



**Arun District Council**

**Energy Efficiency and Fuel Poverty Strategy**

**2020-2025**

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# **“The economy is a wholly owned subsidiary of the environment, not the reverse.” Herman E. Daly**

## **Executive Summary**

The current trend is for energy usage to rise, not fall, so tackling this trend is a challenge which this strategy aims to address. Arun District Council is investing in the future and putting energy efficiency and support for those in fuel poverty at the heart of its decisions. The Council has a strategic target of preparing Arun’s response to the Environment and Climate Emergency.

The UK Parliament declared a climate emergency on the 1st May 2019 and has committed to some very ambitious national carbon reduction targets as part of global commitments to climate change. The UK also has some of the oldest housing stock in the developed world and most of these buildings will still be here in the next 50 years; it is crucial that the energy efficiency and carbon emissions of these homes is tackled if the UK is to meet and sustain its carbon reduction and fuel poverty targets.

Fuel poverty is an important issue and can have several serious negative effects on health and well-being. Whether the situation occurs in a small or large home, energy efficiency has a clear role to play in assisting these households.

The Government introduced a statutory fuel poverty target for England<sup>1</sup> in December 2014. The target is to ensure that by 2030 as many fuel poor homes as reasonably practicable achieve a minimum energy efficiency rating Band C<sup>2,3</sup>. To support the implementation of this target, the Government published ‘Cutting the cost of keeping warm: a fuel poverty strategy for England’<sup>4</sup>, in March 2015. The strategy also set out interim milestones to lift as many fuel poor homes in England as is reasonably practicable to Band E by 2020; and Band D by 2025, alongside a strategic approach to developing policy to make progress towards these targets. Arun district has an average EPC rating for domestic properties of D which is the national average and is working hard to raise this and support people living in fuel poverty. Recently the Government has also released a consultation on the Fuel Poverty Strategy for England 2019 showing it is a constantly evolving topic.

The poverty line (income poverty) is defined as an equalized disposable income of less than 60% of the national median<sup>5</sup>. Fuel poverty is defined using the Low Income High Cost indicator of fuel poverty.

This finds a household to be fuel poor if it:

- has an income below the poverty line (including if meeting its required energy bill would push it below the poverty line); and
- has higher than typical energy costs

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) latest statistics for 2017 revealed that 6,127(8.6%) households in Arun district are defined to be living in fuel poverty. In West Sussex 8.2% of households are living in fuel poverty.

The statistics look at the fuel poverty gap between the regions. Fuel poverty gap is the difference between a household's average bill and what their bill would need to be for them to no longer be fuel poor. On average the fuel poverty gap in the UK is £326. The South East is the highest in England at £449. In the period 2011- 2017 there has been a 0.4% increase in fuel-poor households in the Arun district, whereas nationally there has been no increase. This data highlights the fact that there is a disturbing trend within the Arun district which needs to be addressed. This strategy is vital to set out how we are supporting these residents and the measures we plan to implement to support them further.

Local authorities play a key role in contributing to the UK's ambitious national carbon reduction targets, reducing fuel poverty and improving energy efficiency of residential accommodation in their areas. Arun District Council has regularly produced the required Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) reports. The last was submitted and published on the website in May 2019. This Energy Efficiency and Fuel Poverty Strategy 2020-2025 will address more specific local concerns and will greatly expand on measures included in the Council's HECA report.

Recognising that energy efficiency actions can have multiple benefits for the local area; environmentally, socially and economically, this strategy explains the local impact and extent of fuel poverty across the district and identifies the opportunities for energy efficiency action in the area. This includes details of local work streams and programmes already in place which are addressing these issues such as the Arun Wellbeing Home Energy Visitor service, the Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS), Decent Homes and the Safe and Warm Home Grant scheme.

This strategy is an updated version of the 2014-19 strategy with updated figures, legislation and projects. The main differences are in the inclusion of Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) legislation and how we are working to implement this and the increased awareness of Climate Change and greenhouse gas emission targets.

In addition to the annual action plan which describes future activities and ambitions for the area, the appendices also include current and completed projects, fuel poverty data for the district and a glossary of energy terms.

The action plan for the strategy will be reviewed annually and updated against previously set targets and a revised action plan produced for the following year. However, a detailed review of the strategy itself will take place in 2024 with implementation from 2025.

1 <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/fuel-poverty-strategy-for-england>

2 *Banding relates to the Fuel Poverty Energy Efficiency Rating (FPEER)*

3 *Household energy efficiency ratings are banded from G (lowest) to A (highest).*

4 [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/408644/cutting\\_the\\_cost\\_of\\_keeping\\_warm.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/408644/cutting_the_cost_of_keeping_warm.pdf)

5 <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/personalandhouseholdfinances/incomeandwealth/articles/persistentpovertyintheukandeu/2015>

## 1. Introduction & Background

This document sets out Arun District Council's strategy in relation to both energy efficiency and fuel poverty for the period 2020-2025. The strategy sets out the overall task that is currently being faced, beginning with a brief overview why energy efficiency and fuel poverty have become such important issues in modern times and how the Arun district compares to the rest of the UK. The strategy highlights the key areas of work where the Council is targeting energy efficiency and fuel poverty and future opportunities. The strategy elaborates on the Council's HECA report and includes a detailed, annually updated action plan of activities and campaigns.

### 1.1. Energy Efficiency

Energy is a fundamental part of our way of life; powering appliances, heating homes and running industry. Energy is not a luxury; it is essential to society and the UK economy. In challenging economic times, it is even more important that energy remains affordable to all, while also making sure environmental pollution and climate change are addressed to reduce the harmful emissions that are affecting our local environment and the whole planet.

The UK has the oldest housing stock of the EU Member States, with nearly 38% of its homes dating from before 1946<sup>6</sup>. The England Housing Survey and a Eurofound study both suggest that the greatest housing risk to people's health in the UK is from excess cold<sup>7</sup>.

Energy use in domestic properties accounts for a large and increasing proportion of national energy consumption. In 1970 it accounted for 24-27% but has increased to 28-31% of UK energy consumption<sup>7</sup>. This increase can be attributed to an increase in the number of installed central heating systems and technological improvements. Improving energy efficiency of buildings will help to control this increase in energy use.

Generally, the existing housing stock in the UK has poor energy efficiency and most of these properties will still be in use for the next 50 years. It is therefore crucial that the energy efficiency and carbon emissions of these buildings, is tackled if the UK is to meet and sustain its carbon reduction and fuel poverty targets.

Energy efficiency is a measure of energy used for delivering a given service so improving energy efficiency is simply a means of getting more from the energy that we use. There are several different ways to improve energy efficiency, such as:

- Innovation which can lead to the equal or greater output with less energy
- Reducing wasted energy while maintaining output
- Modern technologies such as heat pumps, which require less energy to provide greater heating output than other heating technologies.

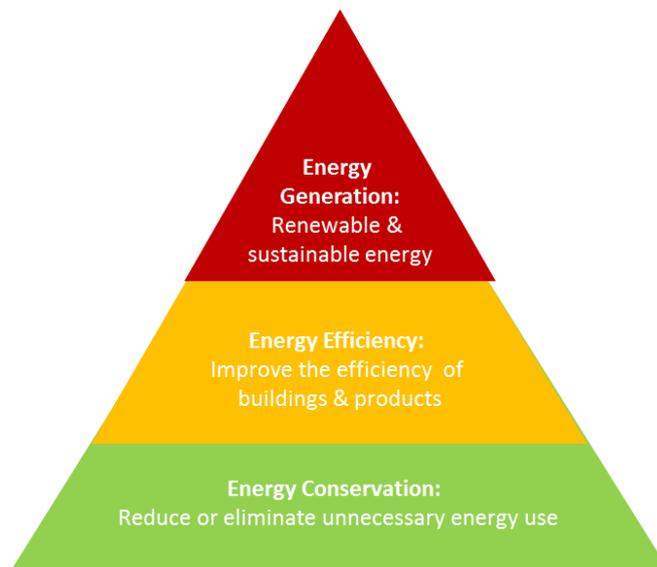
Energy efficiency is not just for environmental and health purposes. Finding ways to do the same, or more, with less makes economic sense too; it can help households and businesses reduce their energy bills at a time of increasing energy prices.

<sup>6</sup> [https://www.bre.co.uk/filelibrary/Briefing%20papers/92993\\_BRE\\_Poor-Housing\\_in\\_Europe.pdf](https://www.bre.co.uk/filelibrary/Briefing%20papers/92993_BRE_Poor-Housing_in_Europe.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [https://www.bre.co.uk/filelibrary/pdf/rpts/Fact\\_File\\_2008.pdf](https://www.bre.co.uk/filelibrary/pdf/rpts/Fact_File_2008.pdf)

Lower domestic energy bills can lead to higher disposable incomes which can be spent elsewhere in the economy. Simple changes in energy use behaviour can deliver some of these benefits with little up-front cost. In addition, longer term investment in energy efficiency technology can help innovation and lead to cost reductions which can make it cheaper and easier to invest in energy efficiency in the future.

When approaching energy efficiency, the basic principles of the energy hierarchy should be applied when deciding on priorities; seeking first to reduce energy use before meeting the remaining demand by the cleanest means possible. By prioritising demand-side activities to reduce wastage and improve efficiency, the hierarchy offers an easy to use approach to many different sectors of energy management.



**Figure 1:** The Energy Hierarchy (Prioritise from the bottom first)

## 1.2 Fuel Poverty

### **‘Everyone should be protected against the cold in their home’**

#### **Chris Skidmore MP (Interim Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth)**

A household is said to be in fuel poverty when its members cannot afford to keep adequately warm at a reasonable cost, given their income.

Fuel poverty is caused by low incomes, high energy prices and energy inefficient housing.

Fuel poverty in England is measured using the Low Income High Costs (LIHC) indicator. Under the LIHC indicator, a household is considered to be fuel poor if:

- their necessary fuel costs are above average (the national median level)
- were they to spend that amount, they would be left with a residual income below the official poverty line.

There are three important factors in determining whether a household is fuel poor:

- household Income
- household energy requirements
- fuel prices

The Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) estimates that, using the new Low Income High Cost definition, fuel poverty affects 2.53 million households in England (2017).

Fuel poverty is a widely recognised issue in the UK and is closely linked to several health and housing problems. Tackling fuel poverty is generally about helping people on low incomes who cannot keep their homes warm at reasonable cost. However, it is important to recognise that fuel poverty is an issue which is distinct from more general poverty and the Government have clarified that it should not be considered that all low-income households are living in fuel poverty. There is a growing body of evidence that certain vulnerable groups, such as households with older people and children, are at the most at risk of health problems associated with cold homes, such as respiratory and cardiovascular illnesses.

There are many other negative effects on wellbeing of people of all ages as a result of living at risk of or in fuel poverty, both direct and indirect. These include social isolation, mental health problems and, for children, underachievement in school.

Regardless of the size of home, increased energy efficiency cuts the cost of heating, making a warm home affordable and reducing the negative effect of increases in fuel costs. In fact, improving the energy efficiency of the home is often the most cost-

effective way of making a sustained reduction in household heating costs and removing that household from fuel poverty.

Energy efficiency, household characteristics and composition and fuel poverty are intrinsically linked. This has recently been highlighted in the Fuel Poverty Strategy and related Statistics Report 2019 where it states:

- Households with insulated cavity walls are least likely to be in fuel poverty (7.5 % of households with an average fuel poverty gap of £237) compared to households with uninsulated solid walls (16.8% and an average gap of £420). The fuel poverty gap is the reduction in required spending which would take a household out of fuel poverty.
- Older dwellings tend to have a higher proportion of households in fuel poverty compared to newer dwellings. Households in dwellings built between 1900-1918 were most likely to be fuel poor (18.6%) with an average gap of £377. This is compared to just 4.1% of fuel poor households in dwellings built post 1990 with an average fuel poverty gap of £207.
- The level of fuel poverty is highest in the private rented sector (19.4%) compared to those in owner occupied properties (8.0%). Those in the private rented sector also tend to be deeper in fuel poverty, with an average fuel poverty gap of £336, compared to £214 for those in local authority and housing association properties.

When considering household composition, couples with dependant child(ren) have an average fuel poverty gap of £380 compared to a single person under 60 (£274). However, the highest prevalence of fuel poverty is seen for lone parents with dependent child(ren) (25.4%)<sup>8</sup>.

<sup>8</sup>[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/719106/Fuel\\_Poverty\\_Statistics\\_Report\\_2019.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/719106/Fuel_Poverty_Statistics_Report_2019.pdf)

## 2. Strategic Aims

The primary aims of the strategy for addressing energy efficiency and fuel poverty in the Arun district are listed below. The action plan in appendix 1 details the objectives connected to these aims; the action plan will be used to monitor the progress and success in delivering these objectives.

- To contribute to the Council's strategic target of preparing Arun's response to the Environment and Climate Emergency
- To contribute towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions in residential buildings to help meet the Government target of reaching 'net zero' by 2050.
- To encourage and support the insulation of any remaining wall cavities and lofts in the district
- To encourage and support the uptake of solid wall insulation in the district
- To encourage and support the uptake of domestic renewable energy systems
- To further improve the energy efficiency of the Council's own housing stock
- To target areas, known to contain Hard To Treat (HTT)
- To work towards reducing the number of people living in fuel poverty across West Sussex using both practical and behavioural measures
- To inform and enforce the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards in the domestic private rental sector

### **3. National Fuel Poverty and Energy Efficiency Legislation and schemes**

A number of policies support both fuel poverty and energy efficiency work in parallel. Whilst targets for carbon reduction and fuel poverty remain separate, due to the opportunities available, it is a logical step for local authorities to address both energy efficiency and fuel poverty in tandem. This next section will provide a brief overview of the national legislation on carbon reduction, energy conservation and fuel poverty that have been introduced as well as the associated policies and targets.

#### **3.1. Climate Change and Carbon Reduction**

The requirement to improve the energy efficiency of homes stems from the legal requirements to reduce carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions set out in the Climate Change Act 2008 and the government's Carbon Plan, published in 2011. The Carbon Plan set the following targets in relation to housing:

- On 27 June 2019 the UK government amended the Climate Change Act and set out a new legally binding target to achieve 'net zero' greenhouse gas emissions across the UK economy by 2050. This was previously a target of 80% reduction from the 1990 levels.
- To insulate all cavities and lofts, where practical, by 2020;
- By 2030, between 1 – 3.7m additional solid wall installations and between 1.9 - 7.2m other energy efficiency installations;
- By 2030, 1.6m - 8.6m building level low carbon heat installations such as heat pumps.

The government has set five-yearly carbon budgets which currently run until 2032. They restrict the amount of greenhouse gas the UK can legally emit in a five-year period. The UK is currently in the third carbon budget period (2018 to 2022). The first carbon budget (2008 to 2012) was met, as was the second (2013 to 2017), and the UK is currently on track to outperform on the third (2018 to 2022). However, it is not on track to meet the fourth (2023 to 2027), and more challenging measures will be needed to meet this target and the 100% target for 2050.

#### **3.2. Home Energy Conservation Act**

The Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) 1995 recognises local authorities' ability to use their position to significantly improve the energy efficiency of all the residential accommodation in their areas. The Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC) requires HECA reports to be produced biennially by English Local Authorities.

The current HECA report covers the period 2019-2021 and outlines the Council's ambitions for energy conservation measures, based on what will be practicable, cost-effective and likely to result in significant improvement in the energy efficiency of residential accommodation in the Arun district. HECA reports are published on the Council's website and can be found using the shortcut; [www.arun.gov.uk/energy](http://www.arun.gov.uk/energy). This report will be updated as required throughout the term of this strategy.

### **3.3 Warm Homes & Energy Conservation Act**

The Warm Homes and Energy Conservation Act 2000 placed a duty on Government to have a strategy for tackling fuel poverty. The Fuel Poverty (England) Regulations 2014 were then produced. The Regulations created a fuel poverty target to ensure that as many fuel poor homes as is reasonably practicable achieve a minimum energy efficiency standard of C, by 2030.

There were interim targets of:

- As many fuel poor homes in England as is reasonably practicable to B and E by 2020
- As many fuel poor homes in England as is reasonably practicable to B and D by 2025

### **3.4 Public Health - Cold Weather Plan**

The Cold Weather Plan for England was first published in November 2011. Revised each year, the plan builds on the experience from previous years of developing and improving the ability of the NHS and its partners to deal with significant periods of cold and wintery weather. It aims to prepare for, alert people to, and prevent the major avoidable effects on health during periods of severe cold in England.

Arun District Council support this through Arun Wellbeing and the Home Energy Visitor Team. Arun District Council also help to produce a 'Stay Well this Winter' booklet.

### **3.5 Green Deal Finance Company**

The Green Deal was a UK government policy initiative which gave homeowners, landlords and tenants the opportunity to pay for energy efficient home improvements through the savings on their energy bills. It came to an end in 2015 but many private companies then provided loans until 2017 when the new Green Deal Finance Company was established. This company is financially supported by private investors but is endorsed by the Government. The principle of these grants is the same; Green Deal finance covers the upfront cost which is paid back over a period of time through the resulting savings on the occupant's energy bill. The loan is attached to the property and is therefore the responsibility of the new owner or tenant if the occupier moves to a new house. The loan can, however, be paid off early.

### **3.6. Energy Company Obligation (ECO)**

The Energy Company Obligation (ECO) is a government energy efficiency scheme to help reduce carbon emissions and tackle fuel poverty. In October 2018 ECO3 was launched which will run from Autumn 2018 until March 2022.

The previous ECO covered properties classed as 'hard to treat' due to their construction, along with supporting the fuel poor residents. The new ECO3 is focused almost completely on supporting low income, vulnerable and fuel poor households.

The new ECO3 scheme allows for 25% of the funding to be delivered through Local Authority Flexible Eligibility (LA Flex). Arun District Council has worked collaboratively with the other district and boroughs in West Sussex to produce our criteria for LA Flex. This is published on the Arun District Council website. The

criteria were devised using the BEIS guidance and therefore focuses on supporting fuel poor households.

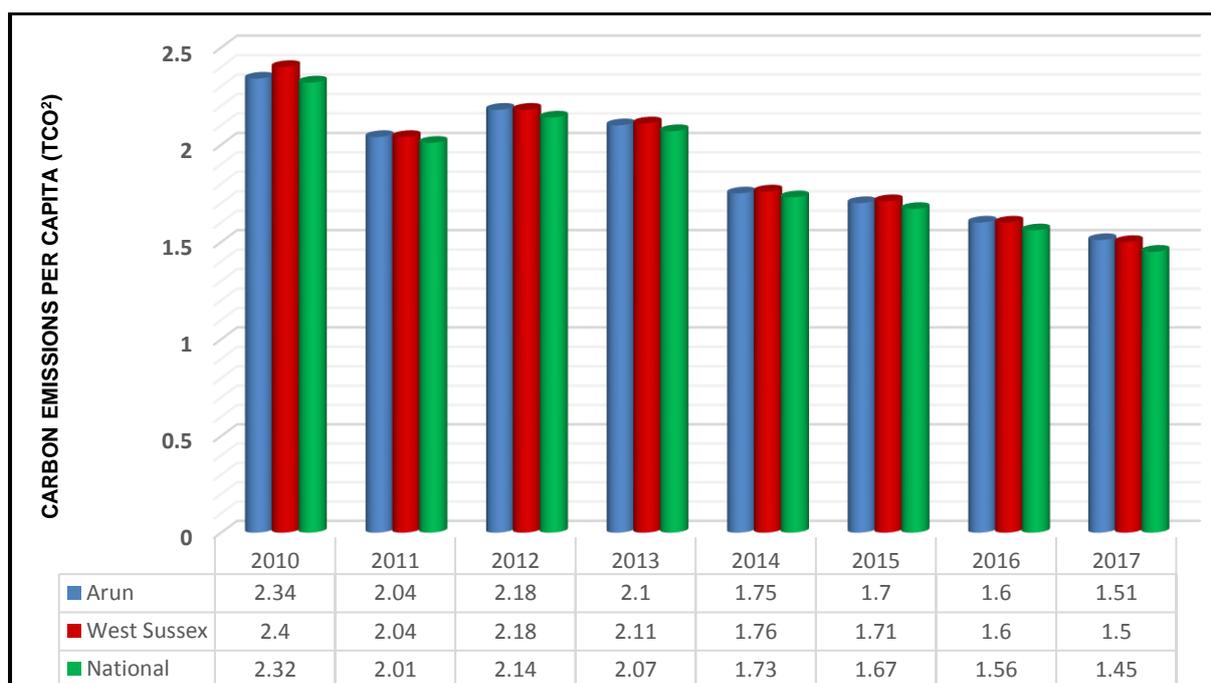
## 4. Local Carbon Emissions, Energy Efficiency & Fuel Poverty Statistics

Following the introduction of the most recent legislation and obligations, there are now new opportunities to bring substantial funding and improvements to properties in the Arun district to help alleviate fuel poverty and reduce carbon emissions. This section contains the local statistics for carbon and fuel poverty which will help to ensure that resources and information are targeted appropriately across the District.

### 4.1. Carbon Emissions Statistics

National Indicator 186 referred to per capita reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions as an indicator of the impact of actions being taken by communities to reduce carbon emissions and mitigate against climate change. In 2010 the Government removed the requirement for Local Authorities to report on national indicators, however per capita carbon data continues to be collected and reported centrally on an annual basis by BEIS. Reporting relies on centrally produced statistics to measure end user CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the local area; unfortunately, and similarly to the fuel poverty data, there is a long reporting time lag of almost two years.

Whilst there is little influence the Council can have on de-carbonising some elements of commercial and transport sectors; the Council is in a good position to influence carbon reduction through energy efficiency in the domestic sector and the Council's own buildings. Evidence shows a trend of reduced domestic emissions against the 2005 baseline, but there is much more that can still be done to reduce these figures further.



**Figure 2:** Domestic Carbon Emissions per capita - Arun, West Sussex and Nationally

In the Arun district, CO<sub>2</sub> per capita emissions from domestic properties fell by over 35% from 2010-2017; this is around the national average and the average for West Sussex. The fact the figure is marginally higher in West Sussex and Arun compared to the national average could be due to the older age of the properties in this area and the higher population density.

Nationally tackling climate change has become a high priority. A report by Sir Nicolas Stern highlighted the very high cost to society and the economy of not dealing with climate change.

The recently amended Climate Change Act 2008 commits us to legally binding targets of 'net zero greenhouse gas emission by 2050.

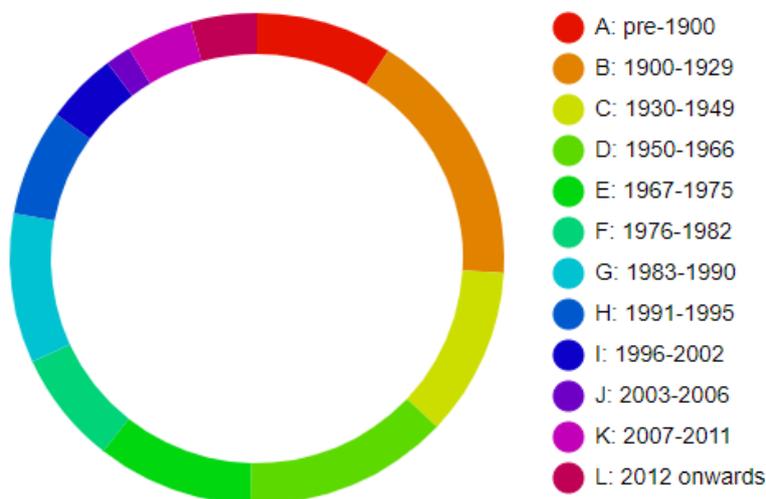
The UK Climate Change Programme 2006, which sets out the Government's policies and priorities for action in the UK and internationally, identifies local authorities as critical to the achievement of the Government's climate change objectives.

This role was further emphasised in the 2006 Local Government White Paper, which proposed significantly strengthening local government's leadership role, including leadership in tackling climate change. This was then reflected in the new performance assessment framework (Comprehensive Area Assessments [CAA]) and Local Area Agreements (LAA) announced in 2008.

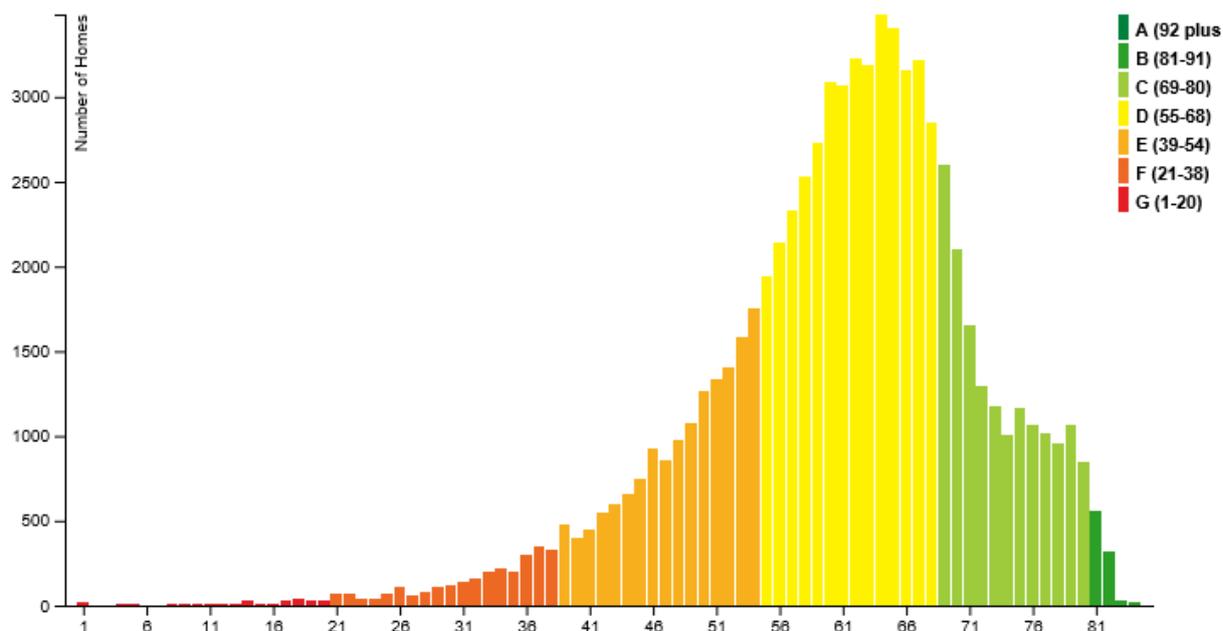
#### 4.1 Energy Efficiency Statistics

It is important to consider the age and energy efficiency of the properties in Arun to understand the implications and challenges in terms of improving.

The Chart below summarises the age of properties in the Arun district. In total 50% of the domestic properties in the Arun district were built prior to 1966. This means that the district has a large number of solid wall properties which are hard to treat. The education and promotion of solid wall insulation is therefore vital to support these residents. Older properties often do not have the current standard of loft insulation, can possibly be off gas and unless improvements have been made they will have single glazed windows. All of which lead to poor energy efficiency.



**Figure 3:** Age of domestic properties in the Arun district - Parity Projects 2019  
 In the Arun district the average SAP (Standard Assessment Procedure) rating of the housing stock is 60.75 which is an EPC D. This reflects the national average and highlights the poor condition of the housing stock across the UK. There is a lot of improvement required to raise this rating and meet government targets.



**Figure 4:** EPC data for domestic properties in the Arun district - Parity Project 2019

#### 4.2. Fuel Poverty Statistics

Since 2008, DECC (the Department of Energy and Climate Change) now BEIS have published annual sub-regional fuel poverty statistics for every local authority area in England. An overview of the fuel statistics for the Arun district comparing local stats to national trends can be seen in Figure 8 below.

	Estimated Number of Households	Number of Fuel Poor Households	Proportion of Households Fuel Poor (%)	Inc./Dec. in Proportion of Fuel Poor Households 2011 -2017 (%)
Adur	28,772	2,446	8.5	+0.5
Arun	71,169	6,127	8.6	+0.4
Chichester	53,105	4,921	9.3	+0.7
Crawley	45,586	3,164	6.9	+1.6
Horsham	58,495	4,249	7.3	+0.2
Mid Sussex	61,097	4,594	7.5	-0.1
Worthing	50,058	4,530	9.0	-0.3
West Sussex	368,282	30,031	8.2	+0.4
England	23,197,000	2,532,000.0	10.9	0

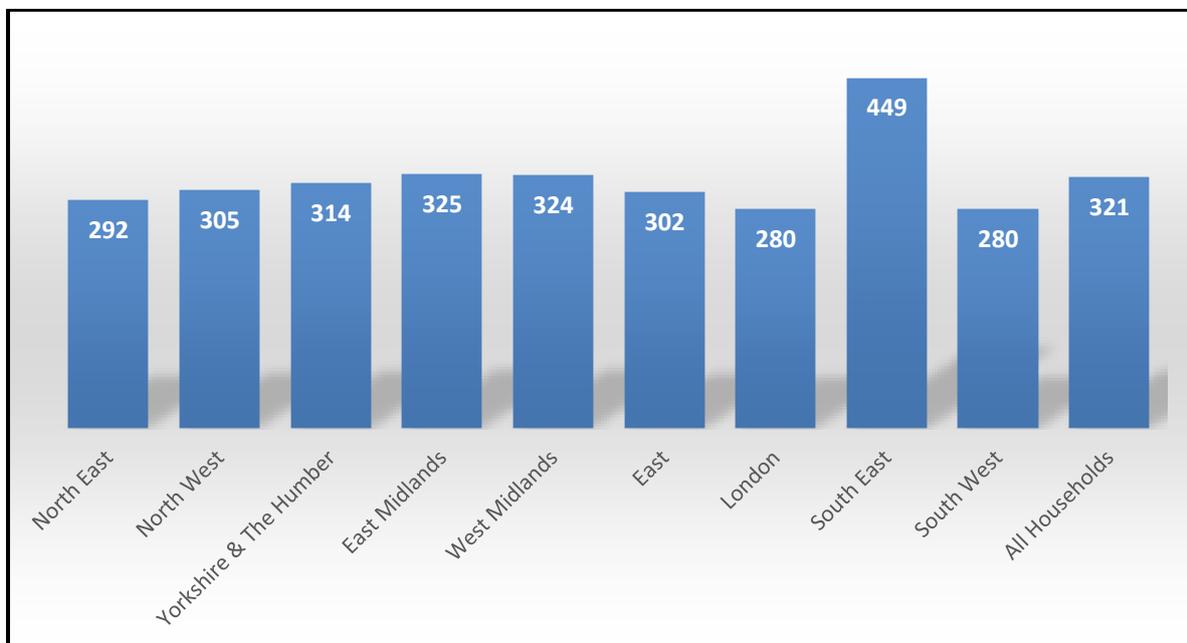
**Figure 5:** Fuel poverty figures - Local Authority, West Sussex and England

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/sub-regional-fuel-poverty-data-2019>

There have been marginal changes across the county compared to last year. Nationally the percentage of fuel poor households is now very similar to 2011 (the first year of the Low Income High Cost model).

Currently the Arun district has the highest number of fuel poor households in West Sussex with 6,127. This is relative to the number of households, as the Arun district has a high number of properties, the percentage of fuel poor is the third highest at 8.6%.

The latest statistics have a breakdown of fuel poverty gap, i.e. the reduction in required spending which would take a household out of fuel poverty, by region. The South East is the highest in England at £449. This trend could be partly due to the higher than average fuel costs for the South East, with a median fuel cost for fuel poor household of over £1400 per year, compared to areas such as Yorkshire and Humber with a median fuel cost for fuel poor households of less than 1250 per year.

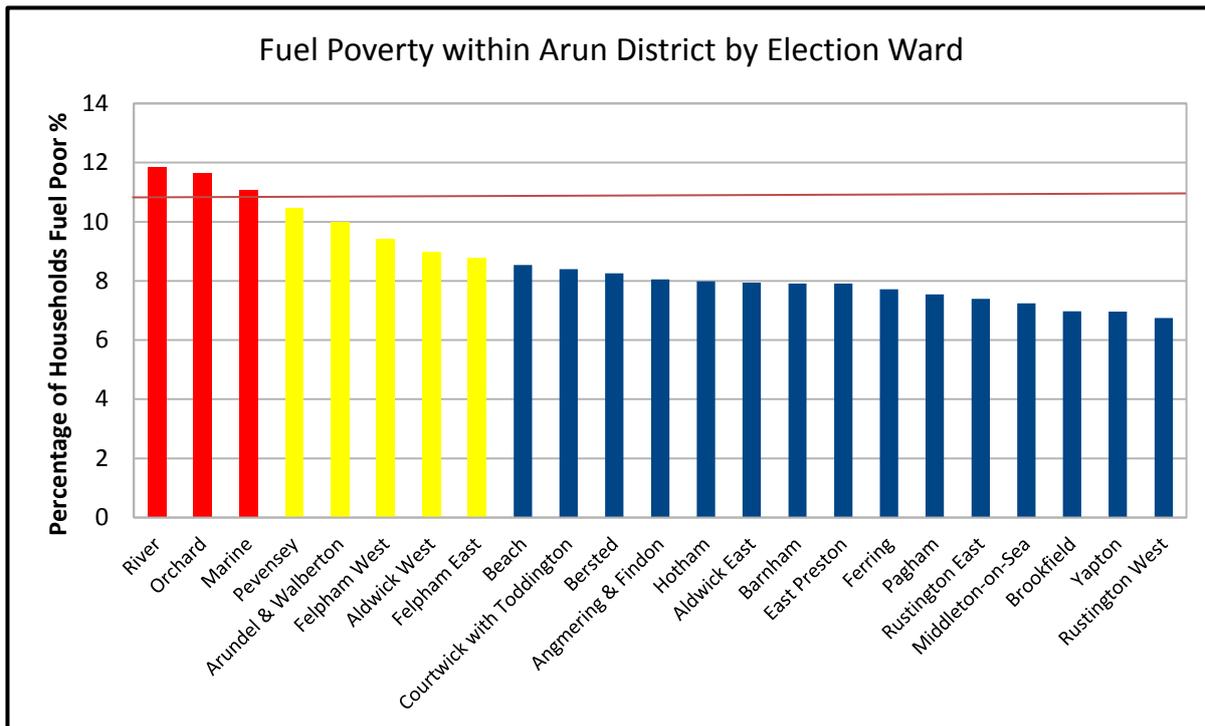


**Figure 6:** Regional Fuel Poverty gap data

Although the Arun district is below the national average in terms of fuel poverty, there are two concerns which the 2017 government fuel poverty statistics highlight:

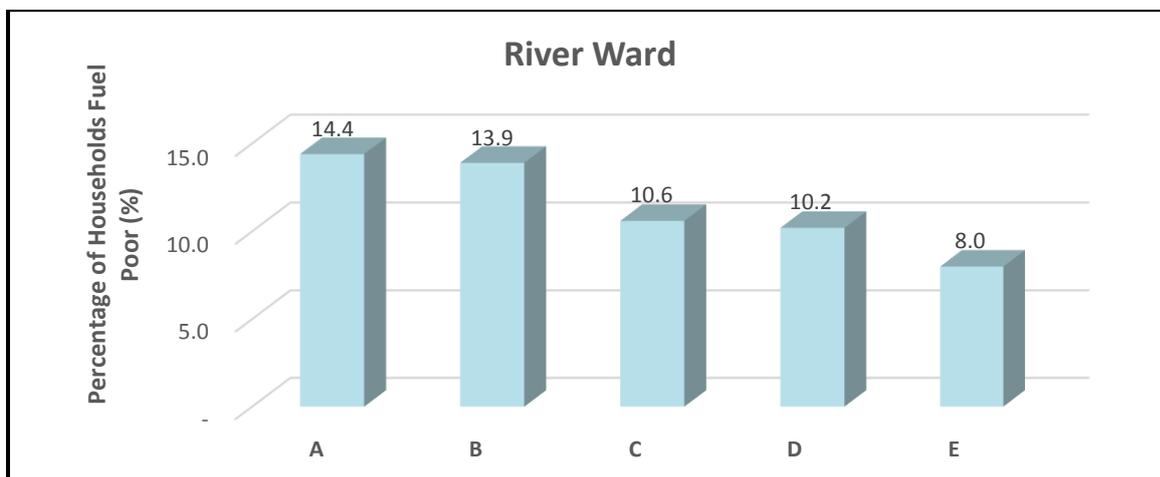
- The percentage of fuel poor households has increased by 0.4%, whereas nationally there has been no increase.
- There are pockets of fuel poverty within the Arun district which are not immediately evident.

Figure 5 above indicates that the increase in fuel poverty since 2011 is above the national figure. This strategy aims to address this issue for the district, but it is important to identify those smaller areas where need is greatest.



**Figure 7:** Fuel Poverty within Arun District by Election Ward

The national average is 10.9% (shown as a red line on the graph) with an average for the Arun District of 8.6%. This chart however identifies 3 areas, (River, Orchard and Marine) where the level is above the national average. It is important to investigate these areas further to see if the problem is specific to an even smaller section of the wards in question.



**Figure 8:** Percentage of households in Fuel Poverty in the River Ward

This chart, for instance, shows the sub-areas with River Ward. This is the ward which the government statistics reveal has the highest number of fuel poor households within the Arun district. The data reveals that two areas within River Ward are well above the national average, two above the Arun district average and one below.

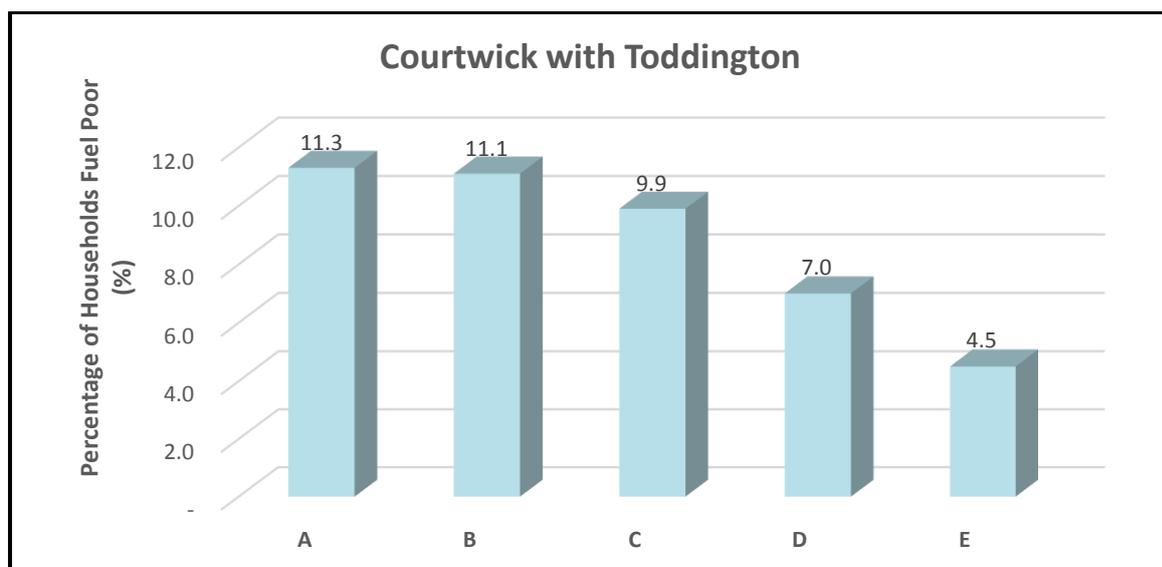
Looking in more depth at three of these areas to try and evaluate the reason for the disparity in results within a small area:

**Area A (Ropewalk, Marina, St. Martins, East Bank)** has the highest percentage of fuel poor households (14.4%). It is ranked 3rd out of 94 Arun district LSOAs (lower layer super output areas) and 3rd out of 504 West Sussex LSOAs in terms of overall deprivation. It is in the top 10% most deprived in England in terms of living environment. 48% of households are in privately rented accommodation, compared to 15% for the whole of the Arun district.

**Area B (Irvine Road, Civic Centre Area)** has the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest percentage of fuel poor households (13.9%). It is ranked 6th out of 94 Arun district LSOAs and 7th out of 504 West Sussex LSOAs in terms of overall deprivation. It is in the top 10% most deprived in England in terms of living environment and health deprivation and disability. 52% of households are in privately rented accommodation, compared to 15% for the whole of the Arun district.

**Area E (East Street)** however has a percentage below the district average and the lowest in the ward (8%). It is ranked 17th out of 94 Arun district LSOAs, 52nd out of 504 West Sussex LSOAs in terms of overall deprivation. It has no serious deprivation issues and its proportion of owner occupied and privately rented housing is in line with the district.

This analysis easily demonstrates the reasons for the disparity in results for each area of the ward. For other wards, however, there are less obvious pockets of fuel poverty.



**Figure 9:** Percentage of households in Fuel Poverty in Courtwick and Toddington

The percentages in Courtwick with Toddington where the low proportions in areas D and E (Courtwick Lane and Toddington) offset the high ones in areas A and B (Clun Road North and South). The latter being areas with levels of deprivation and a high proportion of rented social housing. This contrasts with areas A and B which have none of these factors. In this case the headline ward percentage of 8.5%, which is slightly under the district average, hides a situation which needs attention.

It is important that the government data is scrutinised at all levels of detail so that these pockets of fuel poverty are not overlooked.

9 UK Local Authority and Regional CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions National Statistics June 2018 <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-to-2017>

## 5. Private Rental Sector

There are over 10,000 households renting privately in the Arun district – 15% of the housing stock. Rented homes include many more households in fuel poverty; (19.4%) compared to those in owner occupied properties (7.7%). Those in the private rented sector also tend to be deeper in fuel poverty, with an average fuel poverty gap of £383, compared to just over £200 for those in local authority and housing association properties.

Many rental properties are poorly insulated and therefore heating costs are high, which can have an adverse effect on tenants' health. The private and social rental sectors also contain some of our most vulnerable residents.

A problem often found in the rental sector is the "split incentive" which has been repeatedly identified as a reason why privately rented stock performs less well than owner occupier sectors. Landlords traditionally are required to pay for energy efficiency measures such as better insulation or windows or new heating systems and boilers, but it is the tenant who reaps the benefits of more efficient heating, in terms of physical comfort and economically because of lower heating costs.

The Green Deal and ECO funding did offer some funding and gave opportunities to address the split incentive. ECO funding is now more focused on the fuel poor and private rented is excluded where there is a poor EPC rating. It is felt that these landlords now have the legal requirement to improve through the introduction of the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES). There are also several other underplayed benefits to improving the efficiency of a rental property that can be used to motivate landlords; including lower turnover of tenants, reduced chances of rent arrears and long-term physical benefits to the property such as reduced condensation.

Where motivation is still not enough the MEES and HHSRS (Housing Health and Safety Standards) can be used to enforce improvements. This section explains the various policies and programmes that will be used by the Council to help improve the energy efficiency standards of housing in the District, in particular the private rental sector.

Arun District Council passed a motion on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020 to support a request for officers to explore what options might exist for introducing further controls on the definition, number and quality of Homes in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) and prepare appropriate reports for the relevant decision body of the Council. Introducing further controls would be expected to contribute to an improvement in the social and economic conditions in the areas and an improvement in general housing conditions, including in energy efficiency.

### 5.1. Private Sector Housing Enforcement Action

The introduction of the Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) in 2006, following changes to part 1 of the Housing Act 2004 provided Local Authorities with new powers to effect improvements to the thermal environment of dwellings. The "excess cold" hazard is the highest scoring of the 29 identifiable hazards under

HHSRS and is the most prevalent. However, it should be noted that the guidance on HHSRS encourages more emphasis on hazards that are threats to health and safety rather than the comfort or convenience of the occupiers of the property.

Since its introduction, Arun District Council's Private Sector Housing team have been responsible for the enforcement of HHSRS in the district. With the Council's Energy Efficiency Officer and the West Sussex Fuel Poverty Co-ordinator also based in this team, Officers work together to ensure excess cold hazards continue to be identified and improved in the most practicable and appropriate ways.

### **5.2. Minimum Standards in Private Rental Sector from 2018**

The Energy Act 2011 introduced plans to address energy efficiency of homes in the private rental sector through the setting of minimum standards in England and Wales;

- As of April 2016, landlords are now obliged to permit tenants to undertake energy efficiency improvement works
- Commencing in April 2018 it is now illegal to rent out a property where the Energy Performance Certificate is rated F or G. This is currently only for new tenancies but will be for all rental properties requiring an EPC from April 2020.
- There are future plans for rental properties to achieve the minimum of a C EPC rating by 2030.

Arun District Council are supporting this legislation and are promoting this to landlords and tenants. Information leaflets have been produced and information has been presented to landlords in the Landlords Forums. The Exemption Register is regularly reviewed, and landlords are contacted regarding their exemptions.

Arun District Council recognises the benefit of enforcing Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) in conjunction with HHSRS and this is being explored.

Arun District Council has been successful in a bid for funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to obtain district-wide housing stock modelling data. This will prove helpful for targeting initiatives in private rented accommodation, tackling MEES and fuel poverty and providing evidence to assist in discussions with public health and possibly access future funding.

### **5.3. Arun & Chichester Landlord Accreditation Scheme**

Arun District Council is working in partnership with Chichester District Council, the University of Chichester and Chichester College to introduce a district wide Landlord Accreditation Scheme. Both the University and College fully support the scheme and will, in the future, only manage and promote properties which have been accredited.

The Scheme is free and as part of the application the premises are inspected and assessed against a number of criteria including energy efficiency and compliance to MEES. The inspection makes sure that the property is free of serious hazards, including excess cold, under the Housing Health and Safety Rating System (Housing

Act 2004). Once accredited the property will normally remain in the scheme for a period of 5 years where upon a new application will be required. This scheme is not restricted to student accommodation and is open to all landlords in the district.

## 6. Local Energy and Fuel Poverty Projects & Partnerships

Research has shown that significant improvements in energy efficiency are brought about by working in partnership and much emphasis is placed on this approach by various organisations. Partnerships can be either a formal or informal arrangement, but experience indicates that a formal partnership provides greater benefits to all parties than an informal arrangement. A formal partnership provides an opportunity to ensure projects are delivered and data is collected in a form that is appropriate to each partner organisation. Arun District Council is committed to developing and continuing such partnerships.

### 6.1 Identification of residents in fuel poverty

Fuel Poverty is a complex public health issue, to effectively tackle fuel poverty it is important to have a multi-agency approach. The West Sussex local authorities have come together under the direction of the Fuel Poverty Coordinator and adopted a 'Framework for Action', which draws together current interventions and governance structures, to identify influences and provide an overview of fuel poverty across the County.

The West Sussex Fuel Poverty Strategy is called Fuel Poverty- a Framework for Action across West Sussex 2015-2018 located at:

<https://westsussexenergy.co.uk/professionals/framework-for-action>

Please note that this is under review.

The council is active in locating and supporting residents in fuel poverty. The Fuel Poverty Co-ordinator works with Arun District Council and the Home Energy Visitors in the following areas:

- Developing links with health professionals. All GP practices provided with copies of Stay Well this Winter booklets. Over 10,000 copies produced and distributed.
- All Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) promoting Home Energy Visits on websites and on patient communications in 2018/19.
- Training frontline teams in team meetings or dedicated training sessions to be able to identify fuel poverty and refer households for support – including OTs, Social Workers, Community Support teams, Prevention Assessment teams, Children & Family Centres, CABs, Age UK, etc.
- Dedicated 'professionals page' added to West Sussex Energy website in 2018.
- Links with key frontline and voluntary sector organisations developed.
- Newsletter published at least monthly during heating season with information on help/support available. This was sent to over 160 subscribers.
- Online mapping tool developed using EPC and Mosaic data to help locate households at risk of fuel poverty:  
<https://public.tableau.com/profile/ellen.gayler#!/vizhome/WestSussexenergyho/usingdatabaseJuly2017/Story1>

- We also can enhance this using RetrofitWorks tools to identify fuel poor households, along with the able-to-pay households.

### **6.2 HHCRO (Home Heat Carbon Reduction Obligation) top-ups**

A scheme was established in 2016 to support HHCRO funding. Contractors could access a limited amount of HHCRO funding from energy suppliers, but this did not cover the full cost of heating system installations. The County Council provided top-ups to these grants to ensure that vulnerable residents could heat their homes. In July 2016 the County Council could no longer cover this cost so Arun District Council Private Sector Housing set up a budget to provide top-ups until 2017, when HHCRO ended.

In April 2017 in the absence of any grant funding Arun set up a heating loan scheme where it helped several residents to install heating systems, with the whole cost being tied into the property value so it would not need to be repaid until the property was sold.

### **6.3 Arun Safe and Warm Home Grants**

Since January 2018 Arun District Council has been delighted to be able to access funding through the West Sussex Better Care fund to support vulnerable residents to stay safe and warm in their homes. This funding has been predominately used for heating installations and repairs. Residents who are vulnerable and on means-tested benefits or a low income are helped to access this funding and obtain quotes for the works. They are supported through the entire journey from application through to installation and completion. This has resulted in over 60 installations with funding of £220,000 being awarded to vulnerable residents in the Arun district.

The Authority has received positive feedback from clients. Two examples of which are show below:

Mrs M: 'My husband is in a bed in the living room due to his illness and it was very cold without heating, having the heating repaired has significantly improved his health and wellbeing'

Mr S: 'I would like to thank you for all your help giving me peace of mind'. This client has a terminal illness and previously had no heating or hot water for two years.

### **6.4 Support for Park Homes**

Arun District Council is supporting some of its most vulnerable residents by targeting support to park homes. These properties are typically very poorly constructed with little, if any, insulation. The occupants are often elderly and have health conditions. Through utilising grant funding, the Council has been able to undertake an ambitious project to provide external wall insulation to several park home sites across the district. Subject to eligibility, residents can access part, and often all, the cost of the works through this grant. Currently we have over 49 grant applications in progress with 3 installations complete. Over £160,000 of grant funding has been awarded to date for this project and we hope to continue this over the next year and, if possible, beyond.

This grant is funded through the Better Care Fund. It is hoped that this will continue but this is dependent on the Better Care Fund allocations each year from the Government and these Safe and Warm Home grants are part of West Sussex discretionary grant policy.

## **6.5 Empty Properties and Energy Efficiency**

The Council runs an Empty Property Financial Assistance scheme where people are awarded grants and/or loans to improve their vacant properties and make them habitable. The council then has nomination rights and the property can be offered to residents in Housing Need. They are required to improve the energy efficiency of the properties by installing double glazing, loft insulation etc. to ensure the properties have a minimum EPC rating of E.

The non-repayable grants are for £5,000 and the loans are for £10,000 interest free. The funding is sourced internally; £300,000 was allocated in 2015. £100,000 for grants and £200,000 for loans. £100,000 has been spent over the last 2 years on the grants.

## **6.6 Innovation funding**

In 2017 Arun District Council was successful in a bid for funding under the NEA (National Energy Action) Technical Innovation Project. This scheme was set up to study innovative technologies with small clusters of residents across the UK to see which ones were the most efficient to use and beneficial to the individuals.

Arun District Councils project was to supply, install and monitor, free of charge, innovative thermostatic radiator valves into ten domestic properties. The residents were assessed and classed as fuel poor and vulnerable to the cold.

It involved the installation of Honeywell Evo home intelligent heating controls and traditional thermostatic radiator valves (TRVs) in homes where residents previously had no (or old, basic) TRVs. Energy monitors were also installed to help residents understand electricity use.

It has been claimed that smart thermostats can reduce bills by 20-30%, while standard TRVs have been claimed to save around £75 per year on heating bills

The study showed that the installation of standard TRVs reduced the running costs by about 5% and where the Smart TRVs were installed there was a reduction of 12% in gas bills. Residents found the TRVs easy to use and reported higher comfort levels and lower concerns over paying for energy. This study has fed into the National Energy Action project and will help with energy efficiency across the whole country.

## **6.7 Wellbeing and Public Health**

Living in cold homes can have a hugely negative impact on health and wellbeing. Fuel poverty often leads to people making difficult decisions between heating their homes and providing food for their family. By improving energy efficiency fuel poverty can be addressed.

The Arun Wellbeing hubs provide information and referrals to a range of services as well as motivational support to individuals to assist in the prevention of cardiovascular disease. They also support residents in fuel poverty with a range of services.

Public health and local authorities together now have central roles to play in reducing fuel poverty and excess winter deaths, especially as local and upper tier authorities take greater responsibility in the delivery of local health services.

#### **6.7.1 Home Energy Visitor Service**

In 2012, the “Wellbeing Home” project was set-up as a shared Wellbeing service for residents in Arun and Chichester Districts, offering home energy visits for fuel poor residents including the installation of physical energy saving measures but also focussing on behavioural change and helping people stay healthy in their own homes. The Home Energy Visitor (HEV) Scheme supports residents living in fuel poverty offering free home visits. This scheme has provided a vital and highly beneficial service. Since 2016 over 675 households have been supported through free; energy saving devices, energy saving advice, guidance on energy tariffs and help sourcing grants. The service helps some of Arun districts most vulnerable residents to keep warm in their homes and access funding and support to raise them out of fuel poverty.

#### **6.8 Smart Meter promotion**

Arun District Council are supportive of the Smart Meter roll out and encourage residents to monitor their energy usage. Promotional material sourced from Smart Energy has been used on display boards in receptions.

In 2018 Arun District Council was awarded £2,216 of Ebico funding to promote Smart Meters. The project involved the Home Energy Visitors raising awareness via 76 home visits, 2 training sessions, 7 events and through several leaflet drops in the District.

#### **6.9 West Sussex Fuel Poverty Co-ordinator**

In 2007 a county-wide Fuel Poverty Coordinator post was created using external funding to help alleviate fuel poverty in the Districts and Boroughs. The Fuel Poverty Coordinator works closely with all the District and Borough Council's in West Sussex to ensure that fuel poverty is targeted through a partnership approach where appropriate and local opportunities are embraced and delivered. The post continues to be supported by all the Districts and Boroughs and hosted by Arun District Council.

#### **6.10 ECO Energy Company Obligation funding**

Local Authorities (LAs) have been able to determine eligible households living in, or at risk of, fuel poverty and those vulnerable to the effects of living in a cold home, since the introduction of the ‘flexible eligibility’ mechanism – known as ‘LA Flex’. The mechanism was first introduced as a trial within the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) in April 2017 as part of the changes within ECO2t, which ran until September 2018.

The West Sussex Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent (SOI version1) was published in January 2018 and has now been in place for over two years. An SOI is a mandatory requirement of participation in LA Flex, which sets out the criteria the LA use to identify if a household is eligible and allows declarations of eligibility to be made. The West Sussex Sol was amended with a Sol version 2 being formed in March 2019 to broaden the criteria in line with BEIS guidance. The aim of the Sol is to support fuel poor households, especially those that are not in receipt of ECO

eligible benefits, the estimated 20% of fuel poor households that are not in receipt of any benefits; and low-income households vulnerable to the effect of living in a cold home.

Since the start of the scheme Arun district have the highest number of declarations of any other Local Authority. The Council has actively promoted the benefits of insulation in the area and worked hard to raise awareness of such schemes.

## **6.11 Other Local Authorities and Partner organisations**

### **6.11.1 Working with West Sussex County Council**

Your Energy Sussex was set up by West Sussex County Council (WSSC) in 2014 and is delivering exciting energy projects across the county. The partnership uses local installers to deliver these projects which creates investment, job and apprenticeship opportunities for people across county. Arun District Council along with other local authorities supports the work of Your Energy Sussex and works collaboratively with them to help deliver successful projects.

Arun District Council are working collaboratively with WSSC to establish an exciting new project called 'Solar Together'. This involves collective purchasing to help our residents access cheaper and fully vetted solar installers to provide solar panels to their properties. This project will make it more affordable to our residents to access this renewable energy source and any surplus funding will support those in fuel poverty in West Sussex.

#### **6.11.1.1 Sussex Tariff**

Arun District Council has been a partner in the development and promotion of the Sussex Tariff. This is a West Sussex County Council initiative providing a 'not-for-profit' energy supplier offering competitively-priced, 100% renewable gas and electricity to residents. This scheme was launched in February 2018 and aims to encourage more people in Sussex to compare their energy costs, switch and save money. It has gained almost 4,000 customers.

The service is supplied under a 'white label' agreement between West Sussex County Council and Robin Hood Energy, the licensed energy company owned by Nottingham City Council.

Within its first year of operation, Your Energy Sussex acquired a large enough customer base to cover its modest set up costs and now, in year two, will begin to use the surplus it generates to build a Fuel Poverty Fund which will be used to support projects targeted at residents who are struggling to pay their bills.

Sussex Tariff has a competitive pre-payment meter (PPM) tariff and encourages PPM customers to move to credit meters where appropriate. They proactively contact customers to move them off more expensive standard variable tariffs and on to more competitively fixed price tariffs.

In terms of customer numbers Arun district has seen a huge number of residents interested in this scheme with the largest number of sign ups compared to any other local authority in West Sussex. The residents of Arun district are obviously keen to

switch energy supplier and appreciate having the option of a Council backed supplier.

Arun District Council is starting to explore the option of supporting a solar scheme in collaboration with West Sussex County Council. This will involve collective purchasing to help drive down the cost of solar installations for Arun residents and promote the take up of renewable technology.

#### **6.11.2 West Sussex Affordable Warmth Partnership**

Local Authorities in West Sussex work collaboratively to deliver projects and share information regarding energy efficiency and fuel poverty. This group consists of Arun District Council, Horsham District Council, Crawley Borough Council, Adur and Worthing Councils, Chichester District Council and Mid Sussex District Council. The group is led by the West Sussex Fuel Poverty Co-ordinator and meets every 3 months.

#### **6.11.3 West Sussex South East & UK Carbon Action Networks**

The Association of Local Energy Officers South East (ALEO South East) previously known as the South East Carbon Action Network (SE CAN) is a forum for the sharing of information among local authorities. The aim is to facilitate the reduction of carbon emissions, alleviate fuel poverty in the region and encourage sustainable energy measures. Arun District Council is an active member of the ALEO SE forum.

Arun District Council also provides regular representation at the Sussex LA Climate Emergency Group. Where Local Authorities across Sussex share information and expertise in ascertaining carbon data and projects to alleviate climate change.

#### **6.11.4 West Sussex Sustainable Business Partnership**

The West Sussex Sustainable Business Partnership (WSSBP) was originally launched in 1998 as part of West Sussex County Council's Economic Development activities. In 2009 the partnership expanded to include a local Sustainable Business Network that now has over 600 members and holds regular events across the region. Partners include the County, District and Borough Councils, Universities and the Environment Agency.

The Sustainable Business Partnership CIC Utilise Plus Programme started in January 2017 and ran until September 2019. The scheme supported businesses by offering energy audits and EPCs for eligible organisations. They have supported 15 SMEs (small to medium sized enterprises) in West Sussex along with a further 64 in progress. In Arun there have been 10 SMEs supported.

Arun District Council supports the work of the Sustainable Business Partnership to encourage environmentally sustainable business.

#### **6.11.5 Local groups and organisations**

Arun District Council recognises that it would not be possible to tackle fuel poverty and energy efficiency effectively in isolation and it therefore works in partnership with residents and organisations with an interest in the environmental, welfare and housing needs of residents in the district. In particular, the council works closely with

a range of professionals, such as Occupation Therapists, GPs, Social Workers, Disabled Facilities Grant Surveyors, Prevention Assessment team, etc.

We link to charities such as: Stonepillow, Grandad's Front Room, Peabody, Citizens Advice and Age UK.

We work closely with National Energy Awareness (NEA).

A range of local mechanical, electrical and insulation contractors are used to undertake the works. These are selected by residents.

The Warm Home Fund project is being undertaken in partnership with Southern Gas Networks (SGN) and Mears MPS (previously MITIE).

We also support the Sustainable Business Partnership CIC.

Arun District Council works very closely with other local Authorities especially West Sussex County Council. It has links to West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service, Sussex Police, West Sussex Libraries, West Sussex foodbanks, Job Centre Plus (Bognor & Littlehampton Offices) and wellbeing groups such as Arun Lifeline.

Arun District Council has supported a successful bid for BEIS funding by a company called RetrofitWorks. The project aims to develop an alliance of expert and experienced advocates, advisers, designers and contractors to help support residents in improving the energy efficiency of their homes. They plan to use a targeted approach by assessing the housing stock and identifying properties that would benefit from energy efficient improvements.

## **7. Energy & Arun District Council's Corporate Estate**

While much of this strategy is focussed on energy in homes in the District, this section briefly outlines some of the efforts and energy saving actions being taken within the Council's own estate and planning policy. Arun District Council has made significant improvements in terms of energy efficiency with their corporate estate even with the restrictions of a limited maintenance budget. When maintenance and improvement works are required energy efficiency is taken into consideration and measures are incorporated where possible and applicable.

The Council actively support renewable technologies. The Arun Civic Centre has a 49.9kWp solar PV panel system.

### **7.1. Asset Management**

The Council is in the process of producing a new Asset Management Strategy and it is planned for this to be in place within the next 12 months. This is being driven by the Property Investment Strategy. This is an extensive exercise which will involve looking at each individual asset and the development of a long-term plan which will incorporate future proofing.

The Council encourages sustainable practice amongst its suppliers, such as the use of renewable resources and Eco-friendly transport.

Electrical product procurements are always energy saving goods such as energy saving hand dryers etc. Voltage optimisation units have been installed and the IT department use a Power down system. With regards to ICT equipment, the Council have a PC Power Management software solution, which automatically switches computers into a very low energy hibernation mode when not in use, saving unnecessarily wasted energy. This allows the Council to manage all power policies centrally.

Where roofing replacement has taken place on sections of the Civic Centre, in Littlehampton, high specification 'laid to falls' insulation has been installed. Where window replacement is required energy efficient double-glazed units are fitted.

In areas upgraded in the Civic Centre PIR LED lighting is installed. Light graduated level controls have been installed in the new planning section and building management system heating controls have been installed in the Civic suite.

The Council has a wide range of assets from Council offices like the Civic Centre and Bognor Town Hall through to toilet blocks, beach huts and leisure centres as well as the recently purchased Bognor Arcade, all of which Arun District Council hold some level of responsibility for in terms of maintenance and or improvement.

The Arun Leisure centre has had a new energy efficient air handling unit and building management system installed. There are also plans to upgrade the heating in the gym which will dramatically improve the energy usage of the site.

The new Wave leisure centre was completed in March 2019, this high spec centre was constructed with a clear appreciation of energy efficiency. The centre has incorporated a highly efficient CHP Combined Heat and Power plant. CHP generates electricity whilst also capturing usable heat that is produced in this process. This contrasts with conventional ways of generating electricity where vast amounts of heat are lost.

## **8. Planning**

Throughout the Arun Local Plan 2011-31 there is a commitment to plan for climate change and encourage energy efficiency. Two of the Arun Local Plan strategic objectives are:

- To protect and enhance Arun's outstanding landscape, countryside, coastline, historic built and archaeological environment, as well as the setting of the South Downs National Park, thereby reinforcing local character and identity
- To plan for climate change and work in harmony with the environment to conserve the natural resources and increase biodiversity.

Arun District Council strictly controls the development of the countryside. The council has identified a 'Built-Up-Area-Boundary' to protect the natural environment.

Arun District Council recognises the importance of Green Infrastructure and the requirement for protection of green spaces.

Arun District Green Infrastructure study 2012 highlighted the importance of mitigating the impacts of climate change and possible opportunities for strengthening the network could be through increased tree coverage in urban areas, promoting walking and cycling routes and encouraging alternative modes of transport.

The Design Section of the Arun Local Plan provides information on how the authority planning department is working to mitigate the effects of climate change and supporting measures to cope with it, as well as promoting energy efficiency. It highlights the support for innovations and the incorporation of new technologies e.g. solar panels and electric car re-charge outlets. Solar gain consideration is promoted as it states that 'proposals should, maximise sunlight and passive solar energy.'

The Arun Local Plan emphasises the importance of considering climate change adaption measures at an early stage of the design process to ensure developments are resilient against the impacts of climate change.

The Council will support development which is located and appropriately designed to adapt to impacts arising from climate change such as the increased probability of tidal and fluvial flooding; water stress; health impacts and decline in the quality of habitats and biodiversity richness. The plan describes the issues that must be considered in order to achieve this.

The planning department use the key components of the Energy Act 2013 within the Energy Hierarchy which is to:

- Reduce the use of energy
- Use energy more efficiently
- Move to energy from renewable sources
- Use remaining fossil fuels cleanly

Arun District Council has signed the Nottingham Declaration on climate change which is a public statement of intent to work with the local community and businesses to respond to the challenges of climate change. This has since been superseded by 'Climate Local – a Local Commitment to Action on Climate Change' which is a more locally specific means of identifying carbon reduction measures and improving energy efficiency. This aims to support councils both to reduce carbon emissions and to increase resilience to a changing climate.

The West Sussex Sustainable Energy Study 2009 indicated that Arun District has potential for a range of renewable energy resources such as wind turbines (medium/small scale) solar PV, Solar water heating, biomass, CHP combined heat and power.

The Council encourage renewables in all developments and has a requirement for 10% renewable or low carbon energy generation to major developments.

All new residential and commercial development will be expected to be energy efficient and to demonstrate how they will:

- Achieve energy efficiency measures that reflect the standards applicable at the time of submission;
- Use design and layout to promote energy efficiency; and
- Incorporate decentralised, renewable and low carbon energy supply systems, for example small scale renewable energy systems such as solar panels.

Arun District Council are in the process of developing an Arun District Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). This will provide detailed guidance that will raise design standards across the Arun District. As an SPD, the Design Guide builds upon and provides more detailed advice and guidance on policies within the adopted Arun Local Plan.

## **9. Arun District Council Housing Stock**

The Council strives to be an exemplar in terms of energy efficient housing. Through new construction and retrofitting existing housing the Council's own housing stock will inspire private residents to improve the energy efficiency of their properties. New developments and retrofit of existing stock have incorporated innovative renewable technologies such as air source heat pumps.

The council submitted a successful funding bid in 2018 to support off-gas properties. It is planned that over 200 council properties will be connected to gas and have new energy efficient boilers installed over the next year. Following this renewables will be investigated further.

EPC (energy performance certificate) data is being reviewed and where possible any properties only achieving E, F or G ratings are being improved to ensure they achieve higher ratings and are therefore more energy efficient.

The council has a cyclical improvement programme for the replacement of any remaining timber single glazed units with double glazed systems. Consideration is given to properties with listed status or in conservation areas for double glazed timber units.

Over the next 12 months the Council plan to survey the entire housing stock and to install cavity wall and loft insulation where possible.

The council support renewables and are keen to install air source heat pumps and other innovative technologies to off-gas areas.

Council tenants are supported in council properties in terms of energy efficiency concerns, where requested new EPCs are carried out and support is provided through improvements and advice. The Arun District Council Home Energy Visitor

Service offer telephone support to Arun council tenants regarding energy bills, switching energy provider and energy saving tips.

The Council have over 3000 council houses and are keen to enhance their energy efficiency and therefore their EPC ratings. We aim to raise, where practicable, all our own housing stock in line with the MEES target of all rental properties achieving EPC C or above by 2030.

## **10 Strategy & Action Plan Review**

This strategy sets out Arun District Council's intentions regarding Energy Efficiency in the District and internally in the Council for the period 2020 to 2025.

Every October the Action Plan (appendix 1) will be reviewed and updated against previously set targets and a revised action plan produced for the next year. The revised action plans will be authorised by Arun District Council's Individual Cabinet Member Decision (ICM) by the Cabinet Member for Technical Services by December of each year.

The entire strategy will be reviewed in detail in 2025 with a view to creating a new strategy, to start from 2026.

## Appendix 1: Annual Energy & Fuel Poverty Action Plan for 2020

Main Aim	Actions	Reporting department(s)	Timescales
<b>Fuel Poverty Actions</b>			
<b>To work towards reducing number of people living in fuel poverty in the District using both practical and behavioural measures</b>	Promote, support and encourage the use of the services of Home Energy Visitor (HEV) as part of the Arun and Chichester Wellbeing Home scheme	Community Wellbeing, Private Sector Housing	Post currently funded until March 2020
	Promote and maximise the number of residents with access to Safe and Warm Homes (SWH) funding for energy efficiency measures to their homes	Private Sector Housing	On-going
	Work with the West Sussex Fuel Poverty Co-ordinator to deliver fuel poverty actions in Arun District	West Sussex Fuel Poverty Co-ordinator, Private Sector Housing	Post currently funded until March 2021
	Train relevant staff within the Council on opportunities for energy efficiency to help ensure residents and tenants have affordable energy bills.	Housing, Private Sector Housing, Various departments.	On-going
	Inform upon and encourage Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards compliance. Promote Energy Efficiency to private sector landlords including HMO licensees through regular updates at the Arun Landlord's forum.	Private Sector Housing	On-going
<b>To target areas known to contain Hard To Treat (HTT) homes</b>	Promote energy efficiency measures to able-to-pay household in and at risk of fuel poverty due to the nature of their property rather than low income.	Private Sector Housing	On-going
<b>To improve the energy efficiency of the Council's</b>	Continue to digitalise and collate all new EPC data and other already stored data to establish progress in Arun Housing stock & opportunities for energy improvements.	Private Sector Housing and Maintenance services	Bi-annually

<b>own housing stock</b>			
	Work with Housing team to support energy efficiency improvements in the Council's own housing stock.	Private Sector Housing and Residential Services	Ongoing
<b>To work towards the Council's wider priorities of providing help to those in need</b>	Arrange/Attend outreach events in both rural and urban communities to educate, inform, promote and take referrals for appropriate energy efficiency and/or fuel poverty assistance	Private Sector Housing, Community Wellbeing, West Sussex Fuel Poverty Co-ordinator	On-going
	Provision of up-to-date information on help for people in fuel poverty - on Council webpages and information boards in the Wellbeing Annexe and Arun Civic Centre	Private Sector Housing	Revise at least twice a year, approx. April & October
	Provision of training for Council Officers & relevant frontline staff in partner organisations on the fuel poverty assistance available in the local area	Private Sector Housing, West Sussex Fuel Poverty Co-ordinator	On-going
	Provision of training for Elected Members to identify residents suffering from fuel poverty and what fuel poverty assistance is available in the local area	Private Sector Housing, West Sussex Fuel Poverty Co-ordinator	At least one session/ information document to be completed by December
	Support and refer eligible residents to the available grant funding for heating.	West Sussex Fuel Poverty Co-ordinator	On-going
	Encourage energy switching to ensure people are on the correct tariff.	Private Sector Housing	On-going
<b>Energy Efficiency (Carbon Reduction) Actions</b>			

<b>To encourage and support the insulation of any remaining cavities and lofts in the District.</b>	Provide information on the benefits of home insulation and signpost residents to appropriate options for installing measures, including advice on any financial assistance available	Private Sector Housing, Community Wellbeing	On-going
<b>To encourage and support the uptake of solid wall insulation in the District</b>	Promote and encourage uptake of ECO and future Government schemes as a mechanism to help fund solid wall insulation	Private Sector Housing	On-going
<b>To target areas known to contain Hard To Treat (HTT) homes</b>	Identify different types of HTT homes, their locations in the District, the various solutions available and highlight any associated risks	Private Sector Housing	On-going
	Promote energy efficiency to areas known to contain HTT homes and able-to-pay customers.	Private Sector Housing	On-going
	Create case studies of best practice examples to inspire other residents to take up energy saving measures.	Private Sector Housing	On-going
<b>To inform and enforce the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards in the domestic private rental sector</b>	Promote and inform landlords, tenants and letting agents about the legislation.	Private Sector Housing	On-going
	Monitor the exemption register and correspond with landlords where required.	Private Sector Housing	Quarterly
	Where non-compliance occurs; educate, support and where necessary enforce the legislation. Enforcement to be in conjunction with HHSRS where applicable.	Private Sector Housing	On-going
<b>To encourage and support the uptake of domestic renewable energy systems for both</b>	Encourage the use of renewable energy systems in domestic properties.	Private Sector Housing	On-going
	Create case studies of best practice examples to inspire other residents to take up renewable energy systems.	Private Sector Housing	On-going

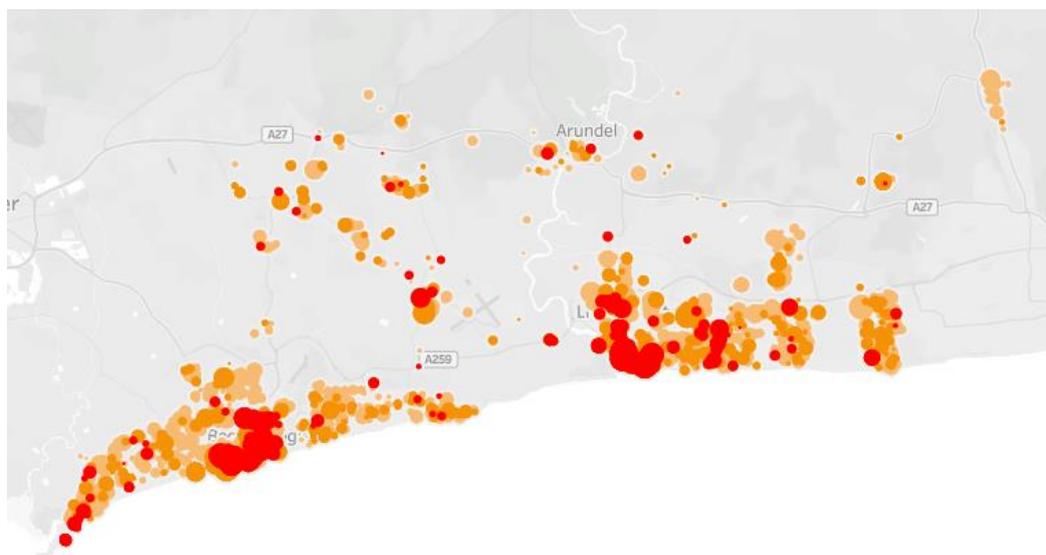
<b>heat and electricity generation</b>			
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## Appendix 2: Fuel Poverty Data

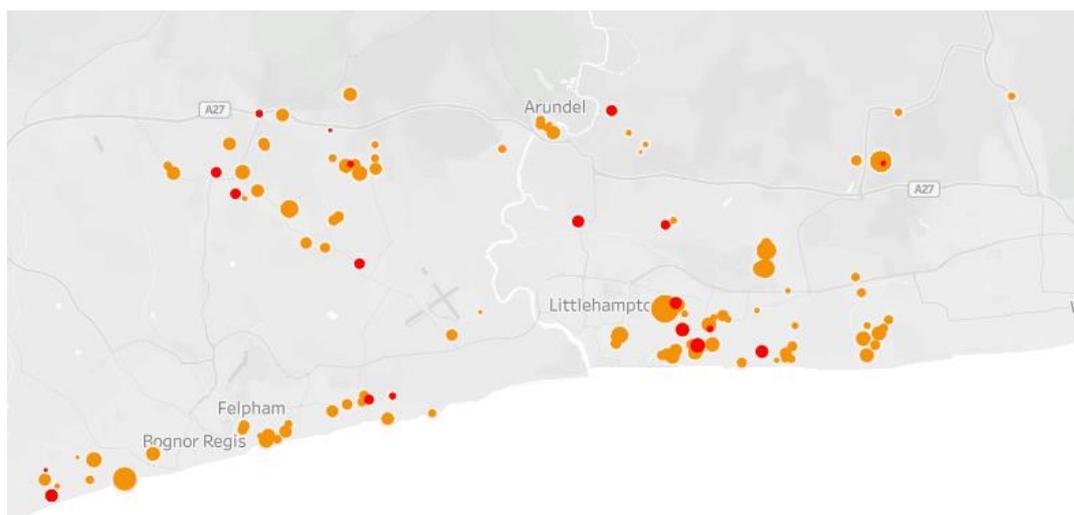
### A2.1 Arun District - Fuel Poverty Maps 2017

The data is sourced from a range of locations looking at EPC data, Universal credit, Experian Mosaic data providing; median household income, potential property scoring, potential vulnerability scoring.

Map A shows the households likely to be in fuel poverty filtered by those with EPC ratings E, F, G and household income below 30k, and Map B shows the most severe areas with the households most likely to be in fuel poverty. Filtered to those in F or G EPC rated properties and income below 30k.



**Figure A2.1:** Arun Energy and Fuel Poverty Vulnerability Map



**Figure A2.1.1** Arun Energy and Fuel Poverty Vulnerability Map depicting the most severe levels of fuel poverty

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/ellen.gayler#!/vizhome/WestSussexenergyhousingdatabaseJuly2017/Story1>

## Appendix 3: Overview of progress and achievements for Arun District Council - Grants & Projects Delivered in the Arun District

### A3.1 Insulation and boilers

#### A3.1.1 HHCRO Home Heat Carbon Reduction Obligation

Statistics on HHCRO scheme.

Between January 2014 and August 2016, YES provided £238K in top-up funding, with a further £50K allocated to the 2017 scheme. The YES team secured a further £10K contribution from West Sussex Public Health to support the scheme in 2017.

	Properties treated 2014/15	Properties treated 2015/16	Total
Arun Households	50	14	64
Estimated ECO funding	£75,250	£14,042	£89,292
<b>Total West Sussex installs</b>	211	35	246

**Figure A3.1.1** Properties treated with energy efficiency measure under the HHCRO scheme

The Council participated in a Winter Warmth 'door knocking' trial during winter 2015/16, in partnership with the West Sussex Fuel Poverty Coordinator and West Sussex Fire & Rescue. WSFRS officers visited 114 properties on one street in a deprived area with mixed housing types and tenures offering a range of services developed for vulnerable households. As a result, 16 referrals were generated to a range of services.

#### A3.1.2 CREST (Energy Wise South) Insulation Schemes (ECO funded)

Year	Month	N° of Properties Improved
2015	Nov/Dec	80
2016	January/Feb	45
2016	March/ April	8
2016	May/ June	7
2016	June/ Jul/ Aug	22
2016	Sep/ Oct	27
2016	Nov/Dec	42

2017	Jan Feb	31
2017	March/April/ May	10
2017	June/July/Aug	27
2017	Sep/Oct	12
2017	Nov/Dec	52
2018	Jan/Feb	42
2018	March/April/May	11
2018	June/Jul	14
<b>Total</b>		<b>430</b>

**Figure A3.1.2:** Home insulation delivered in Arun using Council endorsed schemes 2015-18

### A3.1.3 Local Authority Flexible Eligibility Scheme – Delivered by Arun District Council

District/Borough Council	Sol Version 1 (June 2018-April 2019)	Sol Version 2 (March 2019 to October 2019)	Total number of Declarations made
Arun	5	30	35
Chichester	5	4	9
Mid Sussex	3	3	6
Horsham	6	20	26
Worthing	3	1	4
Crawley	4	4	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>88</b>

**Figure A3.1.3A** Number of declarations made by Local Authority under the two different Statements of Intent.

District/Borough Council	CWI and LI	CWI	LI	Boiler	Total Declarations
Arun	8	26		1	35
Chichester	2	5		2	9
Mid Sussex		3	2	1	6
Horsham	2	21	2	1	26
Worthing		1		3	4
Crawley			3	5	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>88</b>

**Figure A3.1.3B:** Types of ECO measures installed in properties by companies utilising LA FLEX by Local Authority area. (2018-19 combined) **Key: CWI - Cavity Wall Insulation & LI - Loft Insulation,**

### A3.1.4 Arun Safe and Warm Home Grant Scheme

Period	Number of boiler installs	Grant funding awarded
Jan 18- March18	11	32,311
April 2018-March 2019	29	117,684
April 2019-date	21	154,051
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>227,021</b>

**Figure A3.1.4** Number of boiler installs and grants awarded to Arun residents from Arun District Council

### A3.1.5 External wall insulation project data

Sites	Location	Number interested	Grants awarded to date	Total grant value per site to date	Average grant awarded per park home
Thornlea Court	Littlehampton	29	28	157,593	5628
Marigolds	Bognor Regis	15	0	tbc	tbc
Poplars	Bognor Regis	6	0	tbc	tbc

**Figure A3.1.5:** Number of External wall insulation grants provided and total value

## A3.2 Technical Innovation Project

Technical Innovation project data

Cost Analysis using gas meter readings and gas bills

Tech Ref	"Before" period							"After" period with new heating control							Estimated Saving		
	Period	Days	Total Period (kWh)	Gas <sup>1</sup> £/30 days	Degree days	kWh/ Degree Day	Estimated annual cost <sup>2</sup>	Period	Days	Total Period (kWh)	Gas <sup>1</sup> £/ 30 days	Degree days	kWh/ Degree Day	Estimated annual cost <sup>1</sup>			
T-01	07/11/14-10/05/16	550	27,372	£74.65	3,224	8.49	£859.25	27/08/16-28/03/17	213	12,734	£89.67	1,445	8.81	£891.93	-3.80%		
T-06	27/02/15-09/05/16	437	16,036	£55.04	2,204	7.28	£736.38	09/02/17-28/03/17	47	1,111	£35.47	356	3.12	£315.61	57.14%		
T-07	07/01/15-09/05/16	488	15,210	£46.75	2,750	5.53	£559.77	12/07/16-27/03/17	258	8,732	£50.77	1,462	5.97	£604.72	-8.03%		
T-15	05/03/15-03/03/16	364	13,432	£55.35	1,633	8.23	£832.64	10/05/16-29/03/17	323	15,877	£73.73	1,571	10.11	£1,022.99	-22.86%		
T-17	01/04/15-16/05/16	411	11,636	£42.47	1,938	6.00	£607.69	30/05/16-29/03/17	303	8,920	£44.16	1,517	5.88	£595.30	2.04%		
Average	Standard TRV						7.11	£719.15							6.78	£686.11	4.90%
T-11	02/09/15-23/05/16	264	2,985	£16.96	1,557	1.92	£194.06	30/05/16-28/03/17	302	2,547	£12.65	1,511	1.69	£170.65	12.06%		
Average	Evohome						1.92	£194.06							1.69	£170.65	12.06%

**Figure A3.2:** Table Analysis of gas costs before and after heating controls were installed using bill and meter readings.

The number and duration of readings varied between properties and between before and after periods at the same property. NEA was able to obtain meter readings for several households by contacting their energy suppliers. Where they were only able to provide estimated readings, these were disregarded in the analysis. Figure 5.1 shows the gas consumption (in kWh) for the 'before' and 'after' periods and the cost of the gas in £/ 30 days, using a standard gas price of 5p/kWh.

Properties where data is missing have been omitted from Table 5.1 which results in a comparison of 5 properties with standard thermostatic radiator valves (TRVs) including 1 with the Evo home.

The TRVs and Evo home controls were installed at the end of May 2016. Meter readings for the period prior to installation were in the range November 2014 to May 2016. Those used for the post installation period were from the earliest meter reading after the controls were installed to the date of the final interviews in March 2017.

## A3.3 Home Energy Visits

### A3.3.1 Home Energy Visit data

In Arun District from October 2016-19

- Supported 675 households
- Potentially saved residents £33,666
- Brought in £257,628 of energy efficiency and heating funding

### A3.3.2 Home Energy Visit Case Study

#### BACKGROUND

Mr and Mrs H stopped by an Arun District Council Energy market stand. This was part of an energy efficiency awareness raising event. A Home Energy Visit was booked at this visit it transpired they had no heating apart from stand-alone plug-in heaters and one expensive electric flame-effect fire. They were both pensioners with disabilities and cared for three of their grandchildren, one of whom also had a long-term condition.

#### INTERVENTION

Type of Intervention: HEV left them a form for npower Health Through Warmth. This is a charitable trust which provides heating for those with health conditions. HEV also wrote a covering letter.

Grant arranged to get gas pipes laid up outside the house and up the garden path to the road. They qualified for this scheme by being low income and by living in an area counted as deprived.

#### OUTCOMES and FEEDBACK

Npower decided to pay the full amount for the gas system to be fitted, which resulted in a fast install and no future pressure on the client to find extra funding. Yorkshire Energy Solutions efficiently oversaw the laying of all the exterior pipework. The HEV monitored the situation and liaised with the client throughout. The feedback from the family was excellent and they have been helped both in the short and long term.

SHORT TERM	LONG TERM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New energy efficient heating system/boiler. The total cost of job was in the region of <b>£2k</b>. This was all grant funded.</li><li>• Gas pipework laid outside – value c. <b>£11k</b>.</li><li>• Higher comfort levels, lower cost, better health</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Money saving on heating bills/or ability to keep warmer at home</li><li>• Home Energy Visit to help support further with reducing energy costs</li><li>• Increase to value of home through having central heating.</li></ul>

### A3.3.3 Home Energy Visit feedback

Some of the feedback the home energy visitors have received from Arun residents regarding their experience of the HEV service.

- Emma was very knowledgeable and thorough. We have no computer & are complete novices in finance or anything technical, so Emma was marvellous and very reassuring. Thankyou.
- We are very grateful to the Wellbeing team, they were very helpful & arranged out new boiler very quickly & with a minimum of fuss. Thank you so much.
- A special thank you to Emma Pagett who came around to us who was so helpful & to Jo Williamson who put it forward. We find everyone at Wellbeing so helpful & thank Arun for the services
- I have always received helpful advice from the home energy visitors over several years
- Thanks, you so much for the help we received there is no way I could have replaced the boiler on our own. My health is poor, keeping warm is essential.

## Appendix 4 West Sussex-wide Partnership Projects

### A4.1 West Sussex Emergency Heating Scheme

Aim: To supply portable heaters to residents who have applied for grants and have no heating. The scheme is co-ordinated by the West Sussex Fuel Poverty Co-ordinator

		No. of properties who received heaters (1 heater per household)	
	2016/17	2017/18	2018-19
Arun		28	10
Crawley		4	0
Horsham		0	2
Mid-Sussex		3	4
Adur and Worthing		3	3
Chichester		8	4
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>46</b>	<b>23</b>

Figure A3.2.3 Emergency Heating Scheme – Achievements 2009-2013

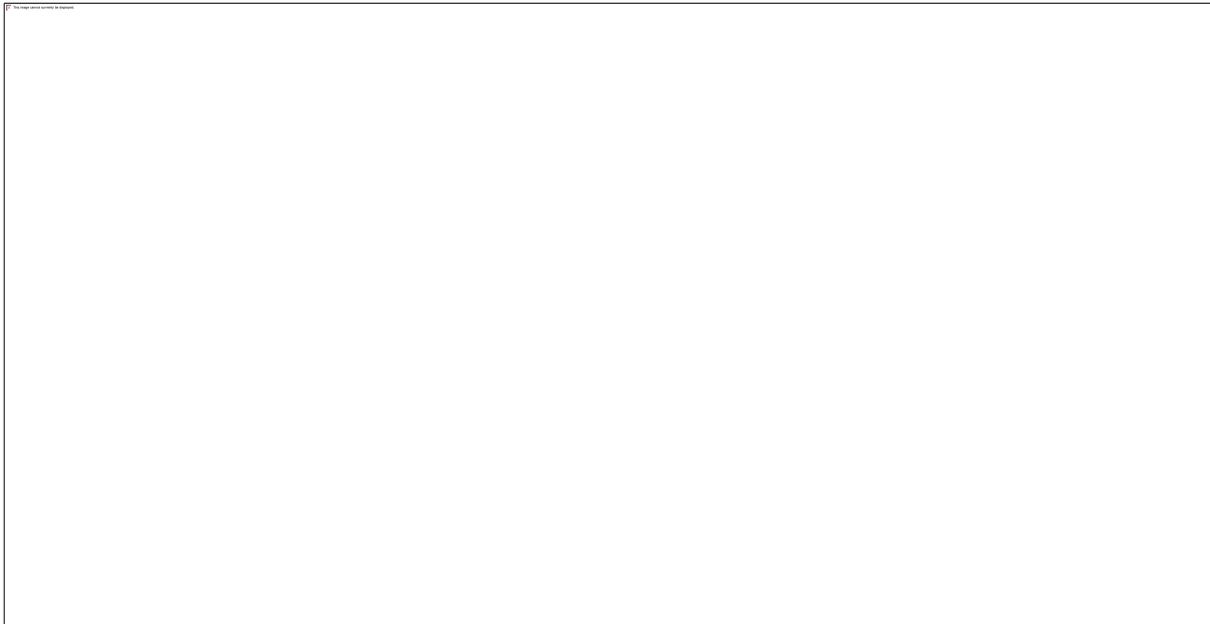
## A4.2 Sussex Tariff

Since the start of the Sussex Tariff in February 2018 a total of 3854 customers have switched to the Sussex tariff. (figure as of September 2019).

The figures below show the location of these customers.



**Figure A4.2.1:** Number of customers on supply by LA area. (Data accurate to September 2019).



**Figure A4.2.2:** Percentage of customers on supply by county area. (Data accurate to September 2019)

Ranking	Local Authority Area	Customers per 1000 households
1	Crawley	10.5
2	Arun	9.9
3	Horsham	4.4
4	Mid Sussex	4.3
5	Adur and Worthing	4.2
6	Chichester	3.9
7	Rother	3.7
8	Hastings	3.6
9	Lewes and Eastbourne	3.2
10	Wealden	2.0
11	Brighton & Hove	1.7

**Figure A4.2.3** Number of customers by Local Authority Area per 1000 households. (Data accurate to September 2019)

## Appendix 5: Energy Glossary of Terms

<b>ASHP</b>	Air Source Heat Pump	Low carbon technology for domestic and commercial space and water heating, requires electricity or additional technology to run pump – best with under floor heating systems. Eligible for RHI.
<b>BEIS</b>	Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	Government department.
<b>Biomass</b>		Generic term for organic matter, also known as biofuels. Includes items such as wood fuel. Eligible for RHI.
<b>Carbon Footprint</b>		A measure of the total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions caused directly and indirectly by an organisation or individual; can be measured on a personal/national level, or according to a specific activity. Expressed in amount of CO <sub>2</sub> , or MtCO <sub>2</sub> e.
<b>Carbon Trust</b>		An independent non-profit company set up by the Government with support from businesses to encourage and promote the development of low carbon technologies
<b>CHP</b>	Combined Heat and Power	Fuel is used to simultaneously produce electrical or power plus recover useful thermal energy for use in cooling & heating. Mainly commercial but domestic CHP available. Eligible for RHI.
<b>CIGA</b>	Cavity Wall Insulation Guarantee Agency	Independent 25 year guarantees for professionally installed domestic cavity wall insulation
<b>CO<sub>2</sub></b>	Carbon Dioxide	An important greenhouse gas associated with climate change
<b>CRC</b>	Carbon Reduction Commitment	UK government emissions trading scheme for large organisations not eligible for EU Emissions Trading (ADC is too small for this)
<b>CSCO</b>	Carbon Saving Communities Obligation	Cross-tenure area-based part of the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) for specific income deprived communities ranked in the bottom 20% of the IMD. Also, opportunities outside low IMD areas for some low-income rural homes.
<b>CWI</b>	Cavity Wall Insulation	Insulation measure for cavity walls; filling the empty air space with a porous material (normally bonded expanded polystyrene beads or mineral fibre). Some cavities are “un-fillable” due to debris inside the cavity, uneven surface or structural issues.
<b>DEA</b>	Domestic Energy Assessor	Someone who is trained to a diploma level to carry out home EPCs (may also be further trained to deliver DECAs or GDAs)
<b>DEC</b>	Display Energy Certificate	An Energy Performance Certificate tailored for commercial buildings
<b>Ebico</b>		Not for profit gas and electricity provider. Supply grant funding to Local Authorities.
<b>ECO</b>	Energy Company Obligation	New obligation from Government on energy companies to supersede CERT and CESP from end of 2012. Will partly provide grant funding for low income vulnerable customers but also subsidise green deal finance plans for hard to treat homes.

<b>EPC</b>	Energy Performance Certificate	Domestic energy rating using RdSAP carried out by a DEA. Since 2008 EPCs are required for when houses are sold, or new tenancies started. Not as in-depth as a Green Deal report.
<b>EST</b>	Energy Saving Trust	A non-profit organisation aiming to promote the sustainable use of energy, energy conservation and to cut carbon dioxide emissions in the UK. Currently contracted to run the national, impartial Energy Saving Advice Service (ESAS).
<b>EWI</b>	External Wall Insulation	A thermally insulated, protective exterior cladding system for insulating solid wall and non-standard construction properties or homes with un-fillable cavities. Can be insulation & render system or a rain-screen cladding. Possible planning implications.
<b>FIT</b>	Feed In Tariff	Scheme that offered money back for producing electricity through renewable sources. This ended in March 2019.
<b>Fuel Poverty</b>		“Low Income High Cost Indicator” developed by Professor John Hill. A household is said to be in fuel poverty when its members cannot afford to keep adequately warm at a reasonable cost, given their income.
<b>Fracking</b>	or Hydraulic Fracturing	New process being explored to extract natural gas from shale rock layers deep in the earth using horizontal & vertical drilling & injection of highly pressurised fracking fluids into the shale area.
<b>Future Proofing</b>		Future-proofing in terms of property is the process of anticipating the future; improving and developing the asset to allow for possible change of use in the future.
<b>GDFC</b>	<b>Green Deal Finance Company</b>	The Green Deal was financial mechanism introduced in the UK from the end of 2012. It eliminates upfront cost for energy efficiency measures by charging costs to the property not the individual and spreading the repayments over the long-term on the electricity bill. Repayments follow a “golden rule” that they should reflect the savings expected from the measures installed. The Government no longer run this scheme but the Green Deal Finance Company continue to offer this type of finance.
<b>GHG</b>	Greenhouse Gas[es]	GHG includes water vapour (H <sub>2</sub> O), carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ), methane (CH <sub>4</sub> ), nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O), halogenated fluorocarbons (HCFCs), ozone (O <sub>3</sub> ), per fluorinated carbons (PFCs), & hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)
<b>GSHP</b>	Ground Source Heat Pump	Low carbon technology for space and water heating, requires electricity or additional renewable technology to run pump – best used with under floor heating systems. Eligible for RHI
<b>HTT Homes</b>	Hard to Treat Homes	Homes where you are unable to improve energy efficiency with lower-cost measures such as cavity wall insulation, due to the age of a property or nature of construction. Might be ‘off-gas,’ with more expensive heating fuels or medium-high rise blocks of flats. Hard-to-treat homes are often difficult and costly to heat.
<b>HECA</b>	Home Energy Conservation Act	Introduced in 1995, HECA recognises local authorities’ ability to use their position to significantly improve the energy efficiency of local accommodation. From March 2013 DECC require biennial “further HECA reports” from all Local Authorities.

<b>HHCRO</b>	Home Heat Cost Reduction Obligation (or “Affordable Warmth Obligation”)	Part of the Energy Company Obligation (ECO), focused on fuel poverty and grants for heating insulation for residents that qualify for the “Affordable Warmth Group”. Only private sector residents are eligible.
<b>IMD</b>	Index of Multiple Deprivation	The Index of Multiple Deprivation covers a range of economic, social and housing issues and gives an overall deprivation score for each small area in England. This allows each area to be ranked relative to one another according to their level of deprivation. IMD rank can be reported at County, District, Ward or LSOA (Lower Super Output Area) level.
<b>IWI</b>	Internal Wall Insulation	Energy measure used for improving solid wall and non-standard construction properties or homes with un-fillable cavities; can use rigid insulation boards or fill a stud wall. IWI should not be used to cover, hide or isolate damp as this could lead to serious problems in the future. Can be very disruptive to residents.
<b>LIHC</b>	Low Income High Cost Indicator	Method for calculating households in fuel poverty, adopted by BEIS (DECC) in mid-2013 to replace the previous “10% definition”.
<b>MCS</b>	Microgeneration Certification Scheme	Renewable energy systems and installers accreditation scheme (MCS is part of the eligibility criteria to claim the FIT)
<b>MEES</b>	Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards	UK Legislation regarding the requirement for rental properties to achieve a minimum EPC rating.
<b>Microgeneration</b>		Renewable electricity generation equipment of the smallest capacity.
<b>MtCO<sub>2e</sub></b>	Million Tonne Carbon Dioxide Equivalent	Considers the varying impact of other GHG on the atmosphere and their potency and offers a single “equivalent” figure.
<b>NEA</b>	National Energy Action	National charity aiming to eradicate fuel poverty. Campaigns for greater investment in energy efficiency to help those who are poor or vulnerable
<b>Ofgem</b>	Office for Gas and Electricity Markets	Regulator of gas and electricity markets for Great Britain
<b>RDSAP</b>	Reduced data Standard Assessment Procedure	System used to produce EPCs and Green Deal reports
<b>RHI</b>	Renewable Heat Incentive	Government incentive scheme launched in 2011 to financially reward those who generate renewable heat.
<b>SAP</b>	Standard Assessment Procedure	System used to produce detailed home energy assessment reports, mainly superseded by the easier to carry out “RDSAP method” since 2008.
<b>SEDBUK</b>	Seasonal Efficiency Database of Boilers (UK)	Comprehensive database of all boilers supplied in the UK showing their expected seasonal efficiency

<b>(Solar) BIPV</b>	Building Integrated Solar Photovoltaics	Solar photovoltaic materials that are used to replace building materials in parts of the building envelope such as the roof, skylights, or facades.
<b>Solar Thermal</b>	Solar Hot Water	Solar panels that generate domestic hot water only. These can be either a flat plate or evacuated tube design. Eligible for RHI.
<b>Solar PV</b>	Solar Photovoltaics	Solar panels that generate electricity only. Eligible for FIT.
<b>Solar PVT</b>	Solar Photovoltaics/Thermal	A new efficient breed of hybrid solar panels that focus on use of better PV components but also take the heat generated by the solar panels & create an incorporated solar thermal system
<b>SWI</b>	Solid Wall Insulation	Generic term for both internal and external wall insulation solutions.
<b>SWIGA</b>	Solid Wall Insulation Guarantee Agency	New scheme providing independent guarantees for professionally installed solid wall insulation
<b>WHD</b>	Warm Home Discount	Qualifying households receive £140 credit towards the electricity bill (in addition to winter fuel payment). Discounts will be paid and funded by participating electricity suppliers. Supplier size determines requirement to offer this.

## Appendix 6: Equality Analysis

<b>What is the name of your policy, project, or report? Energy Efficiency and Fuel Poverty Strategy 2020-2025</b>	<b>Month/Year December 2019</b>
<b>Name and job title of lead officer: Nat Slade Group Head of Technical Services</b>	
<p>Briefly describe the aims of your policy, project, or report.</p> <p>The current trend is for energy usage to rise, not fall, so tackling this trend is a challenge which the attached strategy aims to address. Arun District Council is investing in the future and putting energy efficiency and support for those in fuel poverty at the heart of its decisions. This is supported by the recently adopted Council Strategic targets and one of which is Environment and Climate Change, this updated strategy will help support Arun's response to the environment and climate and emergency.</p> <p>The primary aims of the strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To contribute towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions in buildings to help meet the Government target of reaching 'net zero' by 2050.</li> <li>○ To encourage and support the insulation of any remaining wall cavities and lofts in the district</li> <li>○ To encourage and support the uptake of solid wall insulation in the district</li> <li>○ To encourage and support the uptake of domestic renewable energy systems</li> <li>○ To further improve the energy efficiency of the Council's own housing stock</li> <li>○ To target areas, know to contain Hard To Treat (HTT)</li> <li>○ To work towards reducing the number of people living in fuel poverty across West Sussex using both practical and behavioural measures</li> </ul>	

- To inform and enforce the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards in the domestic private rental sector
- To work towards the Council's strategic target of preparing Arun's response to the Environment and Climate Emergency.

The Equality Act 2010 legally protects people from discrimination, both in the workplace and in wider society. It covers 9 specific groups of people who share 1 or more of these protected characteristics; age; disability; gender; gender reassignment; marriage & civil partnership; pregnancy & maternity; race; religion or belief; and sexual orientation.

As a local authority Arun District Council (and any other organisation that is carrying out a public function on our behalf) is further bound by the Public Sector Equality Duty. This means that we have to consider **all** individuals in their day-to-day work – in shaping policy, in delivering services and in relation to our own employees.

The Duty has three aims. It requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it – this means removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people due to their protected characteristics and encouraging people with protected characteristics to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is low.
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it – this involves tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.

Having due regard means consciously thinking about the three aims of the Equality Duty as part of the process of decision-making. This means that consideration of equality issues must influence the decisions reached by public bodies – such as in how they act as employers; how they develop, evaluate and review policy; how they design, deliver and evaluate services, and how they commission and procure from others.

The Equality Duty does not impose a legal requirement to conduct an Equality Impact Assessment. Compliance with the Duty involves consciously thinking about the three aims as part of the process of decision-making. Doing this will entail understanding the potential effects of the organisation's activities on different people. Keeping a simple record of how decisions were reached will help public bodies show how they considered the Duty. Producing an Equality Impact Assessment after a decision has been reached will not achieve compliance with the Equality Duty.

## Analysis

Consider what it is that you are trying to achieve and write a brief equality analysis in the box below. You should mention each of the nine protected groups, plus any others (e.g. families, people on low incomes, people in remote areas, etc) who may be affected. The following questions should help shape your thought process and subsequent decision making.

- Who will benefit most from this? Will anyone be treated more favourably as a result?
- Is there any evidence to suggest that your action or policy could have an adverse impact on some groups of people and specifically those with a protected characteristic? Does it present barriers or problems for any groups or communities?
- Is there any data, research or other evidence available to help or support your decisions?
- Have you considered any existing examples of good practice.
- How do you intend to deal with any adverse impact, or lessen it?
- Who else will you need to be working with to do this e.g. partners, contractors etc and what is their approach? How will this help?

The strategy is an update and based on a number of years' experience in delivering energy efficiency and fuel poverty initiatives that aim to assist a range of people and properties as well as helping those more vulnerable and in need.

The strategy incorporates all the specific groups age; disability; gender; gender reassignment; marriage & civil partnership; pregnancy & maternity; race; religion or belief; and sexual orientation. Funding and grants that are obtained can be means tested so ensures that funding is directed as priority to those on low income, vulnerable and most in need.

The strategy contains an action plan which is reviewed annually to ensure the aims are being met.