

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL
HOUSING COMMITTEE – 8 SEPTEMBER 2004
HOME ENERGY CONSERVATION ACT 1995
THIRD PROGRESS REPORT 2003

**Joint Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services and
Executive Director of Development and Property Services**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update members on the implementation of the Council's response to its obligations under the terms of the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 (HECA) prior to the submission of the Third Progress Report 2003.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 It is a requirement of the Act that Authorities submit progress reports, on a regular basis, on energy efficiency improvements carried out on all housing. The third progress report covers the period 1 April 2001 to 31 March 2003 and a copy is available for inspection in the Members Information Point.
- 2.2 The date for submission of this report to Communities Scotland was set as 16 July 2004 therefore a draft report was issued stating that confirmation or amendments would be forwarded following the Housing Committee in September 2004. Guidance on the presentation has been issued and the Act requires that the Council publish the report.
- 2.3 The fourth progress report will be called for by 31 December 2005 and will cover the period 1 April 2003 to 31 March 2005.

3. GENERALLY

- 3.1 In East Ayrshire Council's first report entitled "Bridging the Gap" submitted on 31 December 1997, an energy strategy was outlined by which it was intended that energy improvements could be achieved by 2007. A target of a 30% improvement in home energy efficiency was set and received the agreement of the Secretary of State. In the first six years, an improvement of 15.39% has been achieved.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Not applicable.

5. LEGAL AUTHORITY / IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Implements the Home Energy Conservation Act, 1995.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Not applicable.

7. CONCLUSION

7.1 The Energy Advice Unit continues to examine and pursue all avenues of available assistance and funding, this has resulted in another substantial step towards our target of a 30% improvement in Home Energy Efficiency by 2007.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 It is recommended that Members:

- (i) approve the contents of the report.

William Stafford
Executive Director
of Neighbourhood Services

James Lavery
Executive Director
of Development & Property Services

GM/SF
3 August 2004

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 - Third Progress Report 2003

Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 - Second Progress Report 2001

Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 - First Progress Report 1999

Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 - Energy Strategy 1997/2007 "Bridging the Gap"

Any member requiring further information should contact George Malone, Principal Engineer (Tel: 01563 555233).

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