

	HECA 2021 Report
Name of authority	Rother District Council
Type of Local Authority	District Council
Name, job title and email address of official submitting report	Richard Parker-Harding Head of Service Richard.parker-harding@rother.gov.uk
Does your Local Authority have a current strategy on carbon reduction and/or energy efficiency for domestic or non-domestic properties?	Yes
If yes, please provide a link If no, are you planning to develop one	https://www.rother.gov.uk/strategies-policies-and-plans/environment-strategy/
What has been, or will be, the cost(s) of running and administering the scheme(s), such as the value of grants and other support made available, plus any other costs incurred (such as administration) as desired.	<p>The East Sussex Warm Home Check Service is a County-wide service. Commissioned by East Sussex County Council Public Health team. The affordable warmth scheme targets low income households experiencing fuel poverty. The service is delivered by RetrofitWorks and Citizens Advice East Sussex. This service was commissioned in 2018-2021. The service has been recommissioned retaining the same delivery partners for an initial period of 3 years with a possible extension to 5.</p> <p>This service provides the free installation of minor measures and energy advice as well as securing and utilising external funding – including – ECO, Warm Homes Fund, Green Homes Grant.</p> <p>ESCC also supports the administration costs of the ECO Flex scheme for the post hosted at Hastings Borough Council.</p>
What businesses, charities, third sector organisations or other stakeholders do you work with to deliver the scheme(s)?	<p>The East Sussex Energy Partnership includes members from all East Sussex Local Authorities and a range of other organisations. The partnership approach helps to ensure a consistent and co-ordinated approach to the delivery of interventions to tackle health and wellbeing issues related to cold homes, particularly for vulnerable groups, and other related issues.</p> <p>Members include – Citizens Advice, Sussex Community Development Association, East Sussex CCG, Age UK East Sussex, Action in Rural Sussex, East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service, Energise Sussex Coast and National Energy Action.</p> <p>The East Sussex Fuel Poverty Coordinator hosted by Hastings Borough Council coordinates the Keep Warm and Well Network which acts as a way to share information, best practice, stakeholder events and training for frontline workers. All third sector and community organisations across the borough are represented through the network including Hastings Advice and Representation Centre, FSN and all statutory services.</p> <p>Hastings Borough Council also provides the administration for the East Sussex ECO Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent</p> <p>East Sussex energy Partnership https://warmeastsussex.org.uk/about-us/ Founded in 2007 by a partnership of local councils and the NHS in East Sussex, we aim to help to protect individuals and communities in East Sussex from the effects of living in a cold home. We provide resources and information to help people keep warmer for less.</p> <p>Through the Warm Home Check service the Council works with SGN Fuel Poverty Network Extension Scheme and</p>

	Solar Together Sussex – to encourage and support local homes owners to buy solar PV (and battery storage system) though a LA backed bulk purchase initiative in partnership with your Energy Sussex and Ichoosr https://solartogether.co.uk/hastings/home																																																																																																		
What has been, or will be, the outcome of the scheme(s)? These outcomes could include energy savings, carbon savings, economic impacts such as job creation and/or increased business competitiveness or societal impacts such as alleviation of fuel poverty and/or improved health outcomes etc	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Hastings Borough Council</th> <th>Eastbourne Borough</th> <th>Lewes District</th> <th>Wealden District</th> <th>Rother District</th> <th>Countywide</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>KWW Helpline</td> <td>3034</td> <td>409</td> <td>283</td> <td>450</td> <td>208</td> <td>4,384</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Warm Home Check Visits/number of houses installing minor measures</td> <td>412</td> <td>155</td> <td>66</td> <td>139</td> <td>129</td> <td>901</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Minor Measures installed</td> <td>568</td> <td>217</td> <td>101</td> <td>212</td> <td>166</td> <td>1264</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Income max</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>£688,199</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Table 1: Keep warm and well helpline, warm home check visits and minor measures installed between April 2019 – March 2021</p> <p>Table 2: Major measures installed between April 2019 – March 2021</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Hastings Borough</th> <th>Eastbourne Borough</th> <th>Lewes District</th> <th>Wealden District</th> <th>Rother District</th> <th>Countywide</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>CWI</td> <td>25</td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LI</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> <td>3</td> <td>1</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FTCH</td> <td>24</td> <td>4</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td>33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FPNES</td> <td>22</td> <td>4</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>73</td> <td>10</td> <td>4</td> <td>6</td> <td>4</td> <td>97</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ECO Flex declarations issued</td> <td>35</td> <td>3</td> <td>3</td> <td>18</td> <td>11</td> <td>70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Low income High Cost</td> <td>31</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td>11</td> <td>11</td> <td>57</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Low income Vulnerable to Cold</td> <td>4</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td>7</td> <td>0</td> <td>13</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Hastings Borough Council	Eastbourne Borough	Lewes District	Wealden District	Rother District	Countywide	KWW Helpline	3034	409	283	450	208	4,384	Warm Home Check Visits/number of houses installing minor measures	412	155	66	139	129	901	Minor Measures installed	568	217	101	212	166	1264	Income max						£688,199		Hastings Borough	Eastbourne Borough	Lewes District	Wealden District	Rother District	Countywide	CWI	25		1			26	LI	2	2	1	3	1	9	FTCH	24	4	1	2	2	33	FPNES	22	4	1	1	1	29	Total	73	10	4	6	4	97	ECO Flex declarations issued	35	3	3	18	11	70	Low income High Cost	31	2	2	11	11	57	Low income Vulnerable to Cold	4	1	1	7	0	13
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Does your Local Authority provide any advisory services to customers on how to save energy?	The East Sussex Warm Home Check service provides this service countywide.																																																																																																		
If yes, please briefly outline how this is undertaken.	The East Sussex Warm Home Check Service provides: The Keep Warm and Well Helpline – anyone can call this service for advice on energy saving and keeping warm at home Warm Home Check visits for eligible households (private tenure, low income) – this includes a holistic assessment of the property and installation of minor																																																																																																		

	<p>measures (i.e. LED lightbulbs, draft proofing, boiler service, TRVs etc.) and advice on saving energy and income maximisation.</p> <p>Opportunities to secure additional funding for major measures – i.e fuel poverty national extension scheme, warm homes fund first time central heating, ECO, Green Home Grant etc.</p>
How do you communicate or encourage energy saving amongst domestic consumers and/or local businesses?	<p>The East Sussex fuel poverty coordinator coordinates communication throughout East Sussex –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • social media (both organic and targeted posts) through Council communications. • Direct mail outs targeted using CROHM database. • Working with the front line voluntary, health and social care sector • Training on importance of keeping warm and saving energy at home for frontline works to take a Making Every Contact Count Approach (MECC) and refer to the East Sussex Warm Home Check Service • using resources – such as flyers, thermometer cards, posters, GP surgery screens etc.
Local Green Supply Chain	<p>Hastings Borough Council is a project partner in the BEIS (Local Supply Chain Demonstration Project) funded Warmer Sussex project. This has piloted and developed an approach to whole house retrofitting and has worked with local supply chain to deliver whole house retrofitting and energy efficiency measures. Warmer Sussex – Retrofit today Save Tomorrow. https://www.warmersussex.co.uk/ Warmer Sussex is a not-for-profit organisation, partnering with a range of community organisations and fully vetted local tradespeople to help the people of Sussex in their journey to an energy efficient home.</p> <p>In addition the local college is developing its syllabus to take account of whole house retrofitting and new low carbon technologies such as heat pumps and EV vehicles</p> <p>The GHG 1b initiative has funding to run a number of local workshops across East Sussex and within Hastings to engage the local supply chain in retrofitting and the new certification requirements such as PAS 2030 and PAS2035</p>
Have you made any assessment, or undertaken any analysis of the existing capacity in your local energy efficiency retrofit supply chain to support the decarbonisation of buildings by 2050? If Yes, please summarise the outcomes.	<p>Hastings Borough Council is a project partner in the BEIS (Local Supply Chain Demonstration Project) funded Warmer Sussex project. This has piloted and developed an approach to whole house retrofitting and has worked with local supply chain to deliver whole house retrofitting and energy efficiency measures. Warmer Sussex – Retrofit today Save Tomorrow. https://www.warmersussex.co.uk/ Warmer Sussex is a not-for-profit organisation, partnering with a range of community organisations and fully vetted local tradespeople to help the people of Sussex in their journey to an energy efficient home</p>
What actions are you taking, if any, to upskill and/or grow the local energy efficiency installer supply chain? This could include the facilitation of training, and local installer networking opportunities.	<p>Hastings Borough Council is a project partner in the BEIS (Local Supply Chain Demonstration Project) funded Warmer Sussex project. This has piloted and developed an approach to whole house retrofitting and has worked with local supply chain to deliver whole house retrofitting and energy efficiency measures. Warmer Sussex – Retrofit today Save Tomorrow. https://www.warmersussex.co.uk/ Warmer Sussex is a not-for-profit organisation, partnering with a range of community organisations and fully vetted local tradespeople to help the people of Sussex in their journey to an energy efficient home</p> <p>Within our East Sussex Consortium Green Home Grant Phase 1A elements of the project included £20,000 from Team East Sussex (TES), as part of the East Sussex Economy Recovery Plan, to fund the provision of Whole House Plans and further support for local SMEs to enable them to meet the higher quality assurance and industry specifications to work on the project (Trustmark accreditation and the</p>

	<p>PAS 2030:2019 and PAS 2035 installation specifications). for retrofitting homes)</p> <p>Local government officers promoted through professional networks the Greater South East Energy Hub supply chain workshops as well as through council communication team.</p> <p>The Green Home Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme includes a retrofit training programme with RetrofitWorks and Sussex Coast College to promote green skills development for local students. Six workshops with Plumbing HND students on the installation of sustainable electric heating systems. Students who have taken part in the workshops will be offered an opportunity to go on retrofit installation visits with Optivo's contractor as well as with RetrofitWorks so they can observe the practical installation of the energy efficiency measures required. It is intended that this experience will help students with the learning process and enhance their employment opportunities when they enter the workplace.</p>
<p>What actions are you taking, if any, to promote energy efficiency and the installer supply chain to consumers, and encourage households to consider energy retrofit?</p>	<p>The communications plan for Keep Warm and Well East Sussex includes targeted social media advertisements covering the Green Home Grant, Keeping warm and well and the East Sussex Warm Home Check Service.</p> <p>Solar Together is the Sussex-wide scheme promoting solar PV and battery purchase and install – this includes a direct mailout. With the recent addition of LIDAR to the CROHM license we hope to extend this mail out.</p>
<p>If no action is taking place in either of these two areas, please let us know of any barriers you have encountered.</p>	
<p>How effectively is your LA able to engage (Trustmark/PAS2035/PAS 2030 certified) installers?</p>	<p>This is primarily through the East Sussex Warm Home Check service Lead Partner – RetrofitWorks –</p> <p>RetrofitWorks is a not-for-profit cooperative to support installers. Members are organisations or individuals working in the building industry, including, but not limited to; installers/contractors, energy assessors, retrofit coordinators, architects, designers, project managers, and other refurbishment specialists. Contractors and businesses who work with RetrofitWorks can expect warm leads from interested clients, community support, ongoing training opportunities and more. Retrofit Coordinators are also assigned to each job so that the customer is represented, and Quality Assurance is carried out on 100% of jobs.</p>
<p>Do you have any plans to develop policies or initiatives in this space over the next five years as part of supporting your local decarbonisation efforts?</p>	<p>This is something we hope to develop further alongside our Town Investment Plan, Retrofit College and the Green Home Grant funding.</p>
<p>Social Housing</p> <p>What action, if any, has your LA taken to install energy efficiency or low carbon heat measures in social housing? Have these been installed to a satisfactory quality? What</p>	<p>Optivo are one of the partners in the East Sussex Consortium Green Home Grant Local Authority Delivery protect for both Phase 1a and b. In total this will result in 100 properties undergoing retrofit. These measures have been installed by a TrustMark fully quality assured contractor Osborne Energy - https://osborneenergy.co.uk/about-us/</p>

actions (if any) have your social housing partners taken?	
Do you have easy access to the information/knowledge within your organisation that you would expect to need for social housing retrofit projects? (e.g. stock condition; property data; approach to procurement; alignment with existing internal maintenance/upgrade plans; tenant engagement and management plans; costings)	The Council have also secured a licence for CROHM software including lidar to support out domestic retrofit strategy and ambitions and build a comprehensive and up to date database of EPCs and other retrofit information.
If no, would it be easy/difficult to obtain this information?	
Have you experienced any challenges to retrofit, including during any previous government schemes you have taken part in (e.g. supply chain, funding, tenant cooperation, mixed tenure, split incentive, policy clarity, etc)? Please provide some detail. Have social housing partners reported any challenges to retrofit?	
How does your LA currently/how will your LA in future plan to go about identifying suitable housing stock and measures for retrofit? How do social housing partners identify suitable stock? By the same measures or via a different method?	The Council have also secured a licence for CROHM software including lidar to support out domestic retrofit strategy and ambitions and build a comprehensive and up to date database of EPCs and other retrofit information.
What considerations would make you more or less likely to apply for government funding? If known, what is the opinion of your social housing partners?	Social housing partners need to ensure quality as well as oversight and control. It is important for them to ensure servicing and warrantee arrangements are also in line with their procurement.
To what extent are social housing tenants willing or unwilling to undergo retrofit, and what are the barriers and facilitators to their	N/k

participation? If known, is this the same opinion across all social housing tenants or is it different with HA and ALMO tenants?	
To what extent are social housing tenants willing or unwilling to undergo retrofit, and what are the barriers and facilitators to their participation? If known, is this the same opinion across all social housing tenants or is it different with HA and ALMO tenants?	N/k
Does the approach to retrofit change for leaseholders in mixed tenure blocks? What encourages them to co-operate?	N/k
Domestic Private Rented Sector (PRS) Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards	
Is your authority aware of the PRS Minimum Efficiency Standards regulations requiring private rentals in England and Wales to meet a minimum energy performance rating of EPC Band E as of April 2020, unless a valid exemption applies?	Yes
Which team within your authority is responsible for, leading on enforcement of the PRS minimum standard? Please provide the contact details of the person leading this team.	Environmental Health-Samantha Smith Samantha.smith@rother.gov.uk
What method or methods does your authority use to communicate with landlords and tenants about the standards and other related issues?	Social media

What barriers, if any, does your local authority face enforcing these regulations (e.g. identifying non-compliant properties/landlords, budgeting/resourcing, any legal issues)?	Financial exemption
Do you directly target landlords of EPC F and G rated properties to enforce these regulations? If yes, how? If no, please explain.	No
Financial Support for Energy Efficiency	
Where possible, please set out your answers to the following questions by tenure (owner occupied, privately rented, or social housing).	
What financial programmes, if any, do you have to promote domestic energy efficiency or energy saving? If applicable please outline the budget (and % of the budget that is used), where such funding is sourced and where it is targeted.	<p>East Sussex Warm Home Check Service is commissioned by East Sussex County Council Public Health – it is delivered by RetrofitWorks and Citizens Advice East Sussex</p> <p>Additionally, the East Sussex Fuel Poverty Coordinator is hosted at Hastings Borough Council.</p> <p>Warmer Sussex</p>
What future investment for energy efficiency or low carbon heat measures do you have planned, and when are these investments planned for?	
Fuel Poverty	
Does your Local Authority have a Fuel Poverty Strategy?	East Sussex Fuel Poverty Reduction Pathway
What steps have you taken to identify residents/properties in fuel poverty? What blockers, if any, have there been in identifying households in fuel poverty?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted social media advertising • Frontline workers awareness and encouraging referral to East Sussex Warm Home Check Service.

How does fuel poverty interlink with your local authority's overall Carbon Reduction Strategy?	This is in progress and both aim to complement each other
Please highlight any fuel poverty issues specific to your area.	Rural properties not on mains gas.
What measures or initiatives have you taken to promote fuel cost reduction for those in fuel poverty? Include information on partnerships with local businesses or energy providers you have.	<p>See East Sussex Warm Home Check Service – holistic including income maximisation. County wide £688,199 has been secured as income maximisation for Warm Home Check service clients for this HECA period.</p> <p>Sussex-wide fuel voucher scheme – funding through Energy redress scheme, DEFRA Covid funding.</p>
Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery	
Of the £2bn Green Homes Grant scheme introduced in summer 2020, £500m was assigned for Local Authority Delivery (LAD). LAD enables Local Authorities to bid for grant funding to support low income households in their area with energy efficiency and low carbon heating upgrades. £200m was made available through Local Authority grant competitions in 2020, known as phases 1A and 1B and £300m was allocated under Phase 2 between the five regional Local Energy Hubs.	
<p>• Has your Local Authority Participated in GHG: LAD?</p> <p>o If yes, please indicate which phase you participated in and briefly outline the project.</p> <p>o If no, please indicate what barriers prevented you from participation in the scheme.</p>	<p>Phase GHG LAD 1A – delivered between October 2020 and June 2021</p> <p>Eligibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Properties must have an EPC rating of E, F, or G • Household income of £30K or less • Eligible measures include all (non fossil fuel) measures that increase Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) <p><i>i.e. improve the EPC banding. The aim is to move a significant proportion of the properties having measures installed to an EPC Band C (In line with the fuel poverty strategy (2021) and Net Zero 2050.</i></p> <p>The project comprises two main work packages totalling a value of £912,714.</p> <p>Work Package 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivered through the East Sussex County Council commissioned Warm Home Check service https://warmeastsussex.org.uk/

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Tenure (owner occupied and private rented) • 75 properties <p>Work Package 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Housing (Optivo Housing) • 50 properties <p>Additional elements of the project included £20,000 from Team East Sussex (TES), as part of the East Sussex Economy Recovery Plan, to fund the provision of Whole House Plans and further support for local SMEs to enable them to meet the higher quality assurance and industry specifications to work on the project (Trustmark accreditation and the PASPAS 2030:2019 and PAS 2035 installation specifications). for retrofitting homes)</p> <p>The East Sussex Consortium put in a similar bid dfor Phase 1B comprising the same two work packages totalling a value of £1,165,462.</p> <p>WP1 – 100 properties (private tenures) WP2 – 50 properties (social housing)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would your Local Authority be in a position to manage the delivery of upgrades through a scheme such as LAD in 2022? o If yes, please indicate the anticipated number of homes that could be upgraded per year. o If no, please indicate what barriers would prevent you from delivering upgrades in your area. 	<p>Yes</p> <p>It is anticipated that was the funding to be similarly modelled to existing 1a and b funding approximately 100 all tenure properties would be able to receive upgrades over 12-18 month period.</p>
<p>The Energy Company Obligation (ECO)</p>	
<p>The Energy Company Obligation (ECO) is an obligation on energy suppliers aimed at helping households cut their energy bills and reduce carbon emissions by installing energy saving measures. Following the Spring 2018 consultation, the Government set out in its response that ECO3 will fully focus on Affordable Warmth – low income, vulnerable and fuel poor households. The ECO “Local Authority flexible eligibility” (LA Flex) programme allows LAs to make</p>	

<p>declarations determining that certain households in fuel poverty or with occupants on low incomes and vulnerable to the effects of cold homes, are referred to ECO obligated suppliers for support under the Affordable Warmth element of ECO. LAs involved in the LA Flex programme are required to issue a Statement of Intent that they are going to identify households as eligible, and the criteria they are going to use; and a declaration that the LA has been consulted on the installation of measures in a home.</p>							
<p>Has your local authority published a Statement of Intent (Sol) for ECO flexibility eligibility? (Y/N)</p>	<p>Yes – Can be viewed here</p>						
<p>Please answer the following questions to help us to understand LA Flex delivery in more detail:</p>		<p>Hastings Borough</p>	<p>Eastbourne Borough</p>	<p>Lewes District</p>	<p>Wealden District</p>	<p>Rother District</p>	<p>Countywide</p>
	<p>ECO Flex declarations issued</p>	<p>35</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>70</p>
	<p>Low income High Cost</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>57</p>
	<p>Low income Vulnerable to Cold</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>How many declarations were issued for low income vulnerable households?</p>	<p>See table</p>						
<p>How many declarations were issued for Fuel Poor households?</p>	<p>See table</p>						
<p>How many declarations were issued for in-fill?</p>	<p>0</p>						
<p>What is the highest income cap published in your Sol?</p>	<p>£52,000 is the maximum income. All income is related to household composition. Starting at a one adult household income threshold of £18,500 to £52,000 for a household comprising 2 adults and 4 or more children.</p>						
<p>If you have used an income over £30k gross, what reason have you given?</p>	<p>All income is related to household composition. Starting at a one adult household income threshold of £18,500 to £52,000 for a household comprising 2 adults and 4 or more children.</p>						
<p>Do you charge for declarations to be signed? If so, please state how much?</p>	<p>No</p>						

Smart Metering	
Please provide a brief statement outlining your current or planned approach to promote smart meter take up and supporting residents to achieve benefits.	None
<p>Please provide further information on activities relating to smart metering, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Integrating approaches to delivering energy efficiency improvements in residential accommodation b. Arranging for smart meters to be installed by energy suppliers in vacant social housing premises c. Using social landlords to promote smart meter uptake d. Including smart meters in landlord licencing schemes e. Supporting residents who have had appliances condemned for safety reasons f. Other supporting activities 	Age UK East Sussex and NEA South East project coordinator have both received funding to promote smart meter rollout.
Future Schemes and Wider Incentives	
Please outline any further schemes or wider initiatives not covered above that your local authority has carried out or is planning to undertake to improve energy efficiency in residential accommodation.	