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HISTORY



A Regional Affordable Warmth Action Plan for Yorkshire and The Humber

September 2006

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Foreword

Dear Colleagues

This Regional Affordable Warmth Action Plan has been led by the Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber with the support of National Energy Action. It provides a framework of actions for partners working at a regional level to “make fuel poverty history” in Yorkshire and the Humber.

Our region faces a more significant challenge than many in eradicating fuel poverty. 7.7% of households in the region experience fuel poverty, as they do not have enough money coming in to adequately heat their homes. We all know the negative consequences of cold homes for the most vulnerable and the effect it has on the health and quality of life for thousands of citizens in our region. In 2004-5 there were 3200 excess winter deaths in our region. This is a phenomenon that countries with colder winters do not experience. It is hard to see how this will not get worse in our region unless we take firm action to achieve the Government target of eradicating fuel poverty in vulnerable households by 2010 and for all households by 2016.

Much progress has been made through local partnerships for affordable warmth, led by Local Authorities and Local Strategic Partnerships. Local Area Agreements now create an additional impetus to partnership working in this area. There remain many challenges, as this is a cross cutting issue, and can easily be seen as “someone else’s business”, particularly when it is not part of core targets or performance management frameworks.

There are challenges to address at a regional level. The Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group will further refine the priorities in the action plan, bringing partners on board and will seek ways to increase organisational leadership and commitment to delivery.

This action plan reflects what stakeholders told us needed to happen to tackle fuel poverty in Yorkshire and the Humber, and we have reflected this fully in the five themes. It is grounded in the experience of those working on fuel poverty and affordable warmth at a regional and local level and represents a first step towards a more coherent and co-ordinated set of actions by regional partners which I hope you and your organisation will endorse, support and mainstream, where appropriate in your work programmes.



Isobel Mills

Director of People and Communities
Regional Fuel Poverty Champion

Introduction

Fuel Poverty and Affordable Warmth

A fuel poor household is one that cannot afford to keep adequately warm at reasonable cost. The most widely accepted definition of a fuel poor household is one which needs to spend more than 10% of its income on all fuel use and to heat its home to an adequate standard of warmth. This is generally defined as 21°C in the living room and 18°C in the other occupied rooms - the temperatures recommended by the World Health Organisation. The solution to fuel poverty is affordable warmth - the ability to achieve a temperature in the home which is adequate for health and comfort, within 10% of household income.

Although the preconditions for fuel poverty – poor housing and heating standards, under-occupancy, low household income and unaffordable energy prices, have always existed for the most disadvantaged households, it was not until the 1970's that fuel poverty was identified as a serious social problem. Some additional factors must be considered as contributing to, or exacerbating fuel poverty. Not all households have access to a mains gas supply, for example, and will therefore be excluded from what is generally, at least at the present time, the most economical and efficient method of space and water heating. Many households contain one or more individuals who, because of age, long term health conditions or disability require higher temperatures for

health, well-being and comfort, compounded by spending longer periods in the home than more active occupants. Finally, even the apparently insignificant matter of how fuel is paid for can be an issue, with significant differentials in energy charges between direct debit (lowest charges) and prepayment meter use (higher charges). As the price of fuels increase, more people move into fuel poverty. It is estimated that for every 1% increase in the price of fuel, 40,000 more people fall into fuel poverty¹.

Thus, fuel poverty is an issue affected by:

- household income
- the characteristics of households (elderly, single parent etc)
- housing standards (insulation, heating and ventilation)
- occupancy issues (both occupancy levels and occupancy patterns)
- energy price fluctuations and payment problems
- location (rural/urban)

The connection between cold, damp housing and rates of morbidity and mortality are well documented. The most emotive and highly publicised representation of fuel poverty is that of the pensioner suffering hypothermia. However, in stark clinical terms, actual cases of hypothermia deaths are comparatively rare (250 – 350 per year). Of greater significance is the incidence of cold-related illness. Cold homes have been shown to exacerbate existing illnesses such as asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and reduce resistance to respiratory illnesses like influenza, pneumonia and bronchitis.

The risk of heart attack or stroke is also increased by cold conditions in the home. Cold homes also contribute to an increased risk of falls amongst the elderly and have been linked to social exclusion, low educational attainment and mental health problems. The result is an extra 30,000 - 40,000 excess winter deaths in the UK. The fact that countries with much more severe winters than those of the UK, for example Sweden, Germany and Canada, experience comparatively low variation of mortality across the seasons, suggests that poor housing standards and comparatively low incomes are the crucial factors. It has been suggested that for every 1°C that the winter temperature drops below the average there will be an associated increase of 8,000 excess winter deaths. In addition, the fuel poor suffer from loss of opportunity by having to use a larger proportion of their income to keep warm than other households. This results in a decline in well-being and overall quality of life.

Why a Regional Action Plan?

The Yorkshire and Humber region is estimated to have the second highest levels of fuel poverty in the UK² and a significant number of vulnerable people experiencing fuel poverty. The case for affordable warmth has now been recognised on a national policy level. The UK Fuel Poverty Strategy, published in 2001, sets out the Government's overall objective of eradicating fuel poverty in the UK by 2016, with an interim target of eradicating fuel poverty amongst vulnerable households by 2010. The Regional Housing Strategy includes a target to increase the average home energy rating to SAP (Standard Assessment Procedure) 65 for all homes by 2016, including reducing

¹ Source: National Energy Action

² English House Condition Survey, 2003

the percentage of homes with a SAP rating of less than 30 to below 1% in social housing and 2% or less in the private sector. The UK Fuel Poverty Strategy identifies a number of roles for local and regional organisations from the public, private and voluntary sectors as well as highlighting the role of Government Offices in achieving UK fuel poverty targets. The Strategy specifically states that;

‘It is clear that the knowledge, experience, and resources of both local authorities and Primary Care Trusts will need to be integrated more systematically into the wider effort to combat fuel poverty.

The Government Offices for the Regions, too, need to be engaged because of their wide-ranging ability to bring together different players and to encourage and facilitate developments on a regional basis.’

Here in Yorkshire and the Humber, the Regional Housing Strategy states that the Region will establish a high-level partnership group to tackle the need to eliminate fuel poverty in the Region, and meet national targets³. This action is also highlighted as part of the Regional Strategic Framework for Public Health’s action plan⁴. The distribution of fuel poverty varies between urban and rural areas; in urban areas this may be distributed on a geographic basis and concentrated pockets of need may exist but in the rural areas fuel poverty may be scattered across a whole district.

The key role which local authorities and other local agencies play in the co-ordination and delivery of work to eradicate fuel poverty has long been recognised. In recent years many local authorities in Yorkshire and the Humber have worked in partnership to develop affordable warmth

strategies which enable them to meet corporate and community plan objectives in a planned and systematic way. The development of a regional approach to the provision of affordable warmth allows key regional players to make links between national policy and local action and to support local agencies in a strategic and co-ordinated way. There is huge benefit to be gained by ensuring that different regional strategies are effectively integrated and it is for this reason that this document has been developed through partnership between local practitioners and regional agencies.

We are mindful of the need to employ more sustainable solutions to fuel poverty in order to combat climate change and the intention is to work closely with those who are delivering the regional Climate Change Action Plan www.yourclimate.org.uk

Developing the Regional Action Plan

The development of this Regional Affordable Warmth Action Plan has been led by the Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber with the Department of Health Regional Public Health Group, facilitated by National Energy Action, the national fuel poverty charity. A Steering Group consisting of representatives from key regional agencies was established to drive the action plan development process forward. In July 2005 the first of two consultation workshops was held. Participants were invited from a wide range of organisations in the region, representing the public, private and voluntary sectors, health and local authorities. The main objectives for the Action Plan were identified through participatory group sessions.

A second workshop took place in September 2005, where participants were able to build on their initial ideas and to identify specific tasks which need to be carried out in order to achieve the objectives of the action plan. A regional consultation exercise was then carried out to refine the action plan. Implementation of the action plan will be overseen by the Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group.

Overview - Themes

The objectives in the Action Plan are divided into five themes which are as follows:

1. Influencing Affordable Warmth Policy, Strategy, Funding and Delivery in the Region
2. Training and Awareness Raising
3. Supporting Local Affordable Warmth Work
4. Improving Health and Well-being
5. Monitoring and Evaluating the Action Plan

The tables which follow detail the various objectives and tasks which have been identified under each of these themes, along with the expected outcomes and organisations with a lead responsibility for working closely with a range of partners to accomplish key tasks (See Appendix 1). In some cases, where the lead has not been identified, the Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group will work with the range of regional partners listed to determine who will drive forward the necessary actions, monitoring delivery and reporting progress.

³ Yorkshire and the Humber Regional Housing Strategy 2005 - 2021

⁴ Our Region Our Health, A Regional Strategic Framework for Health, 2004

Theme 1: Influencing Affordable Warmth Policy, Strategy, Funding and Delivery in the Region

Objective	Tasks	Timescales	Outcome	Lead
1.1 Identify and address gaps in funding schemes to address fuel poverty in the region.	1.1.1 Identify people who are not catered for by current fuel poverty schemes, design a scheme which would deliver affordable warmth to this group, secure funding for the scheme.	March 2007	Scoping study of those groups not covered by existing fuel poverty schemes, estimate of numbers involved. An assessment of the measures and the costs to deliver the scheme. Produce proposal to Regional Housing Board/EEC (Energy Efficiency Commitment) partner	Yorkshire and Humber Assembly
	1.1.2 Review and mainstream the Community Energy Solutions project which tackles hard to treat homes which are off the gas network.	July 2009	Report on the effectiveness of Community Energy Solutions to take households out of fuel poverty and the costs involved with mainstreaming across the region.	Community Energy Solutions
	1.1.3 Establish the potential need for Warm Front top up funding and secure funding to allow all Warm Front eligible clients to have measures free of charge.	March 2007	Assessment of costs and a funding mechanism to achieve it.	Warm Front 2 Contact Group
	1.1.4 Explore what can be done at regional level to ensure maximum capacity to support income maximisation work.	March 2007	Proposals from the Warm Front 2 Contact Group to the Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group.	Warm Front 2 Contact Group
1.2 Provide regional guidance on providing maximum assistance for clients within the parameters of data protection legislation.	1.2.1 Encourage data protection commissioners to endorse the use of Local Authority and Department for Work and Pensions databases to help target affordable warmth mail shots at clients in receipt of benefit.	July 2007	Guidance produced to enable mail shots to be sent to vulnerable clients.	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group
1.3 Use Local Area Agreements to raise the profile of fuel poverty locally and to deliver affordable warmth through joint action by Local Strategic Partnerships.	1.3.1 Assess how new and existing Local Area Agreements address fuel poverty	April 2007	Local Area Agreement Outcomes Frameworks contain robust targets and indicators to reduce fuel poverty in the context of improving health, housing, social inclusion and the environment. There is an increase in the number of local authorities developing reward element stretch targets for fuel poverty and fully achieving them.	Government Office for Yorkshire and The Humber
	1.3.2 Produce a briefing document focussing on the links between fuel poverty and Local Area Agreement themes and the role of Sub-regional Housing Partnerships working with LSPs in the delivery of affordable warmth.	September 2007		

Objective	Tasks	Timescales	Outcome	Lead
1.4 Review existing policy in Local Authorities and Primary Care Trusts and produce a model scrutiny review to encourage Local Authorities and Primary Care Trusts to adopt best practice in their affordable warmth work.	1.4.1 Establish a list of approved 'critical friends' to delivery scrutiny.	September 2007	Policies produced that promote affordable warmth and tackle fuel poverty influenced by informed scrutiny.	Yorkshire and Humber Assembly/National Energy Action
	1.4.2 Ensure links to existing overview and scrutiny development programmes			
1.5 Ensure specific fuel poverty targets are adhered to and addressed in relevant regional plans and policies	1.5.1 Review established targets and indicators based on the results of research and use to inform regional policy decisions/ criteria.		Addressing fuel poverty is integrated into the Sub Regional Housing Partnerships' Investment Programmes and other relevant regional strategies.	Yorkshire and Humber Assembly
	1.5.2 Identify relevant plans and policies for Sub-regional Housing Partnerships.			
1.6 Ensure Primary Care Trusts address fuel poverty in their Local Delivery Plans and incorporate affordable warmth into the delivery of NHS priorities and targets	1.6.1 Produce guidance that shows how PCTs (Primary Care Trusts) can address fuel poverty in their commissioning plans and how this assists in reaching targets.	March 2007	PCTs are achieving their targets and making a full contribution to reducing fuel poverty in their populations in their commissioning strategies, including contracting with the third sector and partnerships with social care and housing.	NHS (to be agreed with NHS Yorkshire and the Humber and PCTs)
1.7 Encourage all Local Authorities in Yorkshire and The Humber to develop Affordable Warmth Strategies and ensure close links between regional and local affordable warmth strategies.	1.7.1 Produce annual progress reports	August 2007 and subsequent years	Local Affordable Warmth strategies progress reports and (EEC3) collated outcomes together with progress reports on regional action plan give coherent picture of supportive actions regionally and locally .	Local Authorities/ Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group
	1.7.2 Monitor the impact of local and regional strategies on the implementation of affordable warmth	August 2007 and subsequent years	Annual Progress reports produced on the Affordable Warmth Action Plans.	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group
	1.7.3 Ensure delivery of local and regional strategies through the development of energy champions and sharing of best practice	Ongoing – to be reviewed every August.	Annual Progress reports produced on the Affordable Warmth Action Plans.	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group

Objective	Tasks	Timescales	Outcome	Lead
1.8 Encourage Registered Social Landlords to develop and implement affordable warmth strategies.	1.8.1 Measure and monitor housing association work to improve performance of stock	August 2007 and subsequent years	Produce annual progress report	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group
	1.8.2 Encourage housing associations to secure funding (e.g. from utility Energy Efficiency Commitment schemes) to exceed the Decent Homes Standard in their properties	July 2007	Inform EEC (Energy Efficiency Commitment) 3 of standards required to provide affordable warmth to households.	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group
	1.8.3 Work with housing associations and local authorities to help tenants learn energy efficient behaviour, knowledge and techniques	July 2007	Produce guidance and monitor compliance with the guidance.	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group
	1.8.4 Encourage Registered Social Landlords to proactively develop/comply with the Energy Performance Certificates to help tenants to cut the cost of their heating bills.	July 2007	Tenants of Registered Social Landlords more able to afford heating bills.	Housing Corporation

Theme 2: Training and Awareness Raising

Objective	Tasks	Timescales	Outcome	Lead
2.1 Develop a multi-agency Communication Plan which will raise awareness of fuel poverty at all levels throughout the region.	2.1.1 Make the economic case for affordable warmth to fund-holders and decision-makers in the housing and health sectors	July 2007	Increased and renewed understanding, higher profile, advocacy and leadership in all sectors and across decision making levels.	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group
	2.1.2 Re-brand 'fuel poverty' - replace the term 'fuel poverty' with 'affordable warmth'. Maximise interest and understanding – establish a brand for the work of the Action Plan to get the message right			
	2.1.3 Seek media interest and publicity for regional events, policies and activities			
	2.1.4 Identify regional energy champions from a range of sectors to increase influence on policy and practice (including climate change)			
	2.1.5 Replicate good practice across the region through the production of an affordable warmth good practice guide for regional decision-makers which includes case studies and costings.			
	2.1.6 Develop communication methods between all partners to facilitate the tasks outlined above			
	2.1.7 Lobby/challenge energy suppliers on their policies of pre-payment meter charges to assist households in fuel poverty			
	2.1.8 Lobby/challenge government to ensure provision for fuel poor not on benefits to be included in the definition of 'vulnerable'			

Objective	Tasks	Timescales	Outcome	Lead
2.2 Improve co-ordination and communication between regional and local organisations – vertically and horizontally – and encourage sign-up to regional objectives	2.2.1 Encourage Local Strategic Partnerships to incorporate affordable warmth into their Sustainable Community Strategies and monitor progress on delivery.	August 2007	See objective 2.2	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group
	2.2.2 Ensure integration of national, regional and local schemes and plans to tackle fuel poverty.			
	2.2.3 Engage Chief Executives of key regional agencies and ensure commitment through sign-up.			
2.3 Use regional energy champions to influence policy and practice in local and regional organisations throughout the region	2.3.1 Establish a database of existing regional energy champions and ensure links are made with other existing champions e.g. older people's champions.	Every August	Energy champions driving forward regional agenda for affordable warmth.	Yorkshire and Humber Assembly
	2.3.2 Write a role profile for regional energy champions			
	2.3.3 Establish regional energy champions in all regional partner organisations and where possible secure funding			
	2.3.4 Arrange annual meeting of regional energy champions and agree annual action plan.			
2.4 Raise awareness of affordable warmth amongst home visiting agencies who are in contact with vulnerable people.	2.4.1 Ensure that local agencies who have contact with vulnerable people have access to appropriate and accessible advice and information about affordable warmth	March 2007	Good practice spread across the region.	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group
	2.4.2 Support local home-visiting agencies to generate referrals for energy efficiency grants from vulnerable householders.			

Objective	Tasks	Timescales	Outcome	Lead
2.5 Provide CPD (Continuing Professional Development) courses which raise awareness of fuel poverty	2.5.1 Develop Continuing Professional Development package and pilot with Fire Service and Energy Efficiency Advice Centre with a view to rolling out to other appropriate agencies.	Ongoing	CPD packages developed and delivered.	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group in collaboration with NEA
	2.5.2 Evaluate process and feedback to Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group			

Theme 3: Supporting Local Affordable Warmth Work

Objective	Tasks	Timescales	Outcome	Lead
3.1 Maximise regional access to national funding for fuel poverty activity	3.1.1 Lobby government for longer term funding programmes to tackle fuel poverty.	Ongoing – to be reviewed every August	Government commits to provide sufficient funding to enable all properties to be brought to the required SAP (Standard Assessment Procedure) rating by 2016.	Yorkshire and Humber Assembly
	3.1.2 Establish regional fuel poverty fundraising expertise dedicated to the Action Plan.	February 2007	Regional resources better focussed and dedicated to working in partnership with local organisations to secure funding for local fuel poverty initiatives.	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group
	3.1.3 Rationalise the funding application process to develop common approaches and objectives.	March 2007	Simplified process in place for householders seeking assistance.	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group
	3.1.4 Establish regional evidence base in relation to hard to treat homes and needs of those hardest to reach to influence regional funding allocations.	March 2007	Regional evidence base strengthened and resources more effectively targeted.	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group
3.2 Encourage local organisations to adopt the Regional Affordable Warmth Action Plan and incorporate affordable warmth work into their activities.	3.2.3 Ensure local public bodies are committed to meeting the Government fuel poverty targets by ensuring they adopt the Regional Affordable Warmth Action Plan and incorporate affordable warmth work into their activities.	August 2007	All local public bodies adopt the Regional Affordable Warmth Action Plan and incorporate affordable warmth work into their activities.	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group

Objective	Tasks	Timescales	Outcome	Lead
3.3 Disseminate good practice at a local level through mentoring systems and regional communication.	3.3.1 Regional Fuel poverty Forum meetings held to disseminate good practice.	Ongoing quarterly meetings	High quality regional meetings spread and champion ideas about what works and how to overcome challenges	National Energy Action
	3.3.2 Establish a mentoring system involving interested parties. (Eg. The Councillors Energy Network).	Developed by March 2007	Informed, involved and active local authority elected members.	National Energy Action
	3.3.3 Hold an affordable warmth conference to review regional progress and promote exchange of ideas.	September 2007	Improved spread of good practice and learning across the region	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group
	3.3.4 Promote good examples of affordable warmth work carried out by local authorities, use the Beacon Council scheme and other good practice programmes and look at transfer to other sectors	April 2007		Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group

Theme 4: Improving Health and Well-being

Objective	Tasks	Timescales	Outcome	Lead
4.1 Ensure that local agencies have the capability to implement best practice in affordable warmth work.	4.1.1 Identify an existing self-assessment toolkit to influence strategic and operational level affordable warmth work and to enable evidence based practice and funding applications.	Audit of self assessment toolkits to be completed by April 2007	Local communities receiving effective interventions from well resourced and capable local agencies (PCTs, Local Authorities and the Voluntary and Community Sector) with high quality development support from regional agencies.	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group
	4.1.2 Encourage regional partners to promote the toolkit amongst their local networks.	Regional partners including toolkit within development programmes by April 2008	Regional resources better focussed and dedicated to working in partnership with local organisations to secure funding for local fuel poverty initiatives.	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group
4.2 Produce a regional template for a pilot local enhanced service contract.	4.2.1 Find a suitable GP surgery or Primary Care service to trial a pilot local enhanced service contract.	To be agreed with regional NHS/PCTs	Model for GP practice based commissioning affordable warmth interventions for practice population in partnership with local organisations.	NHS (To be agreed with NHS Yorkshire and the Humber and PCTs)
4.3 Use existing regional networks to facilitate sharing of best practice. Develop new networks where gaps are identified.	4.3.1 Plan and develop a regional health focussed partnership event in 2006 to encourage different professional groups to work together in a more integrated and effective way to tackle fuel poverty	Event to be held by January 2007	Increased and improved joint working and commitment between practitioners and to tackling fuel poverty and promoting affordable warmth.	DH Regional Public Health Group
	4.3.2 Work with NEA to develop a health focussed agenda for a specific NEA Regional Fuel Poverty Forum.	Agreement with NEA about health agenda by end of 2006		
4.4 Establish a consistent approach to the Single Assessment Process across the region which ensures standard trigger points for referrals.	4.4.1 Ensure wider partnership involvement in the Kirklees/Wakefield Social Services trial of Single Assessment Process in line with North Yorkshire trigger points.	Project established by March 2007	Increased uptake of affordable warmth interventions and support for vulnerable groups.	Care Services Improvement Partnership (To be confirmed)

Objective	Tasks	Timescales	Outcome	Lead
4.5 Evaluate existing training programmes in the health sector and identify opportunities for the inclusion of affordable warmth.	4.5.1 Map existing training.	September 2007	Increase in knowledge, skills and competency amongst health and social care workforce, and within communities themselves in addressing affordable warmth.	NHS (To be agreed with NHS Yorkshire and the Humber and PCTs)
	4.5.2 Promote Continued Professional Development packages.			
	4.5.3 Ensure that a fuel poverty module is included in health and social care training programmes.			
	4.5.4 Develop regional guidance for training front line health and social care staff which is based on existing good practice.			
	4.5.5 Ensure that fuel poverty issues are built into the national training programme for 'health trainers' and connect with regional health trainer hubs.			
4.6 Provide a consistent regional framework for research and evaluation to promote evidence based policy and practice.	Conduct a review of existing evidence which shows how affordable warmth work can reduce hospital admissions, improve health and reduce health inequalities.	Review completed by March 2007	More effective research and evaluation which produces high impact usable evidence for policy and practice.	DH Regional Public Health Group

Theme 5: Monitoring and Evaluating the Action Plan

Objective	Tasks	Timescales	Outcome	Lead
5.1 Establish baseline data on fuel poverty throughout the Region	5.1.1 Collate currently available data on fuel poverty Regionally.	October 2006	Briefing to support health event and accompanying web resource.	YHPHO (Yorkshire and Humber Public Health Observatory) supported by regional and local partners
	5.1.2 Set up fuel poverty web-resources on YHPHO website.	October 2006		
	5.1.3 Produce baseline fuel poverty briefing for health professionals.	October 2006		
	5.1.4 YHPHO to collate research and local data to produce estimates of impact of fuel poverty within the Region.	October 2006		
	5.1.5 Map fuel poverty within the Region using suitable data.	January 2007	Map(s) of region indicating areas of fuel poverty.	Community Energy Solutions
	5.1.6 Map households off the gas network/ rural areas at risk and overlay this with map of all currently available biomass sources including energy crop schemes to identify potential biomass solutions to fuel poverty.	March 2007		

Objective	Tasks	Timescales	Outcome	Lead
5.2 Establish system for monitoring the implementation of the Action Plan.	5.2.1 Review membership of the Regional Affordable Warmth Action Plan Steering Group. Ensure that all appropriate regional agencies are represented in order to achieve successful implementation of the Action Plan.	October 2006	Steering Group reviewed.	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group
	5.2.2 Steering Group to agree outcomes, milestones and timescale for Action Plan review.	August 2007	Action Plan reviewed and agreed.	
	5.2.3 Develop a regional health Performance Indicator to encourage Primary Care Trusts to monitor changes in the number of households in fuel poverty.	March 2007	Defined indicator.	
	5.2.4 Produce an annual report on progress against the objectives in this Action Plan.	August 2007	Progress report produced.	
	5.2.5 Secure funding to establish a regional Fuel Poverty Co-ordinator to support the Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group and help drive the implementation of the Action Plan.	March 2007	Co-ordinator in post.	
5.3 Set up programme for evaluation of the Action Plan	5.3.1 Steering Group to act as custodians of this Action Plan to monitor and report on delivery.	August 2007	Programme of evaluation activities produced.	Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group
	5.3.2 Steering Group to identify what needs to be evaluated (e.g. process and outcomes from each theme).			
	5.3.3 Steering Group to identify and secure sources of funding (where appropriate) for evaluation.			
	5.3.4 Liaise with East Midlands Affordable Warmth Action Plan Steering Group to co-review action plans in both the East Midlands and Yorkshire and the Humber.			

Appendix 1: List of Key Regional Partner Agencies

Age Concern	Improvement and Innovation Partnership	Sure Start
Affordable Warmth Action Plan Steering Group	Learning and Skills Councils	The Housing Corporation
Care Services Improvement Partnership	Local Authorities (Yorkshire and Humber)	The Pension Service
Centre for Sustainable Energy	Local Strategic Partnerships	Universities
Commissioners' Office (data protection)	National Energy Action (NEA)	York and Humber East Pennine HECA Forum
Communications/Branding experts	National Housing Federation	Yorkshire Forward
DWP/Job Centre Plus	NHS Trusts (Mental Health and Acute)	Yorkshire Futures
Community Energy Solutions	NHS Yorkshire and the Humber	Yorkshire and Humber Public Health Observatory
Eaga Partnership	Powergen	Yorkshire and Humber rural affairs Forum
East Midlands Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group	Primary Care Trusts	
Energy Efficiency Advice Centre	Regional Assembly	
Energy Saving Trust	Regional Forum for the Voluntary and Community Sector	
Fire and Rescue Services	Regional Housing Board	
Forestry Commission	Regional Housing Forum	
Fuel supply companies	Regional media - Yorkshire TV, local radio, newspapers	
Government Office for Yorkshire and The Humber	Regional Public Health Group	
Home Improvement Agencies	Regional Training Framework/Events Programme	
Housing Associations	Sub Regional Housing Partnerships	
Hull Warm Zone		

Appendix 2

Regional Affordable Warmth Steering Group Members

Rebecca Matthews
Marcia Cunningham
Andrew Cooper
Marion Spring
Les Saunders
Catherine Hannaway
Chris Meyrick
Brian Ablett
Jake Abbott
George Munson
Erica Goodall
Paul Mapplethorpe
Helen Foreman
Rupert Suckling
Colin Eastwood

Organisations

Department of Health – Regional Public Health Group
Government Office for Yorkshire and The Humber
National Energy Action
National Health Service
The Housing Corporation
The Pension Service
York and Humber East Pennine HECA Forum
York and North Yorkshire Energy Efficiency Advice Centre
Yorkshire and Humber Assembly
Yorkshire and Humber Public Health Observatory
Yorkshire Forward



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