

Appendix A:
Equality Analysis for Energy Efficiency
Grant Funding -Public Sector
Decarbonisation Fund and Green Homes
Grant Local Authority Delivery Phase 2
(June 2021)

1. Introduction

Purpose

- 1.1 This equality analysis considers the impact of delivering the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme and Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Phase 2 Programme approved by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) in February and May 2021 respectively.
- 1.2 The Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme is a £1 billion programme announced in October 2020 to support the wider public sector to decarbonise their estate. The Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Programme Phase 2 provides a mechanism for Councils to deliver Grant Funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy installations within the City.
- 1.3 The Council submitted a funding application for £2.219 million to Salix Finance in January 2021 for Public Sector Decarbonisation Funding. After technical analysis and scrutiny this application was approved in February 2021. The funding will be focussed on low carbon heating and hot water systems at 8 operational properties previously identified by external consultants as suitable for the retrofitting of such measures. In February 2021 Sunderland City Council were allocated funding up to the value of £1.77 million for the delivery of energy efficiency and renewable energy measures across a range of housing tenures in the City. This was subject to completion of an appropriate bid to demonstrate how it is intended to allocate this funding. The bid requested £1.75 million of funding to deliver approximately 500 energy efficiency retrofit and renewable energy measures in approximately 270 properties. The proposal will deliver a fabric first low carbon scheme, to decarbonise homes whilst making them warmer, more comfortable, more energy efficient and healthier places to live. The Project will achieve significant energy demand reduction in dwellings and ensuring compliance with the PAS 2035 standard.
- 1.4 There are two compliance criteria for the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Phase 2 programme. Households must not have an income in excess of £30,000 per annum and secondly the property must have an Energy Performance Certificate rating of D, E, F or G. It is also intended to identify a whole street or block where the majority of residents and properties (anticipated up to 20 properties) meet the criteria above and install external wall insulation and air source heat pumps. Ideally this will be in an off-gas area to derive the maximum financial benefits for the householders. A suitable location is currently being identified across the City by analysing known areas that meet the criteria of solid wall construction in an off-gas area.
- 1.5 Projects are expected to achieve the following objectives:

- Achieve significant energy demand reduction in dwellings, and reduction in fuel bills, that is compliant with Publicly Available Specification (PAS) 2035.
- Achieve a significant cost reduction for the approach selected within the lifetime of the project, and provide evidence on the sources of cost reduction;
- Support green jobs and utilise local supply chains to contribute to economic stimulus post COVID-19;
- Safely treat an appropriate number of dwellings to demonstrate achievement of cost reduction in a replicable manner;
- Provide evidence on replicability and scale-up of approach in future projects;
- Ensure the improvement of health, comfort and well-being of occupants and mitigate any unintended consequences;
- The Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme will save approximately 375 tonnes of carbon per annum from the Council's carbon footprint.

Scope

1.6 The Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Phase two programme aims to install approximately 500 energy efficiency and renewable energy measures in 270 properties across the City. The Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme will install low carbon heating and hot water systems in 8 operational properties across the City. The properties are City Hall, Bunnyhill, Evolve, Farnborough Court, Houghton Library, Thorney Close Action and Enterprise Centre, Austin House, Ryhope Customer Service Centre.

1.7 It is anticipated that the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Phase 2 programme will involve a range of measures such as:

- External wall insulation.
- Perimeter/ full floor insulation.
- Loft insulation.
- Double glazing.
- Solar PV installations.
- Fabric improvements to roof, walls and floor.
- The installation of low carbon heating and heat battery solutions.
- Improved insulation and mechanical ventilation.

The Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme will focus on installing air source heat pumps to provide low carbon solutions for heating and hot water systems in 8 operational properties

Intelligence and Analysis

1.8 Funding for delivery of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme and the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Phase 2 programme has been subject to a competitive bidding process. A Full Application Form and supporting documents provided the evidence base for the Project, why it is needed and how it will be

implemented as well as its positive contribution to the city-wide Low Carbon Framework.

- 1.9 Both schemes have been supported after technical appraisal by the funding delivery organisations with the objective of improving the energy efficiency of existing operational properties and existing housing stock and reducing carbon emissions. The projects will support delivery of the city-wide Low Carbon Framework and target for the Council to become Carbon neutral by 2030 and the City to become carbon neutral by 2040, contributing to one of the Framework's seven strategic priorities while delivering a demonstrator project that can be replicated locally and nationally.

2. Impact Assessment

Analysis of Impact on People

Characteristics	List of Impacts		
	Positive	Neutral	Negative
Age	The Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Phase 2 programme aims to achieve energy and carbon demand reductions, reduce fuel bills, and improve the health, comfort and well-being of occupants. Apart from recording the property details (e.g. address, type, tenure, age etc.) and household contact information there is no additional requirement within the monitoring and evaluation conditions of the funding agreement to collect any details relating to individual households' protected characteristics.	None	No known negative impacts.
Disability	As above.	None	No known negative impacts.
Gender/Sex	As above.	None	No known negative impacts.
Marriage and Civil Partnership	As above.	None	No known negative impacts.

Pregnancy & Maternity	As above.	None	No known negative impacts.
Race/Ethnicity	As above.	None	No known negative impacts.
Religion/Belief	As above.	None	No known negative impacts.
Sexual Orientation	As above.	None	No known negative impacts.
Transgender/gender identity	As above.	None	No known negative impacts.

Other individuals or groups impacted on:

- 2.1 It is not anticipated that any other specific groups or communities would be affected by the Project.

Gaps in intelligence and information:

- 2.2 The Council does not consider that there are any gaps in our intelligence regarding equalities matters in respect of this Project.

Summary of Impacts and Response to Analysis

- 2.3 The Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Programme is focused on delivering an energy efficiency retrofit solution to approx. 270 properties across all wards in the City of Sunderland. Through evaluation, learning and dissemination it has the potential to offer benefits to all residents, communities and housing providers in Sunderland. The Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme will deliver low carbon heating and hot water systems in 8 operational properties across the City of Sunderland

Response to Analysis, Action Plan and Monitoring

Action	Who	When	Monitoring Arrangements
Cabinet	SCC Energy Services Team	June 2021	Manage against reporting timescale.
Project delivery	SCC Low Carbon Team, Project Delivery Partners	June 2021- December 2021	Manage against Project Plan timescales.
Project monitoring	SCC Energy Services Team, Project Delivery Partners	March 2021- March 2022	Manage against Project Plan timescales.

Project completion, evaluation and dissemination	SCC Energy Services Team, Project Delivery Partners	June 2021-December 2021	Manage against Project Plan timescales.
Lessons Learned and replication	SCC Energy Services Team, Project Delivery Partners	October 2021-March 2022	Post-project