

COOPENERGY Action Plan Report

Joint-Action: delivering a kent-wide housing retrofit programme

Collaboration model used to deliver this action: Kent and Medway Sustainable Energy Partnership

About the joint action

Across UK homes, £3 billion is wasted in energy every year. In Kent alone, an estimated 10% of Kent's residents live in fuel poverty (almost 70,000 households spending more than 10% of their income on heating). This issue is exacerbated by the poorly insulated housing stock in Kent, with over 308,000 homes categorised as inadequately insulated and therefore losing money through energy inefficiency.

To address this issue, the UK government launched the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) scheme - funded by the 6 largest UK energy companies - to install energy efficiency measures into homes including insulation, draught proofing and new boilers. For Kent and Medway, a joint project called 'Warm Homes' has been developed to take advantage of this ECO funding and provide free or subsidised energy efficient measures to eligible homes. The Warm Homes project focuses on helping vulnerable people, and those who struggle to pay their fuel bills, install efficiency measures.

About the Collaboration model

The Kent and Medway Sustainable Energy Partnership (KMSEP) is a partnership of local authorities, registered housing providers and other interested groups who have formed a partnership to deliver the Warm Homes project. The **key aims** of the partnership are:

- To ensure residents and businesses get a clear and consistent message about what funding and finance options are available to retrofit their property.
- To tackle fuel poverty by drawing in as much ECO (and other) funding as possible.
- To support our local network of businesses (SMEs) to take advantage of economic growth and opportunities in the sector.
- To reduce carbon emissions in Kent & Medway.

To deliver this retrofit programme, KMSEP has developed the **following plan of action**.

KMSEP Action Plan

Phase 1: May 2013 to March 2014			
ACTION	DEADLINE	STATUS	PROGRESS
Develop a partnership between the regional authority, local authorities and key delivery partners in Kent, to deliver a retrofit programme across the county	March 2013	COMPLETE	Development of the Kent and Medway Sustainable Energy Partnership between local authorities, housing associations and groups to deliver energy efficiency measures to commercial and domestic properties in Kent.
Develop an 'offer' for Kent and Medway, to draw in ECO and other funding to retrofit homes.	May 2013	COMPLETE	£1.5m ECO and other funding has been drawn into Kent to deliver the retrofit programme.
Retrofit 1200 homes in 7 pilot areas with energy efficiency measures	December 2014	COMPLETE	1400 energy efficiency measures have been installed in 1300 homes.
Reduce the amount of households in fuel poverty, by saving money	March 2014	COMPLETE	A lifetime saving of more than £5.5 million to Kent residents (annual savings of more than £150,000 in total, approximately £100 per household per year) has been achieved.
Reduce carbon emissions in Kent	March 2014	COMPLETE	A lifetime saving of more than 25,000 tons of CO ² in Kent has been achieved.
Raise awareness of energy efficiency amongst Kent and Medway residents to promote behaviour change.	March 2014	COMPLETE	Production of a number of resources to inform Kent residents on additional energy saving measures, including leaflets and packs of information. 400 Energy Saving packs were distributed to the general public directly and through districts/events. Two 3 day training courses for Energy Champions have been held with 29 people attending all or part of the course.
Support the local network of businesses to take advantage of economic growth and opportunities in the sector	March 2014	COMPLETE	Three events were held to support local SMEs to access work through the retrofit programme. Three Kent-based SMEs were utilised to retrofit measures in people's homes.
Phase 2: January 2015 to March 2017			

ACTION	DEADLINE	STATUS	PROGRESS
Develop a Retrofitting Framework to enable multiple providers to deliver retrofit work.	March 2015	COMPLETE	A Framework has been developed with 5 'Lots', to provide a network of contractors who can deliver energy efficiency and renewable energy measures. Partners can appoint a contractor through the framework by mini-competitions.
Retrofit up to 2000 homes with approximately 3000 measures across Kent and Medway through the Framework.	March 2017	IN PROGRESS	Since March 2015, 59 measures have been installed in 53 homes, with many more installations being scheduled for completion.
Reduce the amount of households in fuel poverty, by saving money.	March 2017	IN PROGRESS	This is in progress through the above work.
Reduce carbon emissions in Kent	March 2017	IN PROGRESS	This is in progress through the above work.
Enable 60% of work completed to be delivered by local SMEs or labour.	March 2017	IN PROGRESS	Warm Homes is currently being delivered using 3 local contractors for delivery, and employing 2 local assessors directly. 2 local contractors are used for enabling works where required
Support new placement and apprenticeship opportunities.	March 2017	IN PROGRESS	In progress
Achieve up to 5 FTE posts as a direct result of the energy efficiency works delivered through the KMSEP	March 2017	IN PROGRESS	In progress
Raise awareness of energy efficiency amongst Kent and Medway residents to promote behaviour change.	March 2017	IN PROGRESS	Energy Saving Packs are now being distributed by district contacts at resident and landlord forums
Complete an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) on one community building, for every 100 properties with energy efficiency measures installed.	March 2017	IN PROGRESS	In progress
Maintain the active cooperation of the KMSEP between public authorities, housing associations and key groups.	March 2017	IN PROGRESS	In progress