impact on a fuel poor household by switching it to a cheaper energy supplier, increasing income via employability skills or benefit maximisation and teaching householders how to use existing heating systems more efficiently.

### **Energy Efficient Homes**

- Some homes are so inefficient that practical energy efficiency measures are required to remove a household from fuel poverty.
- We need to work with private sector landlords and housing providers to encourage them to improve the quality of their properties by promoting the range of grants and financing options available. Where necessary, we also need to use the Energy Efficiency Regulations for the Private Rented Sector, which will prevent landlords letting properties that fall below EPC band E from 2018 and HHSRS which enables the Council to enforce against landlords letting homes where low temperatures can be classified as a category 1 hazard.
- We also need to continue to improve the quality of the Housing Revenue Account stock. All Council homes should be above EPC band E by 2018.
- Finally, we need to demonstrate the savings that the health sector can make by improving the energy efficiency of homes occupied by vulnerable residents suffering from cold related illnesses.

The current action plan aims to improve or implement the infrastructure necessary to tackle fuel poverty in Enfield. Ultimately, we're seeking to quantify the extent of the problem in Enfield using our own data and to reduce the number of households suffering from fuel poverty.

### **3 Do you carry out equalities monitoring of your service? If No please state why?**

The Sustainability Service contributes to the equalities monitoring for the Regeneration and Environment Department.

**Indicate Yes (Y), No (N) or Not Known (NK) for each group**

1. Does equalities monitoring of your service show how people from the following groups benefit from your service? (recipients of the service, policy or budget, and the proposed change)	NK	NK	NK	NK	NK	NK	NK	NK	NK
2. Does the service or policy contribute to eliminating discrimination, promote equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between different groups in the community?	Y	NK	Y	Y	NK	NK	NK	NK	NK
3. Could the proposal discriminate, directly or indirectly these groups?	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N
4. Could this proposal affect access to your service by different groups in the community?	Y	NK	Y	Y	Y	NK	NK	NK	NK
5. Could this proposal affect access <u>to information</u> about your service by different groups in the community?	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
6. Could the proposal have an adverse impact on relations between different groups?	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

\*If you have ticked yes to discrimination, please state how this is justifiable under legislation.

3 - Fuel poverty disproportionately affects those on low incomes; in Enfield these residents are likely to be elderly and/or part of the BAME community. Therefore, if eligibility is based on need and funding is limited, it is likely that elderly and/or BAME residents will benefit disproportionately; indirectly discriminating against fuel poor residents in other demographics or communities. However, the basis for deciding eligibility will primarily be based on income; any disproportionate benefits derived by a particular community or demographic will reflect the socio-economic realities of Enfield rather than deliberate discrimination.

4 – The Fuel Poverty Strategy and Action Plan will have a positive impact on the ability of people in the categories above to access fuel poverty advice and help. At present, very little Enfield specific information is readily accessible and the current level of help available for fuel poor households is unable to meet demand.

## 5. Tackling Socio-economic inequality

Indicate Yes, No or Not Known for each group

	Communities living in deprived wards/areas	People not in employment, education or training	People with low academic qualifications	People living in social housing	Lone parents	People on low incomes	People in poor health	Any other socio-economic factor Please state;
1. Will the proposal specifically impact on communities disadvantaged through the following socio-economic factors?	Y	Y	NK	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
2. Does the service or policy contribute to eliminating discrimination, promote equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between different groups in the community?	Y	Y	NK	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
3. Could this proposal affect access to your service by different groups in the community?	Y	Y	NK	Y	Y	Y	Y	N

If Yes answered above – please describe the impact (including any positive impact on social economic inequality) and any mitigation if applicable.

- 1- Tackling fuel poverty in Enfield has the potential to reduce the monthly outgoings of those affected by the socio-economic factors indicated above. It also has the potential to improve health outcomes for those with illnesses affected by living in a cold home.
- 2- Fuel poverty limits the outcomes for those on low incomes and exacerbates inequality, addressing the issue will partially reduce differences in the opportunities available to those living in affluent and low income areas of Enfield.
- 3- The Fuel Poverty Strategy and Action Plan will improve access to fuel poverty services and information for those affected by the socio-economic factors listed above.

## **6. Review**

### **How and when will you monitor and review the effects of this proposal?**

The Fuel Poverty Strategy and Action Plan will be monitored by the Fuel Poverty and Energy Retrofit Steering Group, chaired by the Assistant Director for Economic Development. The Steering Group will report annually to the Enfield Strategic Partnership and Cabinet.

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## Action plan template for proposed changes to service, policy or budget

Title of decision: Fuel Poverty Strategy & Action Plan

Team: Sustainability

Department: Regeneration & Environment

Service manager: Jeff Laidler

### Fuel Poverty Action Plan

#### Data

Project(s)	Expected Outcomes	Outputs	Lead Agency	Supporting Agency	Timescale
<b>Data Management</b>	- Residents vulnerable to fuel poverty will be identified using existing Council Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National fuel poverty indicators will be used to identify residents vulnerable to fuel poverty from existing data.</li> <li>- A fuel poverty indicator will be incorporated into the single view of the customer.</li> </ul>	Data & Management Information Reporting Hub, LBE  Web Team, LBE	Sustainability, LBE	<b>July 2017</b>

### Maximising Income; Raising awareness and Improving Energy, Debt and Benefit Advice

Project	Expected Outcomes	Output	Lead Agency	Support Agency	Timescale
<b>Home Energy Service</b>	- Funding will be sourced to commission a home energy advice service for Enfield.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The service will provide energy awareness advice and home energy checks for vulnerable residents.</li> <li>- The service would install minor energy efficiency measures, assist residents to switch energy supplier and help them use existing heating</li> </ul>	Sustainability, LBE	HHASC, LBE	<b>Ongoing</b>

		<p>systems effectively.</p> <p>-The service will carry out benefit entitlement checks and provide income maximisation advice.</p>			
<b>Raising Awareness</b>	- The Welfare Benefits Hub, Private Sector Homes and Housing Enforcement teams will receive energy awareness training	<p>- National Energy Action will provide fuel poverty awareness training to frontline teams at Enfield Council</p> <p>- The teams that receive training will be able to provide basic help to customers suffering from fuel poverty.</p>	National Energy Action	Sustainability, LBE	<b>March 2016</b>
	- Raise awareness of fuel poverty and the danger it poses to health via a winter marketing campaign	<p>- Enfield Council and National Energy Action will run a Winter Marketing Campaign aimed at vulnerable residents to alert them to the dangers of fuel poverty.</p> <p>- The campaign will contain advice about saving energy and keeping warm during winter</p>	Sustainability, LBE	National Energy Action Marketing & Communications, LBE Enfield Community Groups and Charities	<b>October 2015 - March 2016</b>
<b>Self-help &amp; Simplifying Access</b>	- A fuel poverty self-assessment will be incorporated into the new financial assessment tool on the Council website.	- The tool will give fuel poor residents information about the help available and their eligibility for Council grants.	Sustainability, LBE Private Sector Homes, LBE	Enfield 2017 Web team, LBE	<b>July 2017</b>

<b>Building Capacity</b>	- 22 Energy Champions will be trained to City & Guilds Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Community Energy Champions will be given the opportunity to gain the Level 3 City &amp; Guilds Energy Awareness Qualification.</li> <li>- The Energy Champions will then help other residents and will deliver community energy awareness sessions.</li> </ul>	Sustainability, LBE	National Energy Action	<b>March 2016</b>
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### Energy Efficient Housing

Project(s)	Expected Outcomes	Output	Lead Agency	Support Agency	Timescale
<b>Smart Homes</b>	- 250 Smart Homes grants will be taken up in Enfield	- The Smart Homes project will be promoted and take-up of the £6k grants will be encouraged. Local energy retrofit installers will be integrated into the supply chain.	Sustainability, LBE	Business & Economic Development, LBE	<b>October 2015</b>
<b>Self Help &amp; Simplifying Access</b>	- Funding will be sourced to establish an energy efficiency gap fund for fuel poor residents.	- The fund will provide the gap funding necessary to enable fuel poor households to take advantage of energy efficiency schemes.	Sustainability, LBE	HHASC, LBE	<b>Ongoing</b>



<b>Retrofit London</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 147 businesses will receive support</li> <li>- Local retro-fit companies will be better placed to compete for retrofit work related to combatting fuel poverty.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Retrofit London will provide local companies with 12 hours of free support to equip them with the knowledge and skills required to compete for retrofit contracts. A strong, local retrofit network will multiply the effect of money spent on anti-fuel poverty measures within the borough.</li> <li>- Some local companies will also be allowed to use the Council logo in marketing material related to specific projects and grants. This will improve take-up.</li> </ul>	Business & Economic Development, LBE	Sustainability, LBE	<b>2015-16</b>
<b>Statutory Compliance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Advice provided by the Sustainability Service will help the Housing Enforcement Team to ensure that, as far as is reasonably practicable, all private rented properties in Enfield will be above EPC band E by 2018</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide advice and guidance to help landlords understand their obligations and to improve their properties.</li> </ul>	Housing Enforcement, LBE	Sustainability, LBE	<b>2015 - 2018</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support Housing Enforcement team to develop an enforcement strategy.</li> </ul>	Housing Enforcement, LBE	Sustainability, LBE	<b>2015 - 2018</b>

<b>Decent Homes Programme/ECO projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 15,000 tonnes of carbon saved</li> <li>Per resident: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 40-60% reduction in energy bills</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 6 Tower Blocks will be fitted with external wall insulation (funded by ECO) and new windows (funded by decent homes works).</li> </ul>	Enfield Council Housing	N/A	<b>2017</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Annual carbon saving of 4-8 tonnes per property</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A programme to install A rated windows in Council owned properties will be undertaken.</li> </ul>			<b>2017</b>
<b>Health and Housing Project</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Funding will be sourced to run the Health and Housing Project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The project will target vulnerable, fuel poor residents with cold-related illnesses. It will seek to improve the health of the participants by improving the energy efficiency of their homes.</li> <li>- The project will collect health and energy data from the recipients of the energy efficiency measures and will create an evaluation framework capable of quantifying the effect of the measures on the recipients' health.</li> </ul>	Enfield CCG; Sustainability, LBE; Public Health, LBE; HHASC, LBE	LB Barnet, LB Haringey, Westminster City Council, GLA, RE:NEW	<b>2017</b>

Please insert additional rows if needed

**Date to be reviewed:** 21/09/2016

Neil Isaac

APPROVAL BY THE RELEVANT ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - NAME Neil Isaac SIGNATURE.....

This form should be emailed to [joanne.stacey@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:joanne.stacey@enfield.gov.uk) and be appended to any decision report that follows.