

**HOME ENERGY CONSERVATION ACT 1995
ELEVENTH PROGRESS REPORT (2007)
FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2006 TO 31 MARCH 2007**



Please complete this form in full and submit it **no later than 30 November 2007**. For details of where to return it please see the covering letter. Before completing this form you should read the accompanying guidance.

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. Completing this section indicates that you have read the section of the accompanying guidance headed "Data Protection Act 1998 - Fair Processing Notice" (paragraphs 6-10), which gives details of Defra's processing of the data that you have provided on this form.

Name	LINDA GOLIGHTLY		
Job Title/Department (as appropriate)	Acting Environmental Health Services Manager		
Authority	Dartford Borough Council		
Address	Civic Centre		
	Home Gardens		
	Dartford, Kent	Post Code	DA1 1DR
Telephone	01322 343346	Fax	01322 343963
E-mail	linda.golightly@dartford.gov.uk		Date

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 2006. 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 2006 to 31 March 2007, 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 '06	No change since 1 April '06	Yes, changes since 1 April '06	New figures following changes since 1 April '06
a) Overall energy efficiency improvement identified	26.9			per cent
b) Number of years to implement the measures identified	11			Years
c) Total cost of implementation of all measures	135.5 million			£ Millions
d) CO2 reduction per annum as a result of all the measures identified	29,150			Tonnes per annum
e) Indicate the 1 April 1996 baseline energy use (in GJ) against which energy efficiency improvements are being measured	3142880			GJ

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e) Indicate the 1 April 1996 baseline energy use (in GJ) against which energy efficiency improvements are being measured	3142880			GJ

Reasons for any changes identified above:
 It would be helpful if you could provide details of how development of your strategy has been taken forward.

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 self completion energy questionnaire was distributed to approx 25% of properties in the Borough, using the electoral registration mailing in August 2006. In total 10921 surveys were distributed, and a response rate of 25.46% was achieved, thereby providing a return of 2780 surveys.

The survey asked householders about the heating and insulation currently in their property, as well as what measures they had installed in the previous twelve months. The returned surveys were processed using an optical scanner, and a data file was created in order to model the stock.

The demographic make-up of the survey returns, in terms of tenancy type and age of head of household, was then compared to the true picture in the borough using the census information. This allowed us to apply a weighting to each survey, which could be used in the calculations that followed, thus allowing the gathered surveys to more accurately represent the Borough.

Using NHER's AutoEvaluator, we calculated the current energy use and SAP based carbon dioxide emissions for each property, and summed the results to provide an overall figure for each tenure type in the Borough.

We then used the responses to the questions regarding what measures householders had installed in the previous twelve months to create a data file representing what the stock was twelve months ago. Again, we calculated the energy use and SAP based carbon dioxide emissions for each property in the data file using NHER AutoEvaluator, and summed the results to provide an overall figure for each tenure type in the Borough.

By comparing the first set of results against the second, we could then calculate the improvement over the twelve month period. Finally, we were also able to use the responses to the questions regarding what measures householders had installed in the previous months to calculate the cost of measures.

The data set used in carrying out these calculations was comprised only of the surveys in which all questions concerning measures installed over the previous twelve months were answered, and excluded nonsensical responses.

As per DEFRA guidance in previous years, an additional 0.3% has been added to the energy efficiency improvement figure for each tenure type for behavioural changes

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 [DJ] Telephone [DJ] Both [DJ] HECAMON not used [] []

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4. Please briefly describe in part a) all activities that are specifically designed to assist in the development and achievement of your HECA strategy. For both parts a) and b) it would be helpful if you could include details of how these activities address the following points:

- Obtaining corporate commitment/ Integration of strategy with other council policies
- Any barriers and how these have been addressed
- Information, advice, education and promotion activities/ Making grants and loans
- What linkages you have with energy efficiency schemes such as Energy
- Efficiency Commitment and Warm Front
- New and innovative approaches

In part b) describe new activities you expect to **commence in the 2007/08 financial year.**

a) activities in 2006/07 financial year			
Activity	Who is involved?	Partners' contribution (£) in 2006/07	Will this continue into 2007/08?
1. Updated energy advice pages on the Council website and issued press releases to promote energy efficiency	Environmental Promotions Officer, Webmaster		Yes
2. Through a Carbon Trust consultant we have monitored and reviewed energy use in 3 Council sites, which has resulted in change in practices on the sites	Carbon Trust, Environmental Promotions Officer		Yes
3. Member of Kent Energy Efficiency Partnership (KEEP) an active consortium of 13 Kent Local Authorities and Kent Energy Centre (KEC) organising events throughout the year	All Kent LA's in partnership with KEC	from HECA funds	Yes
4. Working with Kent Energy Centre to run promotional activities, negotiate discounts and manage schemes and offer free help and advice to the public on energy saving grants	Kent Energy Centre	from HECA funds	Yes
5. Displays and advice during Energy Saving Week 2006 at Dartford Farmers Market, Dartford Market and B and Q (Dartford) store. This included a joint promotion with Bexley and Greenwich Councils and a local radio station. In total 300 HEC's were completed relating to Dartford residents. Energy Efficiency radio adverts and competitions took place throughout the week.	Environmental Promotions Officer, LB of Bexley, LB of Greenwich, Time FM Radio, Powegen/EON	from HECA funds, EON	Yes
6. 2 day promotions event on energy efficiency at the Dartford Show resulted in 150 HEC's being completed	Environmental Promotions Officer, Kent Energy Centre' Powergen/EON	from HECA funds, EON	No
7. Kent Energy Centre provided 3 talks on behalf of the Council - 2 talks were given to Carers Kent in Dartford and 1 talk to Swanscombe Age Concern	Kent Energy Centre	from HECA funds	No
8. Kent Action to Save Heat (KASH) Scheme offers discount of loft insulation, cavity wall and solid wall insulation, heating and condensation. During 2006/2007 Kent Energy Centre (who operate the scheme) received between April and December 06, 267 phone calls from Dartford residents resulting in: 6 supply only boilers; 1 cavity wall installation; 1 replacement condensing boiler; 1 replacement non condensing boiler; and supplied 6 boilers. The CO2 savings 14.054 tonnes; fuel bill£ saved £989; 21 Warm Front Grants and 316 HEC received	all Kent LA's in partnership with Kent Energy Centre	LA's fund	Yes
9. Two primary schools in the Borough took	Kent Energy Centre	from HECA funds	No

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<p>part in the Schools Energy Project. This involved: an assembly introducing pupils to energy efficiency/renewable technologies. A poster competition to design a poster with an energy efficiency theme. Pupils also took home School HEC's accompanied by a letter from the school detailing the project. Total carbon saved by the HEC's returned was calculated at 55.47 tonnes carbon. The School also received a copy of a home energy resource park Energy Matters for teachers aimed a Key Stage 2 and 3</p> <p>10. The Dartford Mini Renewables Initiatives/Green Energy Tariffs project was undertaken to encourage and facilitate the take up of domestic renewable energy systems and energy efficiency measures. The project included: data analysis to determine target area; design of the Dartford Renewables leaflet, informing community groups/Councillors, mailing to 1000 Dartford residents and follow up calls to interested residents.</p> <p>11. Dartford provided the Kent in Focus project with data that described the condition and thermal performance of a property - this information was provided to Kent Energy Centre. As a result Kent Energy Centre were able to provide the Council with an overview showing a range of energy issues including fuel poverty, renewables etc., The compilation of this information highlighted the need for the Council to collect all its energy efficiency related data into one mapping tool</p> <p>12. A Service Level Agreement was agreed between Kent Energy Centre and Dartford Borough Council to ensure greater partnership working around press and media related issues. This ran for the period 1/4/06 - 31/3/07. This was highlighted within the Dartford Sustainable Home Energy Strategy and Action Plan as an action</p> <p>13. The Kent Did you Know project ran in conjunction with all 13 Kent LA's and it focused on promoting cavity wall insulation by educating residents about what cavity walls are, how to identify them and how they can be filled.</p> <p>14. The Energy Housepoints project to private rented tenants was a Kent wide project promoting energy efficiency to private sectors landlords and to encourage them to invest in measures. The overall Kent wide project targets are: 50 condensing boilers, 170 loft installations, 160 cavity wall installations. The 2 year programme finished at the end of April 2007.</p> <p>15. Dartford Borough Council were successful in their application to be involved in the pilot project with B an Q offered by Climate Reach and Information Network (COIN). Several sessions to discuss the project took place. Unfortunately the person from COIN headin the</p>	<p>Kent Energy Centre</p> <p>Environmental Promotions Officer, Kent Energy Centre, GOSE</p> <p>Communications Team, Kent Energy Centre</p> <p>Environmental Promotions Officer, Creative Environmental Networks, EST</p> <p>Private Sector Housing, Creative Environmental Networks, EST</p> <p>Environmental Promotions Officer, COIN, Band Q</p>	<p>from HECA funds</p> <p>GOSE</p> <p>Innovation funding</p> <p>Innovation funding</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>
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<p>project has been very seriously ill and as a result the project did not take place in October 2006. The project was reliant on funding which COIN struggled to obtain from within their limited staffing resources</p> <p>16. A training session was offered to Councillors in January 2007 which covered energy related legislation, renewable energy and an update on the progress made with the Dartford Sustainable Home Energy Strategy and Action Plan</p> <p>17. During the Summer 06 Dartford Borough Council undertook the EAGA Warm Front 'Get it While it's Hot' benefits mailshot. A total of referrals over the month of August to December 2006 was 185 as a result of this specific mailing</p> <p>18. Between 1 April 06 and 31 March 07, 306 Dartford properties have had work fully completed through EAGA Warm Front by registered installers. Energy efficiency measures fitted were as follows: Boiler replacement - gas 87; Boiler replacement LPG 2; Cavity Wall Insulation 45; CFL 306; Draughtproofing 48; electric storage heating 4; gas central heating 23; heating repairs 3; loft insulation 98; material supply 119; new gas supply 2; tank jackets 6; Some households had multiple measures, resulting in double counting. The measures costs including VAT was £259250.58 and consisted of 282 owner occupied and 24 private rented properties.</p> <p>19. Dartford Borough Council Cabinet agreed in August 2007 to operate and promote the British Gas Council Tax Rebate Scheme to able to pay residents for cavity wall and loft insulation. The scheme was promoted via the annual HECA data gathering exercise, leaflets distributed and through the Council Tax booklets. Between the period 1 September 06 and 31 March 07, 17 cavity walls and 8 lofts were insulated as a result of this scheme.</p> <p>20. As a result of the HECA data gathering exercise undertaken in August 06 a number a e.mail addresses were collected to enable a database of interested people in relation to energy efficiency information to specifically target</p> <p>21. All data returned from the August 06 HECA data gathering was compiled onto a small database. This highlighted over 800 people interested in receiving renewable energy data. A separate mail shot was undertaken targeting these households with relevant information.</p> <p>22. The Council signed a contract in November 06 with British Gas to provide their Here to HELP scheme within the council housing stock. This scheme will provide SAP ratings for properties and ensure that necessary cavity wall and loft insulation works are undertaken. In addition residents are offered benefits assessments. Over 4000</p>	<p>Environmental Promotions Officer, Property Information, Kent Energy Centre</p> <p>Environmental Promotions Officer, Benefits Team, EAGA Warm Front</p> <p>Environmental Promotions Officer, EAGA Warm Front</p> <p>Environmental Promotions Officer, Finance Team, British Gas</p> <p>Environmental Promotions Officer</p> <p>Environmental Promotions Officer</p> <p>Environmental Promotions Officer, Housing, British Gas</p>	<p></p> <p>EAGA</p> <p>EAGA</p> <p>British Gas HECA funds</p> <p>HECA funds</p> <p>British Gas</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>
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<p>properties will be assessed as part of this project which should be completed by 31 March 08. This is an action highlighted within the Dartford Sustainable Home Energy Strategy and Action Plan .</p> <p>23. The Council made a successful bid to National Energy Action (NEA) to work in partnership to deliver our affordable warmth strategy. The Council, through its annual HECA survey has been able to identify a number of homes with low SAP ratings. NEA offered up to 7 days of officer time to support this project. An agreed survey was sent to over 800 properties within the Borough with SAP ratings below 30. A variety of options including referrals to EAGA Warm Front, British Gas Schemes, Pensions and Benefits Team are in place which will be implemented once the returned survey forms are analysed.</p> <p>24. A mapping tool has been developed by the Council which uses individual property ID, linking cavity wall and loft insulation data, HECs and building control data. This has been used to build a Boroughwide picture of the properties in relation to energy efficiency. This tool will be used to target specific properties in the future.</p> <p>25. Working with "Saving Energy Partnership" to promote a wide range of energy saving and eco friendly products at a 10% discount for Dartford residents. This is via a link from the Dartford Council website to the Saving Energy Partnership website www.savingenergy.org.uk</p> <p>26. A staff drop in session was held during Energy Saving Week 06 to raise awareness of staff around renewable energy both in the home and the workplace. This included demonstrations of different renewable energy products, current legislation and grants available around energy/renewable energy. Home Energy Check forms were also supplied. Staff also made suggestions for use of renewable energy within their services</p>	<p>Environmental Promotions Officer, National Energy Action, Powergen, EAGA, British Gas, Pensions Service, Benefits Team</p> <p>Environmental Promotions Officer, Property Information, Building Control</p> <p>Environmental Promotions Officer, Webmaster, Saving Energy Partnership</p>	<p>Powergen</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>
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b) activities planned in 2007/08 and not mentioned in a) above			
Activity	Who is involved?	Partners' contribution (£) in 2007/08	Will this continue into 2008/09?
1. A review of progress made with the Dartford Sustainable Home Energy Strategy and Action Plan will be undertaken and reported to Councillors	Environmental Promotions Officer		Yes
2. It is hoped to undertake a Warm Front Grant specific Mailshot on a regular annual basis and monitor take up following this	Environmental Promotions Officer, Benefits Team, EAGA Warm Front		Yes
3. The availability of low energy lightbulbs will be actively promoted within the various teams within the Council i.e. housing and benefits	Environmental Promotions Officer and Council Services		Yes
4. Through the use of the Council's mapping tool it is proposed that the HECA annual survey will be targeted at properties in the relevant wards where it is believed that the property has a SAP rating below 50 or a property where we have not received energy efficiency data from in previous activities	Environmental Promotions Officer, Property Information		Yes
5. It is proposed to raise the profile of renewable energy activities within the Borough	Environmental Promotions Officer, Kent Energy Centre, National Energy Foundation		Yes
6. Work is being undertaken relating to the Borough's Carbon footprint, which will include energy efficiency of domestic housing. Work has continued in partnership with the Carbon Trust to monitor and reduce energy consumption within the Council's own buildings	Environmental Promotions Officer		Yes
7. Planning Policy are working towards levels of sustainability within new developments which are proposed to be in line with high levels of the Government's Code for Sustainable Homes	Planning Policy		Yes
8. The Council is currently working with 6 other Kent Local Authorities through the South East Regional Housing Board to produce a private sector renewable programme bid. Energy efficiency measures, links with Carbon Emissions Reduction Target (CERT), Warm Front programmes and renewables grants, top up renewal grants and hard to heat homes are part of the proposed bid.	South East Regional Housing Board		Yes
9. In partnership with KEEP and EDF, CEN submitted a bid for CEEF funding during August. The bid was successful and we have been awarded £64,300 by Defra to set-up and implement Coldbusters Home Visitors. This grant has also levered in £62,000 from EDF and £80,000 from Local Authorities. Coldbusters Home Visitors is a holistic assistance programme that will target hard-to-reach, vulnerable groups with structured, impartial assistance delivered in homes to improve individuals' quality of life and to reduce carbon emissions. The programme aims to reduce carbon emissions, via energy efficiency measures and education, and to enhance economic self-sufficiency and social well-being	All Kent LA's, EDF Energy, Creative Environmental Networks.		Yes

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by tackling key factors contributing to fuel poverty. The Defra and EDF money will be used to provided a baseline level of visiting for all 13 Authorities. This equates to approximately 70 home visits. Dartford Borough Council has provided in kind funding for the scheme.

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5a. Does your authority have an affordable warmth/fuel poverty strategy?

YES

NO [\$]

5b. If you answered 'no' to question 5a, do you have plans to develop an affordable warmth/fuel poverty strategy?

YES [\$]

NO [\$]

5c. If you answered 'yes' to question 5a or 5b, please briefly describe below how you are taking forward or planning to take forward a fuel poverty/affordable warmth strategy and advise on successes to date, key partners and anticipated future developments, with a particular emphasis on private sector housing stock.

An Action Plan to take forward the Sustainable Home Energy Strategy 2005 - 2008 has been developed through workshops with officers, considered by Scrutiny Committee and discussion at Cabinet. This was followed by consultation with local organisations. The Strategy and Action Plan was agreed by the General Assembly of the Council in June 2006. The Action Plan contains a variety of activities covering:

- energy efficiency for private households
- energy efficiency for private landlords
- energy efficiency for Dartford borough tenants
- affordable warmth
- education
- publicity and promotion
- renewable energy
- strategic management

Activities including the Council Tax Rebate Scheme, Energy Efficiency in Council Housing stock and targeting properties with low SAP ratings have been introduced as a result of the Action Plan.

The Action Plan is monitored annually and progress recorded and reported to the Council's Management Team.

In Addition the council is a partner in the Kent Health and Affordable Warmth Strategy (KHAWS). The Kent Health and Affordable Warmth Strategy (second edition) sets out a series of objectives designed with the ultimate aim of helping the fuel poor in Kent move into affordable warmth in line with the aims set out in the Government's 2001 Fuel Poverty Strategy

5a. Does your authority have an affordable warmth/fuel poverty strategy?

YES

NO [\$]

5b. If you answered 'no' to question 5a, do you have plans to develop an affordable warmth/fuel poverty strategy?

YES [\$]

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5c. If you answered 'yes' to question 5a or 5b, please briefly describe below how you are taking forward or planning to take forward a fuel poverty/affordable warmth strategy and advise on successes to date, key partners and anticipated future developments, with a particular emphasis on private sector housing stock.

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6. Please indicate below, for the period 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007, 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 2006/07	Reduction in CO2 emissions 2006/07 (tonnes)	Cost of the measures in 2006/07	
			Cost to your authority £ millions	Overall cost £ millions
Total for each sector April 2006 to March 2007:				
Owner/Occupied	3.0%	4207		9.3
Local Authority	1.2%	148		1.1
Private Rented	1.9%	254		0.8
Housing Associations	1.2%	42		0.3
OVERALL TOTAL FOR HOUSING, APRIL 2006 TO MARCH 2007				
	2.6%	4651		11.5

Any qualifying comments on the figures should be included here:

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OVERALL TOTAL FOR HOUSING, APRIL 2006 TO MARCH 2007				
	2.6%	4651		11.5

Any qualifying comments on the figures should be included here:

7. Please indicate at (a) the annual percentage improvement (i.e. the reduction in consumption in GJ based on standard occupancy reported in each of the previous progress report periods and, at b) the overall progress recorded up to 31 March 2007. 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 26 of the accompanying guidance.

(a1) Progress reported between 1 April 1996 and 30 June 1997 (1 st progress report)	n/a %
(a2) Progress reported between 1 April 1997 and 31 March 1998 (2 nd progress report)	n/a %
(a3) Progress reported between 1 April 1998 and 31 March 1999 (3 rd progress report)	n/a %
(a4) Progress reported between 1 April 1999 and 31 March 2000 (4 th progress report)	1.31 %
(a5) Progress reported between 1 April 2000 and 31 March 2001 (5 th progress report)	2.69 %
(a6) Progress reported between 1 April 2001 and 31 March 2002 (6 th progress report)	1.6 %
(a7) Progress reported between 1 April 2002 and 31 March 2003 (7 th progress report)	1.2 %
(a8) Progress reported between 1 April 2003 and 31 March 2004 (8 th progress report)	1.5 %
(a9) Progress reported between 1 April 2004 and 31 March 2005 (9 th progress report)	1.9 %
(a10) Progress reported between 1 April 2005 and 31 March 2006 (10 th progress report)	2.7 %
(a11) Progress reported between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007 (this progress report)	2.6 %
(b) Overall improvement in energy efficiency from 1 April 1996 to 31 March 2007	20.22 %

Any qualifying comments or supplementary information should be included here:
 year 1 - 3 7.27% figure used as baseline figure

7. Please indicate at (a) the annual percentage improvement (i.e. the reduction in consumption in GJ based on standard occupancy reported in each of the previous progress report periods and, at b) the overall progress recorded up to 31 March 2007. Please add any supplementary information below.

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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

Graham Harris

Authority

Dartford Borough Council


!date

15/11 /a+

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