

# Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) Further Report for Lincoln Lincolnshire March 2013

## Introduction

This HECA report is submitted as a cohesive report covering the themes and information common to Lincolnshire and specific to Lincoln. Our report has taken this format because all the local authorities in Lincolnshire work together as the Home Energy Lincs Partnership (HELP).



The Home Energy Lincs Partnership includes the seven district councils and the Lincolnshire County Council and consists of officers who are involved with the domestic energy efficiency and/or the wider climate change agenda. Working together, the partnership allows us to offer a more consistent approach to delivering affordable warmth and domestic energy efficiency to Lincolnshire residents.

HELP focuses its attentions on schemes and projects that promote and improve domestic energy efficiency and co-ordinates its actions with the wider climate change agenda.

In 2009, HELP developed the **Lincolnshire Affordable Warmth Strategy 2010 – 2016** with stakeholders throughout the county. The Strategy seeks to support district councils to provide affordable warmth for all households by developing a program of actions and engaging a range of partners to eradicate fuel poverty and to support a reduction in carbon emissions from our housing stock. It is an essential part of the county's efforts to tackle the causes and effects of climate change.

Covering 5921 square kilometres, Lincolnshire is one of the largest counties in England. It is predominantly rural in nature and heavily reliant upon agriculture, it has a variety of market towns, villages and hamlets with the City of Lincoln being the main urban centre.

Despite its size, the 2011 Census shows that Lincolnshire has a comparatively small population with its 713,700 residents forming 307,000 households. Some of county's districts are among the most sparsely populated in England and a disproportionate percentage of the population do not have access to mains gas.

Lincolnshire residents are in the main White British although parts of the county have seen a significant increase in Eastern European residents over recent years.

Administratively, Lincolnshire comprises of Lincolnshire County Council and seven district councils:

- Boston Borough Council
- City of Lincoln Council
- East Lindsey District Council
- North Kesteven District Council
- South Holland District Council
- South Kesteven District Council
- West Lindsey District Council

From April 2013 health care services in Lincolnshire will be commissioned by the Leicester and Lincolnshire Local Area Team who will commission General Practitioner (GP) and other services; four Clinical Commissioning Groups (groups of GPs) who will buy services from hospitals, and other providers, with Public Health responsibilities transferring to Lincolnshire County Council.

It is therefore essential that councils work closely with all health providers as a lack of affordable warmth leads to many acute physical and mental health problems.

## **Lincoln**

The City of Lincoln covers an area of 3,569 hectares (36 square kilometres); in the last ten years Lincoln has seen a significant increase in the number of people who live here, with a larger proportionate increase than England as a whole. We have also had a bigger increase proportionately than many cities and towns in England that are considered characteristically similar to us.

Lincoln's population has grown by 8.8% since 2001 to 93,100 residents (2011 Census); it is expected to increase to 95,900 in 2021. The ethnic make-up of Lincoln has seen some significant changes. In 2001, black and minority ethnic (BME) groups made up 5% of Lincoln's population. By 2011, residents from BME groups accounted for 11% of the population (9,888 residents).

Of the 39,825 households in Lincoln, 55.1% (21,932) are privately owned just over half these are owned with a mortgage or loan, with the remainder being owned outright. There is a roughly even split between social rented and private rented homes, with council homes accounting for 18.5% of all households, and private landlords and letting agencies accounting for 19.4% of all households. The number of private rented households is heavily influenced by the student population of Lincoln.

In 2009 the house condition survey revealed that 'excess cold' was an issue in Lincoln and something that needed to be addressed. In setting out what we have done to improve domestic energy efficiency throughout the City, we have used the template provided by the Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC) as set out below.

ACTION	TIMING
<b>i) LOCAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY AMBITIONS AND PRIORITIES</b>	
<p><b>Lincolnshire</b></p> <p>The current housing stock in Lincolnshire is 307,000 across all tenures (Census 2011). The Private Sector House Condition Survey 2009 identified that private sector housing accounts for approximately 273,000.</p> <p>It is estimated that the following energy efficiency improvements are required in private sector housing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 96,100 properties require loft insulation</li> <li>• 61,500 require cavity wall insulation</li> <li>• 63,100 require new central heating or heating repairs</li> <li>• 27,300 require double glazing</li>   <li>• 56.7% of private sector housing have an Excess Cold Category 1 hazard under the Housing Health and Safety Rating system</li> </ul> <p>Source: Private Sector House Condition Survey 2009 (Lincolnshire Councils)  <a href="http://www.research-lincs.org.uk/UI/Documents/Lincolnshire%20County%20Final%20HCS%20Report%202009.pdf">http://www.research-lincs.org.uk/UI/Documents/Lincolnshire%20County%20Final%20HCS%20Report%202009.pdf</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 81,734 homes in Lincolnshire are solid walled and considered hard to treat  Source: <a href="http://www.research-lincs.org.uk/LROPresentationTools/UI/Pages/MappingTool.aspx">http://www.research-lincs.org.uk/LROPresentationTools/UI/Pages/MappingTool.aspx</a></li> <li>• 105,495 homes are considered to be off the gas network  Source: <a href="http://www.research-lincs.org.uk/LROPresentationTools/UI/Pages/MappingTool.aspx">http://www.research-lincs.org.uk/LROPresentationTools/UI/Pages/MappingTool.aspx</a></li> <li>• CO2 emissions for 2010 are estimated at 7.2t per capita, of which 2.3t is attributed to housing  Source: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/39803/6223-local-and-regional-co2-emissions-estimates-for-200.xls">https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/39803/6223-local-and-regional-co2-emissions-estimates-for-200.xls</a></li> <li>• Fuel poverty was estimated to affect 19.4% of our residents in 2010  Source: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/fuel-poverty-2010-sub-regional-data">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/fuel-poverty-2010-sub-regional-data</a></li> </ul> <p>In 2010 the Home Energy Lincs Partnership set up an insulation scheme which delivered 13,800 measures to 11,000 households by March 2012. This resulted in estimated annual CO2 emissions reductions of 10,000 tonnes and lifetime reductions of almost 350,000 tonnes.</p>	

In 2012, DECC identified 35 Lower Super Output areas (LSOAs) in the county as low income areas under the Carbon Saving Communities obligation of Green Deal. In addition there are a further 193 LSOAs classed as rural. This is out of a total of 413 Lower Super Output areas. Combined, these total almost 181,000 households, across all tenures.

<http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination>

Affordable warmth and fuel poverty issues are a priority for Lincolnshire:

**Lincolnshire Affordable Warmth Strategy 2010-2016.** The Home Energy Lincs Partnership developed the Strategy in 2009. It was approved by all the Districts in Lincolnshire.

The following themes were agreed as the priorities and have been developed into Action Plans:

Theme 1: Raising awareness of fuel poverty and its solutions

Theme 2: Targeting actions at fuel poor households

Theme 3: Improving the energy efficiency of all housing tenures

Theme 4: Maximising the income of households at risk from fuel poverty

Theme 5: Improving access to fuel services and renewable energy

Source:

<http://www.research-lincs.org.uk/UI/Documents/Lincolnshire%20Affordable%20Warmth%20Strategy%202010%20-%202016.pdf>

In 2012, Lincolnshire County Council's Environmental Scrutiny Committee conducted a review into tackling fuel poverty in Lincolnshire. It reviewed progress made with the Lincolnshire Affordable Warmth Strategy and the Home Energy Lincs Partnership, investigated current initiatives, and examined proposed initiatives. In the recommendations, HELP was fully recognised as the co-ordinating vehicle for both advice and schemes related to tackling fuel poverty. It also recommended a review of the HELP Memorandum of Understanding, reporting mechanism and resources in order to drive forward the actions in the Affordable Warmth Strategy.

Source: <http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/local-democracy/how-the-council-works/overview-and-scrutiny/general-information/completed-scrutiny-reviews/56555.article>

Through their Green Deal and Affordable Warmth Practical Assistance Programme, NEA is currently updating the Strategy to reflect recent changes in legislation and delivery mechanisms.

April  
2013

**Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Lincolnshire 2013-2018** has recognised, as one of its themes 'Tackling the

social determinants of health' in which one of the priorities is:

'Ensure that people have access to good quality, energy efficient housing that is both affordable and meets their needs'. The action that Health and Well Being board will undertake to achieve this is:

- Work with the 'Home Energy Lincs Partnership' to deliver an affordable warmth strategy to address fuel poverty.

The Health and Well Being Board have recognised the importance of housing and the need to include it in the strategy. The board has stated it will fully support district councils and their partners in further developing the actions and measures required to deliver this aspect of the revised priority within the strategy.

Source: <http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/searchResults.aspx?qsearch=1&keywords=health+and+wellbeing+strategy>

#### **Corporate Sustainability Action Network - CSAN**

CSAN includes the seven district Lincolnshire councils and the county council and consists of officers who work on climate change and energy management agendas. Projects have included a joint procurement and tendering exercise on solar PV and Voltage Optimisation. Officers have agreed a joint protocol for their Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) reporting and have benchmarked their GHG emissions. Each district council publishes their GHG emissions reports on their website.

**Climate Local** – Lincolnshire County Council signed up to Climate Local on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2012.

The Action Plan (currently being consulted on) will provide a strategic framework for joint action. It includes a commitment to

- Work with partners to promote energy and resource efficiency, reduce fossil fuel energy dependency and alleviate fuel poverty (e.g. HELP)

## Lincoln

The current housing stock in the City of Lincoln is 39,825 across all tenures. The Private Sector House Condition Survey 2009 identified that private sector housing accounts for 32,000 properties.

It is estimated that the following energy efficiency improvements are required in private sector housing:

- 11,500 properties require loft insulation
- 7,400 require cavity wall insulation
- 7,900 require new central heating or heating repairs
- 4,800 require double glazing
  
- 21.6% of private sector housing have a Category 1 hazard under the Housing Health and Safety Rating system of which 47.8% are attributed to Excess Cold (Source: Private Sector House Condition Survey 2009).
  
- 34.6% of homes in Lincoln are solid walled and considered hard to treat  
Source: <http://www.research-lincs.org.uk/LROPresentationTools/UI/Pages/MappingTool.aspx>
  
- 18.4% of homes in Lincoln are considered to be off the gas network  
Source: <http://www.research-lincs.org.uk/LROPresentationTools/UI/Pages/MappingTool.aspx>
  
- CO2 emissions for Lincoln in 2010 were estimated at 5.3t per capita, of which 2.1t was attributed to housing  
Source: [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/39803/6223-local-and-regional-co2-emissions-estimates-for-200.xls](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/39803/6223-local-and-regional-co2-emissions-estimates-for-200.xls)
  
- Fuel poverty was estimated to affect 19.2% of Lincoln residents in 2010  
Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/s-data-sets/fuel-poverty-2010-sub-regional-data>

In 2006 the City of Lincoln Council launched its Save and Secure Cavity Wall and Loft Insulation scheme which ran until 2010. This delivered 1325 cost effective measures across some 1105 dwellings consisting of insulating 906 lofts and 419 cavities

With the launch of the Home Energy Lincs Partnership insulation scheme in 2010, this then went on to deliver a further 8,920 properties benefitting from being surveyed, which led to some 840 properties benefitting from either cavity wall

insulation, loft insulation, or both from October 2010 to March 2012.

In Lincoln this led to an annual reduction of Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions of 780Tonnes of Carbon Dioxide (tCO<sub>2</sub>) giving a lifetime saving of 29,364(tCO<sub>2</sub>).

Lincoln has a total of 57 LSOAs, 12 of which have been designated under the ECO CSCo heading. These account for some 6990 dwellings across the city

- The Central Lincolnshire Housing Growth Strategy of which Lincoln is a signatory has several key actions amongst which are the following:
- Bring empty homes back in to use
- Make the best use of existing housing
- Improve the quality and energy efficiency of new and existing housing
- Ensure the appropriate evidence base is in place to support these actions

The Lincoln Housing Strategy is structured around the Lincolnshire Housing Strategy and therefore has the following theme:

To contribute to raising the quality of design in housing, the creation of sustainable homes and improve the quality of exist

Within this key Action we have the following Priorities for Lincoln:

- **SUPPORT THE DELIVERY OF IMPROVED DESIGN STANDARDS**
- **ENABLE THE CREATION OF SUSTAINABLE NEW AND EXISTING HOMES**

And the following key objectives:

- ENCOURAGE ALL PROPERTIES TO BE BUILT TO A MINIMUM OF CODE FOR SUSTAINABLE HOMES LEVEL 3
- CONTINUE TO ASSESS ALL DEVELOPMENTS ABOVE 10 DWELLINGS AGAINST THE CRITERIA OF THE BUILDING FOR LIFE STANDARD
- PROMOTE RETROFITTING NEW ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES TO EXISTING PROPERTIES TO IMPROVE THEIR ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- We approved our own **Carbon Management Plan** in April 2007 having worked with Lincolnshire County Council on the Carbon Management Programme, supported by the Carbon Trust. In 2009 the Carbon Management Plan was updated and in 2011 was re-launched as the Use of Natural Resources Strategy and Action Plan which shows our current emissions and a planned route on how to reduce our carbon emissions for the next five years. Within the plan are carbon-reducing projects and timed action plans. To ensure that carbon management is embedded into the Council, the plan details how it will be managed reviewed and updated.

Source: <http://www.lincoln.gov.uk/useofnaturalresources>

Between 2008/09 and 2011/12 our emissions fell by 19%

Source: <http://www.lincoln.gov.uk/ghg>

- City of Lincoln Council signed up to Climate Local In January 2013. Work is currently being undertaken on a strategic statement and action plan that will deliver Lincoln as a Low Carbon City, as evidence is collected from the Central Lincolnshire Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Study and other points of reference.



Payment Premium		
Zero Carbon Homes	City of Lincoln Council are looking at the potential of Allowable Solutions to deliver both on site and off site initiatives through the planning process	Ongoing
Minimum standards in private rented sector	<p><b>Lincolnshire</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will continue working with local landlords to raise the standard of privately rented properties, by offering advice, information and where necessary by taking appropriate enforcement action through the Housing Health and Safety Rating System;</li> <li>• We will promote Green Deal to landlords and encourage take up to ensure minimum energy efficiency standards are achieved prior to 2018;</li> <li>• Working in partnership with the Lincolnshire Improving Homes Group, we will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ continue running and promoting co-ordinated landlord forums supported by DASH (Decent and Safe Homes);</li> <li>○ contribute to and actively promote the quarterly Lincolnshire Landlords Newsletter which is run by the District Councils to inform local landlords: <a href="http://partners.lincolnshire.gov.uk/LincolnshireLandlordsElectronicNewsletter/">http://partners.lincolnshire.gov.uk/LincolnshireLandlordsElectronicNewsletter/</a></li> <li>○ explore the possibility of developing a Lincolnshire-branded Landlord Accreditation scheme with DASH. We have previously promoted the East Midlands Landlord Accreditation scheme.</li> <li>○ Continue to seek out external funding streams which may assist with improvements to homes</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The City of Lincoln Council Private Sector Housing Team offer grants to owners of empty homes who wish to offer them for affordable rents and work closely with registered providers utilising a voluntary lease scheme to bring homes back into use and up to a decent homes standard. Additionally they can offer advice and support if owners are renovating their own home. <a href="http://www.lincsemptyhomes.org.uk/">http://www.lincsemptyhomes.org.uk/</a></p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Quarterly</p> <p>Ongoing, reviewed annually</p>
Energy Performance Certificates (EPC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are investigating establishing a stock condition database for all private sector housing in the county working with Lincolnshire Research Observatory (LRO) and Housing Intelligence for the East Midlands (HI4EM). The database will include energy efficiency data.</li> </ul> <p>Data from various sources, potentially including EPC data, may be purchased to populate the database</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current mean SAP ratings for private sector properties in Lincolnshire are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Owner occupier: 52;</li> <li>○ Privately rented: 47</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Dec 2013

	<p>source: Private Sector Housing Condition Survey 2009 Lincolnshire Councils  <a href="http://www.research-lincs.org.uk/UI/Documents/Lincolnshire%20County%20Final%20HCS%20Report%202009.pdf">http://www.research-lincs.org.uk/UI/Documents/Lincolnshire%20County%20Final%20HCS%20Report%202009.pdf</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In support of Trading Standards, we will continue working with private landlords, through the forums and newsletter to ensure they are aware of the requirement to provide EPCs to tenants and the proposals in the Energy Act 2011 which require all privately rented dwellings to have a minimum energy efficiency rating by April 2018, which is likely to be set at EPC rating “E”.</li> <li>• We will continue to promote the importance of obtaining the EPC to prospective tenants and considering them before they decide to take on a property as it can provide them with estimates of heating costs which may impact on their ability to adequately heat their home.</li> </ul>	
Existing schemes	<p><b>Lincolnshire</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HELP works in partnership with Responders to Warmth (R2W) in Lincolnshire. R2W is funded by Department of Health - Warm Homes Healthy People fund and is in its second year. The scheme currently offers energy efficiency advice, insulation and heating measures. R2W is investigating developing links with Green Deal providers to deliver measures within Lincolnshire.  <a href="http://www.responderstowarmth.co.uk/">http://www.responderstowarmth.co.uk/</a></li> <li>• HELP works with Community Lincs to promote their bulk buying oil scheme to those residents in off gas areas of the county.  <a href="http://www.communitylincs.com/bulk-oil-buying-scheme/">http://www.communitylincs.com/bulk-oil-buying-scheme/</a></li> <li>• The Lincolnshire Councils receive referrals for advice on energy efficiency and home repairs through First Contact, a service designed to enable people aged 60 and over, who live in Lincolnshire, to access important information and services. As appropriate, onward referrals are made to money advice services, debt advice services, voluntary and community sector organisations that are running schemes (e.g. R2W, Community Lincs oil buying, etc).  <a href="http://www.firstcontact.org.uk/">http://www.firstcontact.org.uk/</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Lincoln</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City Of Lincoln Council is continuing their annual programme for boiler and central heating installations/replacements.</li> </ul>	

ACTION		TIMING
<b>iii) MEASURES WE PROPOSE TO COST EFFECTIVELY DELIVER ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS IN RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION BY USING AREA BASED/ STREET BY STREET ROLL-OUT</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HELP will work with NEA on the development of a wider strategic framework which would involve work with key stakeholders to generate a series of recommendations to help deliver our affordable warmth objectives within the new context of the Green Deal and ECO.</li> <li>• The Improving Homes Group is investigating establishing a stock condition database for all private sector housing in the county, which will include energy efficiency data. It is envisaged that the database will be correlated with other datasets, such as health, benefits and socio economic data to facilitate effective targeting.</li> <li>• HELP will use this data to target the areas where fuel poverty is highest and where there is the highest density of households eligible for ECO funding.</li> <li>• HELP are investigating targeting Carbon Saving Community obligation (CSCo) areas.</li> <li>• HELP are investigating a County wide Collective Switching scheme working with Procurement Lincolnshire and LGA. The objectives are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To develop an inclusive Collective Switching scheme tailored for Lincolnshire</li> <li>○ To particularly consider how it can be accessible to fuel poor households</li> <li>○ To have something in place by the next heating season, therefore the timing is important as we would be looking to take advantage of the lowest fuel rate, which are offered during the slack period and before winter prices come into effect.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>In Lincolnshire, there are 35 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) identified within Lincolnshire as low income and a further 193 classed as rural. This is out of a total of 413 Lower Super Output areas.</p> <p>In Lincoln there are 12 LSOAs identified as CSCo areas which contain some 6990 dwellings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HELP will investigate developing a framework agreement with Green Deal Providers</li> </ul>	<p>September 2013</p>

	The Lincoln City Council Housing Assistance Policy is currently under review and considering cost effective intervention measures that will assist and raise the standard of the private housing sector.	Ongoing
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ACTION		TIMING
<b>iv) TIMEFRAME FOR DELIVERY AND NATIONAL AND LOCAL PARTNERS</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HELP will continue to explore delivery mechanisms, particularly for ECO and the CSCo areas</li> <li>• Our local partners are: Age UK, Citizens Advice, Community Lincs, Lincolnshire Community Foundation, NEA, and Sustain Lincolnshire.</li> <li>• The information held indicates the following measures are required in Lincolnshire: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 96,100 properties require loft insulation</li> <li>➤ 61,500 require cavity wall insulation</li> <li>➤ 63,100 require new central heating or heating repairs</li> <li>➤ 27,300 require double glazing</li> <li>➤ 81,734 homes are solid walled and considered hard to treat</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	



Signed off by

Position..... Chief Executive, City Of Lincoln Council