

**HOME ENERGY CONSERVATION ACT 1995
EIGHTH PROGRESS REPORT (2004)
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2003 TO 31 MARCH 2004**



Please complete this form in full and return it and one copy to your Government Office **no later than 30 September 2004**. Before completing this form you should read the accompanying guidance.

Data Protection Act

In order to process this report we may need to disclose the information we receive from you to others including our authorised agents, other Central Government Departments and other public bodies. We may also keep your name and address on a list that will be used for future exercises on related topics.

Occasionally, we receive requests to provide various organisations and companies with a list of HECA contacts. No one will be given a copy unless we feel it would be in your interests. **However, if for any reason you do not wish your name and address to be included if and when the database is provided to others, please indicate this clearly.**

Pagination in this version of the form, designed for completion on a PC, differs from that of the printed form. The spaces should expand to accommodate the necessary information – but it would be appreciated if the completed form did not extend beyond a total of 8 pages. Please do not edit the existing text.

The name and details given here will be taken by Defra as the HECA “lead officer” contact

Name	Matthew Bird		
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1. Have there been any changes to the following elements of your authority’s Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) strategy in the period covered by this report?

Please summarise elements of the energy conservation report prepared in 1996 (your “HECA strategy”) in the first column of the table below, taking account of any amendments made to the strategy up to and including 31 March 2003. Changes made prior to this date will already have been recorded by Defra from information you have provided. However, if any changes have been made

between 1 April 2003 to 31 March 2004, please tick the relevant “Yes, changes” box(es) and enter the new figure(s) in the final column. If there have been no changes, please tick the “No change” boxes. Refinements to strategies may be necessary from time to time, but fundamental changes to the original strategy are not anticipated. Please explain any changes.

	HECA strategy up to 31 March '03	No change since 1 April '03	Yes, changes since 1 April '03	New figures following changes since 1 April '03
a) Overall energy efficiency improvement identified	31.2%			per cent
b) Number of years to implement the measures identified	10			Years
c) Total cost of implementation of all measures	230K			£ Millions
d) CO ₂ reduction per annum as a result of all the measures identified	150,000 tonnes			Tonnes per annum
e) Indicate the 1 April 1996 baseline energy use (in GJ) against which energy efficiency improvements are being measured	4,090,483Gj			GJ

Reasons for any changes identified above:	
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2. Are you monitoring changes in the energy efficiency of the housing stock in your area, in order to be able to report progress as required by HECA? YES NO

If you answered "Yes", please describe briefly:

- (a) the methodology used to monitor progress, listing the main data sources
- (b) how you are monitoring the success of activities designed to promote energy efficiency

If you answered "No", please give reasons.

Methodology used to monitor progress and success of information, advice, education and promotion activities

A Housing Condition Survey was published in July 2004 and carried out by Professional Partnership Services. We have also received detailed information from Enact Energy and Eaga as well as our own Environ software.

Consequently we have combined these sources to give an average SAP rating as we feel reliance on one source will not be an accurate means of SAPs across the district. Taking all these factors into consideration our average SAP rating across the district is 57. For social housing stock this rises to 64.

The Council also uses the Home Energy Advisor which is used to gather information on energy efficiency and also gives householders individual energy advice.

The Council monitors its own stock using the NHER Stockprofiler II software. This provides information on energy consumption, carbon dioxide savings and improvements in energy efficiency. The data is constantly updated and information is gathered annually from maintenance and works programmes. Information on the Council's own stock and the private sector have been provided through Warmfront information provided by EAGA.

We have purchased the Energy and Education database from Optima Ltd, which has been useful in a number of instances.

Information has also been gathered from our very successful CRISP scheme "Keep Warm in Winter", and the Heat Project. Information has also been gathered from these other sources:

- Energy Advice Centre
- Building Control (notices from Cavity Wall Installations)
- Warmfront from EAGA
- Fridgesavers
- Private Sector Grants (Renovation and HRA Grants)
- Tenants Participation Groups (Energy Advice)
- Housing Associations
- Insulation Firms
- Heating Installation Firms
- Solar Water Heating Firms
- Enact Energy (managing agents for the Heat Project)
- Schools data from various programmes (Energy Matters/ Schoolenergy)
- Health Authority Data
- Utility Companies
- Keep Warm in Winter Campaign from Eaga
- Council Departments e.g. handing out low energy lightbulbs.

The Council has worked to co-ordinate information and data reporting in a variety of ways for example by setting up an Energy Working Group which co-ordinates the work of all relevant departments.

We have also monitored the success of information through a number of other ways. This has included the use of questionnaires, energy advice centre information, and official statistics for providing information, advice, education and promotion. The Sustainability Officer gathers energy efficiency data on energy advice and the success of promotional work from all the sources above. We are also still gathering information through our website and through the Heat Project website. There are many more e-mail enquires being processed.

Information has also been gathered from EAGA on the number of households receiving home energy advice at the time of installation of energy efficiency measures under the Warmfront scheme and the CRISP scheme. The Council also uses the Home Energy Advisor which gives households precise energy efficiency information and shows where improvements can be made.

As HECA is 30% of the Sustainability Officer's job we have worked hard to adopt holistic approaches and link issues which would otherwise be tackled independently of each other. We are certain that this is the right approach and have built many important links with other stakeholders such as organisations, groups, councils, schools, LSPs and others.

3. It is helpful for Defra to be able to judge the extent to which the HECAMON software (Version 3, issued by Defra in April 1999 and updated in April 2001) is used each year. Therefore, please would you indicate whether or not you used the software when collecting and collating the data to enable you to complete this form?

Postal Telephone Both HECAMON not used

4. Please briefly describe in part a) all activities that are specifically designed to assist in the development and achievement of your HECA strategy. Include:
- what you are doing as an authority to deliver information, advice, education and promotion in relation to energy efficiency to all households in your area, and who is involved (this may be external partners, or staff from another Department)
 - joint activities with external partners, e.g. businesses or other local authorities
 - if possible, the financial contribution from partners in the 2003/04 financial year
 - confirmation if existing activities will continue

In part b) describe new activities you expect to **commence in the 2004/05 financial year.**

a) activities in 2003/04 financial year			
Activity	Who is involved?	Partners' contribution (£) in 2003/04	Will this continue into 2004/05?
<p>East Sussex Heat Project</p> <p>The project has continued to be very successful and has now become totally sustainable and operated in partnership with Enact Energy.</p> <p>As well as reduced price cavity wall and loft insulations, 100% grants are now offered.</p> <p>Solar thermal grants were offered by LDC as other authorities and Enact Energy dropped the solar component of the grant in the wake of the Clear Skies programme. A Renewable Grant Scheme will be set up in 2004.</p>	Energy Saving Trust	70K	Yes
	DEFRA		Yes
	EDF		
	Hecation Partners		
	Eastbourne BC Hastings BC Lewes DC Rother DC Wealden DC Brighton and Hove CC Enact Energy Lion Insulation Isotherm 2000 Miller Pattison Ltd Millfold Group Ltd		
<p>Keep Warm in Winter Capital Receipts Scheme. As part of our Affordable Warmth Strategy this scheme has continued to be very successful with high level promotion. Grants are given to those in fuel poverty not qualifying for Warmfront and who are over 60 and on a Council tax band A-D.</p>	Eaga Partnership/Lion Insulation/Isotherm 2000/ British Gas/EDF. Lewes DC.	60K	
<p>Warmfront Scheme</p> <p>The Warmfront scheme has continued to be promoted successfully in tackling priority groups on benefits and in fuel poverty. A range of promotions and initiatives has targeted those groups who are most in need of fuel poverty measures.</p>	Eaga Partnership	60K	Yes
<p>2 Green Power Education units have been bought which are loaned out to schools for use as education on renewable energy and as a pre-survey for renewable energy technologies.</p>	Wallands School/Plumpton Agricultural College/Southern Solar.		Yes
<p>Fuel Poverty Coffee Mornings – talk and advice on energy efficiency and fuel poverty is given to various targeted groups in an informal setting.</p>	Benefits Department/Sure Start/Age Concern/Citizens Advice Bureau		Yes

<p>Renewable Energy Roadshow – Consultation was carried out around the District on the LDC Draft Energy Policy, which includes specific actions on energy efficiency, renewable energy and CO2 reduction.</p>	<p>LDC/ Councillors/Various stakeholders from around the District/Installers.</p>		<p>Energy Policy is now passed.</p>
<p>Healthy Homes Partnership – Partnership with other authorities and PCT to train and support frontline workers.</p>	<p>Sussex and Wealden PCT/Eastbourne PCT/Eastbourne BC/Wealden DC/Enact Energy/Warmfront.</p>		<p>Yes.</p>
<p>East Sussex Heca Forum. The Forum meets regularly to discuss and share information with regard energy efficiency and renewable energy. In the last year a number of speakers have attended to talk to the Forum on a diverse range of matters.</p>	<p>All other authorities in East Sussex/Enact Energy/SEEEAC/Eaga.</p>		<p>Yes.</p>
<p>South East Regional Heca Forum.</p>	<p>South East Authorities.</p>		<p>Yes.</p>
<p>South East Climate Change Partnership. The Council is a member of the Partnership. It continues to support the work of the SECCP.</p>			<p>Yes.</p>
<p>Sustainability seminars for staff. Council Staff are regularly briefed on energy efficiency issues, renewable energy and climate change. They are also given low energy lightbulbs to become more energy efficient in the home.</p>	<p>All staff.</p>		<p>Yes</p>
<p>Environmental Steering Group Meetings. Our Corporate EMAS group.</p>	<p>Environmental 'monitors, from all departments.</p>		<p>Yes.</p>
<p>Talks to a number of community groups and schools including Environmental Review Board, Age Concern, Tideway School, Ringmer Community College, Lewes New School and others.</p>			<p>Yes.</p>
<p>Energy Efficiency Week. Local Authority Marketing Initiative.</p>			<p>Yes.</p>
<p>Sustainability Roadshows – Energy advice, information and promotions carried out at Farmers' markets and other events across the district.</p>	<p>'Guests' such as renewable installers/ECSC etc.</p>		<p>Yes</p>
<p>Sussex Green Register – Helped launch and co-ordinate the register which seeks to direct sustainable building practices across the County. Sustainability Officer is on the Steering Committee.</p>	<p>Brighton and Hove CC/Green Register.</p>		<p>Yes</p>
<p>Energy Working Group – Set up to co-ordinate the work of departments across LDC</p>	<p>All LDC departments.</p>		<p>Yes.</p>

and invite guest to pass on good practice, Energy Audits carried out of most council buildings. More audits to be carried out.	LDC/ECSC/Action Energy/Carbon Trust/Freeman Bisley.		Yes.
Renewable Energy training given to key staff, councillors and officers.	NEF/ LDC		No.
Environmental Champions covering areas of waste, water and energy in schools and households.	LDC/GAP/ESCC.		Yes.
Ringmer Community College were successful in their bid for PV which is now up and running.	LDC/ECSC/SE/Solutions/Green fund/DTI/Ringmer community College.		No.
Tideway School Wind Turbine – A successful feasibility study has been carried out and the governors have accepted the proposal for a wind turbine.	LDC/ECSC/Tideway School/IT Power.		Yes.
Wind Turbine – work has been carried out towards the feasibility of siting a wind turbine in Newhaven.	LDC/Wind Prospect.		Yes
CFIs are distributed at a number of sites around the district	LDC/Sites/Utilities.		Yes.
Promotion – Grants have been advertised and articles have been written for railway billboard, NHS magazine, Council newsletter and Making Things Happen (Sustainability Newsletter)	LDC/Sustainability team/NHS/Media		Yes.
Work through Sustainability Unit e.g. Information on LA21 website and through sustainability events such as the Seaford Funday.	LDC/Sustainability team/volunteers.		Yes.
Sustainability Info Points – Noticeboards placed through out Lewes district at key sites with info about energy grants etc.	LDC/Sustainability team/volunteers.		Yes.

b) activities planned in 2004/05 and not mentioned in a) above			
Activity	Who is involved?	Partners' contribution (£) in 2004/05	Will this continue into 2005/06?
'Lewes Renewables' – Renewable grant scheme offering a range of grants for a variety of renewables to domestic households.	LDC/Enact Energy		Yes
Removing the Barriers to Renewable Energy in Planning.	LDC/ECSC/Wealden DC/EST		No.
Parish Biomass Project	LDC/Wood Energy/ Individual Champions/ Clear skies		Yes.
Alternatives to Solid wall insulation.	Other departments.		Yes.
Climate Change Strategy – We have signed up to the Nottingham Declaration and continue to be an Authority who regards climate change as the most serious issues we face. Setting up East Sussex Climate Change Forum.	LDC – all departments/DEFRA/Brighton and Hove CC/Hastings BC.		Yes.
Signing to a green tariff.	LDC/laser		Yes.
Partnership with Simply Switch – organisation providing advice on switching tariffs.	Simply Switch.		Yes.
Working with Global Action Plan on a schools renewable project creating a District-wide solar car championship.	LDC/GAP/ESCC/Schools.		Yes.
Extending Healthy Homes Partnership.	LDC/Wealden DC/Eastbourne BC/PCTs/Warmfront/Enact Energy.		Yes.
Low Energy Building Design.	LDC/ECSC/Wealden DC/Pilkington Energy Efficiency Trust.		Yes.
Fuel Poverty Event	LDC/Energycare Network/ Newhaven Strategic Partnership.		No.
Sustainable Communities Fair – After a successful pilot we are intending to hold a 2-day fair in 2005. Energy was one of the themed events and was a fun way of engaging people in renewable energy, climate change, energy efficiency and fuel poverty issues.	LDC/Common Cause/RORE/East Sussex Food and Health Partnership.		Yes.

5. Please briefly describe below how you are taking forward a fuel poverty /affordable warmth strategy and advise on successes to date, key partner and anticipated future developments,

with a particular emphasis on private sector housing stock. If you do not have a fuel poverty/affordable warmth strategy, please say so below.

In June 2000, Lewes District Council's Affordable Warmth Report was made. This set out our policy on fuel poverty and action we intended to take to eliminate fuel poverty in the Lewes area.

The Council has been successful in identifying some key areas of need in terms of affordable warmth in the District. In particular the coastal strip from Newhaven to Peacehaven and the Ouse Valley area were seen as places to target resources and so help to alleviate fuel poverty.

However it was also recognised that other areas such as Lewes and Seaford have high concentrations of households over the age of 60 who may be at risk from fuel poverty. Also being a rural area, there may be households at risk of fuel poverty too in 'hard to treat' homes.

The number of Warmfront Grants taken up over the year has decreased slightly to 225. We feel that this has been due in part to the success of other schemes offering 100% grants for people on benefits. Where there has been a choice of schemes we have encouraged householders to hold the 'Warmfront grant in 'reserve' because of their 'one bite of the cherry' approach. We have put a lot of effort into promotion and information to local householders in fuel poverty. The measures installed are summarised below:

- 98 Cavity walls were insulated
- 114 Lofts were insulated
- 224 CFL's distributed
- 22 replacement boilers
- 122 draughtproofing measures
- 23 heating repairs
- 33 hot water tank jackets
- 3 gas CH systems

Fuel Poverty Activity – Actions undertaken April 2003 –March 2004

We have continued to develop partnerships with other local organisations. This has included Age Concern, the local Staying Put Agency, Anchor Trust, the Primary Care Trust and Groups, the Health Promotions Unit, the Health Authority and Social Services, Sure Start, The Citizens Advice Bureau, Help the Aged.

Specific projects have included the Keep Warm in Winter campaign with EAGA and some of the local Utility companies. This was a Capital Receipts Scheme Initiative Partnership (CRISP). We spent £100,000 on energy efficiency works for those householders who are over 60 and on a Council Tax Band between A and D.

The scheme was very good at targeting fuel poor households in the Lewes area.

The Housing Strategy document contains the main objectives, policies and programmes for tackling housing issues. The strategy stresses the importance of energy efficiency and in particular the importance of taking action to eradicate fuel poverty. Identifying fuel poor households will be an increasing part of the fuel poverty work that we have undertaken.

The provision of renovation, home repair assistance and disabled facilities grants allow the Council to support work in the private sector to improve heating and insulation as well as dealing with unfit. This work carries on.

The East Sussex Heca Forum has been working with the Primary Care Trusts/ Groups to develop co-ordinated plans for training health care professionals and community groups in fuel poverty alleviation.

We are now supplying information on energy grants to local pharmacies and to doctor's surgeries. This has been made possible by working closely with the Primary Care Trusts. We took part in a pilot project inserting grant information in prescriptions. This project is being modified and expanded for use next year.

We continue to upgrade our own Council properties to a high energy efficiency standard. Nearly all properties have high standards of insulation and there is now a programme of replacing boilers with energy efficient condensing boilers. 128 have been installed in the last year.

We have also been providing information to tenants on other energy efficient grants and information to improve their well being. We have also given out low energy lightbulbs to tenants, those in sheltered housing and housing associations. We have carried out sustainability training for some housing association staff.

The Council continues to refer eligible applicants for the Warmfront and Warmfront Plus grants to EAGA. We are concerned at the length of time for some referrals to be answered and measures carried out. Concern is also expressed at the nature of some of the measures carried out.

The Sustainability Officer has carried out numerous talks over the course of the year to a wide variety of audiences such as schools, single mothers and older people. As well as issues of fuel poverty and energy efficiency we have stressed the importance of climate change awareness and ways of mitigation and adaptation. Where possible we have tried to double up with other services thereby presenting a holistic approach in mostly informal settings.

We continue to promote the Fridgesavers scheme widely in the community.

We have several new projects that we hope to embark upon this year. They include:

- **Carrying forward the work of the Healthy Homes Partnership.**
- **Continuing with the Keep Warm in Winter Campaign.**
- **Organising a Fuel Poverty Event with the Energycare Network**
- **Looking closely the problems of solid wall insulation and any other viable alternatives.**
- **Working with parish councillors on a community-heating project in an area off the gas network.**
- **Working with Npower promoting their Staywarm campaign.**
- **Partnership with Simply Switch promoting an energy tariff switching service.**
- **Promoting the use of renewable energy where possible and insulation measures are not feasible.**
- **Trialling the use of mini-wind turbines on social housing in partnership with Eaga.**

6. Please indicate below, for the period 1 April 2003 to 31 March 2004, the percentage improvement in energy efficiency recorded for each of the four housing sectors shown. In each case, please also indicate the resulting

annual reduction in CO₂ emissions and the costs involved. If you do not have the information available by sector, please ensure that you provide overall totals for each column in the table below.

Sector of housing	% improvement in energy efficiency achieved in 2003/04	Reduction in CO ₂ emissions 2003/04 (tonnes)	Cost of the measures in 2003/04	
			Cost to your authority £ millions	Overall cost £ millions
Total for each sector April 2003 to March 2004:				
Owner/Occupied				
Local Authority				
Private Rented				
Housing Associations				
OVERALL TOTAL FOR HOUSING, APRIL 2003 TO MARCH 2004				
	3.4	25'463	0.60	8.10

Any qualifying comments on the figures should be included here:

7. Please indicate at (a) the annual improvement reported in each of the previous progress report periods and, at b) the overall progress recorded up to 31 March 2004. Please add any supplementary information below.

Please note that the figure entered at (b) will NOT be a sum of the figures entered at (a). Please see paragraph 21 of the accompanying guidance.

(a1) Progress reported between 1 April 1996 and 30 June 1997 (1 st progress report)	1.2 %
(a2) Progress reported between 1 April 1997 and 31 March 1998 (2 nd progress report)	1.5 %
(a3) Progress reported between 1 April 1998 and 31 March 1999 (3 rd progress report)	1.9 %
(a4) Progress reported between 1 April 1999 and 31 March 2000 (4 th progress report)	2.3 %
(a5) Progress reported between 1 April 2000 and 31 March 2001 (5 th progress report)	2.5 %
(a6) Progress reported between 1 April 2001 and 31 March 2002 (6 th progress report)	2.9 %
(a7) Progress reported between 1 April 2002 and 31 March 2003 (7 th progress report)	3.2 %
(a8) Progress reported between 1 April 2003 and 31 March 2004 (this progress report)	3.4 %
(b) Overall improvement in energy efficiency from 1 April 1996 to 31 March 2004	18 %

Any qualifying comments or supplementary information should be included here:
 We still intend to reach our 30% target within the allotted timescale. In order to achieve this we recognise that greater resources are needed in terms of finance, co-ordination and partnership working. We continue to monitor our progress as we proceed by putting in place innovative and rigorous mechanisms for reporting.

We still believe that for better reporting and monitoring there needs to be more resources put into getting the information required. At the present time the reporting process is flawed due to the fact that all local authorities report their annual progress in different ways using different computer systems and methodologies. There is a problem in getting accurate information for large housing stocks. Taking sample surveys of housing stock can lead to misrepresentation of the true picture.

We believe that there needs to be some standardisation of the reporting system, which will help to more accurately reflect the true nature of the improvements in energy efficiency in the housing stock.

As a forward looking Council we would like to make the following general comments about the Home Energy Conservation Act:

- We are getting some information from some Utility Companies. It would be useful to have it as a statutory requirement for Utility companies to report vital information on energy to Local Authorities.
- We welcome the continuation of EEC but in order for it to be truly effective new schemes have to be imaginative and focus on particular areas e.g. hard to treat homes.
- We welcome any changes to the Planning system that would make renewable energy more widespread. We are satisfied with PPS22 and hope that planning authorities will be encouraged to use the guidance to full effect.
- We welcomed the new Energy White Paper and its general direction for policy. We would very much have liked the Government to set firm targets instead of aspirational targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. We have placed our Energy Policy along similar lines. However we feel that mixed approaches such as for example an emphasis on Climate Change and an increase in airport expansion are confusing.
- We welcome the changes to Part L and the forth coming European Energy Performance in Buildings Directive.
- Finally we would ask that close attention be paid to the results of the recent HECA Officers consultation.

Before returning this form to your Government Office it must be authorised by the Chief Executive of your authority.

I confirm that I have seen and agreed this report of the progress made by this authority to implement its energy efficiency report as required under the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995.

Signature, Chief Executive

Name

Authority

date