

Action for Affordable Warmth:

An
Affordable Warmth Strategy
for Gloucestershire and
South Gloucestershire





Action Affordable^{for} Warmth:

Working together for affordable warmth: a joint policy statement

The local authorities of Gloucestershire and South Gloucestershire are committed to the eradication of fuel poverty and the provision of affordable warmth for all households within the next 10 - 15 years. To ensure progress is made towards this objective the seven local authorities are working in partnership with the Health Authorities and Social Services Departments of Gloucestershire and South Gloucestershire, relevant service providers and the wider community.


CHELTEMHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cllr Robin Macdonald Chairman of Housing Committee
Cheltenham Borough Council


COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL

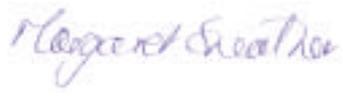
Cllr Leslie Jones Leader of Council
Cotswold District Council


FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cllr Anne Martin Leader of Council
Forest of Dean District Council

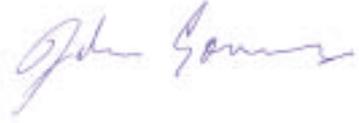

CITY OF GLOUCESTER
Housing Strategy & Food

Cllr Mary Smith Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Social Inclusion Gloucester City Council


GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
SOCIAL SERVICES
Caring For People

Margaret Sheather Director
Gloucestershire County Council Social Services


South Gloucestershire
Council

Cllr Maggie Tyrell Executive Councillor for Social Care,
Housing & Health South Gloucestershire Council

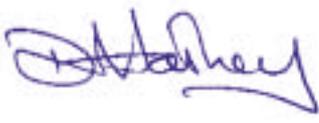

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cllr John Gowers Cabinet Member for Housing
Stroud District Council


Tewkesbury
Borough Council

Cllr Brian Jones Chairman of Executive Committee
Tewkesbury Borough Council

Gloucestershire NHS
Health Authority

Jeff James Chief Executive
Gloucestershire Health Authority


health promotion
Gloucestershire

Deborah Harvey Manager
Health Promotion Gloucestershire

South Gloucestershire NHS
Primary Care Trust

Jo Whitehead Chief Executive
South Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust



Action for Affordable Warmth:



20 Years of Campaigning for Warm Homes
1981-2001

Foreword by William Gillis, Director of National Energy Action

NEA, the national energy efficiency charity, was established 20 years ago to develop and promote energy efficiency strategies and services to tackle the heating and insulation problems of low-income households, to achieve affordable warmth and eradicate fuel poverty.

Cold homes, high health-care costs, cold-related illnesses, excess winter deaths and housing in poor repair, are the visible signs of fuel poverty, a problem that affects over 6 million households in the UK.

There is now a clear commitment by Government to eradicate fuel poverty for vulnerable households by 2010. NEA believes that local

authorities are the key agents in co-ordinating the delivery of strategies to achieve this objective. In developing this Affordable Warmth Strategy, the Gloucestershire authorities have demonstrated that effective partnership working is the key to success.

I applaud all those who have contributed to this document, and wish them success in implementing a strategy which will provide households with the means to heat their homes, to the standard required for health and comfort, at a price they can afford.

Contents

Foreword	1
A. What is affordable warmth?	2
B. Fuel poverty and affordable warmth in Gloucestershire	3
C. Home energy efficiency in Gloucestershire	4-5
D. Development of the Affordable Warmth Strategy	6-7
The background, the partners, the process	
E. Action Plan	
E1. About the action plan	7
E2. Action plan tables showing objectives, tasks, targets and partners	
Aim: Establish effective and relevant multi-agency partnerships	8-9
Aim: Provide energy advice and information to all households	10
Aim: Raise awareness of energy efficiency and affordable warmth	11
Aim: Identify and help people in fuel poverty	12
Aim: Ensure that housing strategies support the issue	13
Aim: Access sufficient finance and resources to implement action plan	14
Appendices	
Appendix 1. Population, income and excess winter deaths data by district	15
Appendix 2. List of contributing organisations	16
Appendix 3. Glossary of terms, membership of key groups, contact information	17



A

What is affordable warmth?

Affordable warmth is the ability to heat your home to an adequate level for household comfort and health, without developing a debt as a result.

The lack of affordable warmth is known as 'fuel poverty'. The Government now accepts that households needing to spend 10% or more of income to achieve adequate warmth for health and comfort are experiencing fuel poverty. This is the case for between 4.3 and 6.9 million households in England alone (the figure is lower when housing benefit received is included as "income"). The results of fuel poverty can be discomfort, damp from condensation, fuel debt, and ill-health.

Fuel poverty is clearly linked to general poverty and deprivation, but it has distinct characteristics and causes. Low income and multiple debt form part of the picture, but additional factors are linked to the varying cost of heating different homes. These include the condition of housing, the cost of fuels used for heating, and the energy efficiency of a home. An analysis of home energy efficiency indicates that the main ingredients are the levels of thermal insulation and the efficiency of appliances used for heating, hot water and other needs.

Another factor to consider is that certain households have a greater requirement for heat than others. This may be a need for higher indoor temperatures, or for longer hours of heating than the average household. This might include those households with no wage-earner or a reduced earning capacity where a parent is caring for young children, people that are at home due to unemployment or long term sickness or disability, and pensioners. These households tend to be

on lower incomes, although not necessarily on benefit, and at the same time to have less access to capital to improve their situation through improvements to the building or appliances.

The urgent need to tackle the problem of fuel poverty is recognised at national level. The Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) of 1995 requires local authorities with housing responsibilities to prepare, publish and submit to the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and previously to the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions (DETR), an annual energy conservation report. This report assesses the energy efficiency of all housing in the local authority area, and identifies appropriate energy conservation measures that are cost-effective and would result in a significant improvement in home energy efficiency.

HECA forms part of national strategy to combat climate change, and as such is primarily focused on the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions associated with fossil fuel use (directly and in the form of fossil fuel generated electricity). Improvements in energy efficiency are also crucial in the achievement of affordable warmth – and this is reflected in the new requirement for local authorities to include a statement regarding their action to tackle fuel poverty, within their HECA report.

Fuel poverty and affordable warmth in Gloucestershire

Fuel poverty is linked to general poverty but usually has a number of specific causes often combining to worsen individual situations. In addition to energy efficiency and other housing factors, income levels, fuel costs and household circumstances have considerable influence and there are a number of indicators to the likely scale of fuel poverty in Gloucestershire.

Nearly half of all fuel poor households include people aged over 60 and pensioners living alone are particularly susceptible. 20% of the Gloucestershire population was over retirement age in 1991 and 13.8% of households were lone pensioners. More than 14,500 pensioner households were receiving Income Support in 1996.

Families with children account for nearly 17% of all fuel poor households with lone parent families severely affected. There are over 10,100 lone parent households in Gloucestershire and South Gloucestershire, and 10,700 children were eligible for free school meals.

Low household income is another of the key elements of fuel poverty and although unemployment is currently low (at around 2%) in Gloucestershire over 8500 people were claiming unemployment benefit. Nearly 8% (more than 24,300 households) were receiving both Income Support and Housing Benefit.

Although more than half the fuel poor are owner-occupiers, the highest concentration of fuel poverty is in the private rented sector where around 40% of all households are affected. This could indicate that with more than 22,000 privately rented homes (8.1% of the total) in Gloucestershire, around 9000 are experiencing some degree of fuel poverty.

In addition to living on the lowest incomes, people in fuel poverty also have the highest average fuel costs. The type of heating in place often affects this and in Gloucestershire some 37,800 households (18%) did not have central heating. In addition villages and smaller rural communities

in the county do not have access to the gas network. A typical household could need to spend 40% more in energy costs if they used electric storage heaters rather than a gas system.

The links between ill health, poor housing and fuel poverty are also well established and the effects of cold and damp conditions are illustrated by the increase in death rates during winter compared with the rest of the year. Excess deaths for the period December to March in England and Wales can exceed 45,000 and for the 5 winters 1993/94 to 1997/8 totalled more than 160,000. In this 5-year period, excess winter deaths in Gloucestershire totalled more than 2500 and in much of the county were higher per 1000 population than the England and Wales average. Fuel poverty has a considerable impact on other aspects of health quality. Nearly 85,000 people were registered as asthmatic in South Gloucestershire and this high figure must at least be in part a result of the effects of mould and house dust mites promoted by damp and cold conditions. More details on these indicators are given in the table in Appendix 1.

Although precise assessment of the level of fuel poverty in Gloucestershire was not possible during the strategy development process, it is clear that large numbers of households are affected across the County. In 1996 22.5% of households in South West England were in fuel poverty and assessment of the indicators highlighted during the strategy development process and examined above suggest that this percentage could well apply in Gloucestershire, meaning that up to 70,000 households are experiencing some degree of fuel poverty.

C

Home energy efficiency in Gloucestershire

The information presented in this chapter is taken from a combination of:

- the 1991 census
- the Home Energy Conservation Act strategy documents drawn up by each authority in 1996,
- housing surveys carried out between 1997 and 2000

It is not by any means a complete data set, and is not intended to give a definitive view or comparison of the energy efficiency of housing in the different local authority areas. The aim is rather to give a general idea of the current situation and the challenge that lies ahead.

The SAP energy rating (Standard Assessment Procedure) indicates the energy efficiency of an individual home, regardless of occupancy. It gives a score out of one hundred, with 0 being the least and 100 the most efficient.

Average SAP energy rating

Local Authority	Public sector	Private sector	All housing
Cheltenham	51.5	46	46.6
Cotswold	43	39	40
Forest of Dean	47	40	41
Gloucester	46	42	43
South Gloucestershire	54	50	52
Stroud	45	44	44
Tewkesbury	n/a	n/a	44
National average (England only)			43.8
National average for lowest 30% of incomes (England only)			41.5

The age of housing has a bearing on the building methods and materials used, and so on the energy efficiency and potential for improvements in energy efficiency. Generally speaking the most recent housing is the most energy efficient, although some unimproved 1960s housing can be even colder than that built between the wars. The existence of cavity walls (which began to be introduced in most areas from around the mid-1930s) provides an opportunity for a significant improvement in energy efficiency through cavity insulation.

Age of housing Number of homes in each age band

Local Authority	Pre 1919	1919-44	1945-64	1965-80	Post 1980	Total number of homes
Cotswold	12,653	2,120	3,534	12,345	4,860	35,512
Forest of Dean	11,019	4,121	5,757	7,431	3,209	31,537
Gloucester	11,670	8,763	9,355	9,580	4,948	44,316
South Gloucestershire	20,472	24,227	18,283	19,144	11,726	93,852
Stroud	14,239	4,593	8,268	10,106	8,728	45,934
Cheltenham Council homes	60	1,137	3,185	663	321	5,366
	Pre 1919	1919-44	1945-64	Post 1964		
Cheltenham Other	15,982	6,150	5,939	16,256		44,327
	Pre 1919	1919-45	Post 1945			
Tewkesbury	14,493	4,500	9,843			28,836

The ownership of homes is a crucial factor in decisions concerning strategies to improve energy efficiency. Generally speaking the most cost-effective insulation measures have been implemented or are planned in the publicly owned stock. Both the implementation of measures and the assessment of energy efficiency is a more complex issue in private housing.

Ownership of homes Number of homes in each type of ownership

Local Authority	Council	Housing Association	Private rented	Owner occupied
Cheltenham	5,457	1,695	5,318	36,033
Cotswold	0	5,956	7,206	22,350
Forest of Dean	4,435	618	2,918	23,611
Gloucester	5,241	1,378	3,423	33,548
South Gloucestershire	9,231	1,824	4,816	77,981
Stroud	5,972	459	1,837	37,666
Tewkesbury	0	4,418	2,265	21,283

Development of the Affordable Warmth Strategy

The background

The Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) annual report and strategy is a statutory responsibility held by local authorities with housing responsibility. An important feature of a successful HECA strategy is effective networking and links with the wider community, and many of these cross local authority boundaries.

The HECA officers from the seven authorities in Gloucestershire and South Gloucestershire meet regularly in a forum (The Gloucestershire HECA Group) to share knowledge and views and to enhance the value of activity at local level through the development of partnership projects.

Early in 2000, Government guidelines indicated that the annual report should in future contain a report on policies, strategies and achievements in tackling fuel poverty. The HECA forum decided to undertake a joint exercise in developing a strategy for affordable warmth for Gloucestershire as a whole. This innovative approach has not been attempted in the same way elsewhere.

The Warm Homes and Energy Conservation Bill was enacted in late 2000. This requires Government to prepare and publish a strategy for the eradication of fuel poverty in England and Wales within 15 years. In early 2001 there was a period of consultation including a “summit conference” to look at the roles of the different sectors and agencies involved. Local Authorities have been vital to this process and the publication of the Gloucestershire Affordable Warmth Strategy could not be at a more opportune time.

The partners

The seven ‘energy conservation authorities’ who have joined forces to develop this strategy are Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council, Forest of Dean District Council, Gloucester City Council, South Gloucestershire Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council. They have been supported in the process by the Gloucestershire Health Authority, Gloucestershire Social Services and many other community organisations and groups.

Two external agencies with specialist expertise have assisted in the process:

NEA - NEA is the National Energy Action charity that develops and promotes energy efficiency services to tackle the heating and insulation problems of low-income households. NEA has assisted a number of local authorities in the development of affordable warmth strategies in recent years.

Severn Wye Energy Agency - The Severn Wye Energy Agency (SWEA) is one of a network of agencies across Europe, set up to stimulate the development of sustainable energy through local and regional action for energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy resources. It was set up as an independent, not-for-profit, company in 1999 to take forward the work of the Forest of Dean Energy Team. SWEA is a registered charity.

SWEA offers support to local authorities in achievement of their objectives under the Home Energy Conservation Act and strategic planning for renewable energy, as well as developing a range of initiatives in partnership with other local, regional and national bodies.



The process

The development of the strategy followed a participative process, involving a wide range of relevant organisations and individuals, and guided by a steering group which included the HECA officers from all seven authorities, Gloucestershire Health Authority, Gloucestershire Social Services, NEA and SWEA.

Two development workshops were held, in July and November 2000.

Over eighty people from all parts of the county attended a memorable first workshop, bringing considerable professional and community skills and experience. The process was initiated by a consideration of barriers to achieving affordable warmth for all Gloucestershire residents. The meeting then focused on ways to overcome these barriers and began to develop solutions to the problems raised.

These outline solutions were taken as the starting point for the second workshop, when around

fifty people participated in refining these solutions and began to look at how they could be taken forward.

The high quality and extensive range of material resulting from both workshops provided a good foundation for developing key objectives and an action plan for affordable warmth. The levels of shared interest and related objectives identified should also provide a basis for creating the partnerships essential for implementation of this plan.

It is important to recognise that this is only a starting point and there remains a formidable task to be undertaken by the steering group to ensure that action is implemented, that the gaps are filled and that the plan continues to develop as a dynamic working document.

Action plan

About the Action Plan

Pages 8 - 14 feature tables containing objectives, tasks and targets relating to each of the following affordable warmth aims:

- Establish relevant multi-agency partnerships
- Provide energy advice and information to all households
- Raise awareness of energy efficiency and affordable warmth
- Identify and help people in fuel poverty
- Ensure that housing strategies support the issue
- Access sufficient finance and resources to implement action plan

The time-scales used in the tables that follow have been simplified as follows:

- Short: 0 - 1 year
- Medium: 1 - 3 years
- Long: more than 3 years

A glossary of terms and abbreviations used in this strategy and in the action plan tables can be found in Appendix 3.

Numerical targets featured in the action plan tables are targets for the whole of Gloucestershire and South Gloucestershire, not per district targets.



E

E1

Action Plan Tables

Aim: Establish effective and relevant multi-agency partnerships

Objectives	Key tasks	Targets/outputs	Timescales	Partners
1. Establish monitoring procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> establish multi-agency affordable warmth steering group to include local authorities, Social Services, Health Authority, voluntary sector and other relevant groups HECA group to take responsibility for organising meetings update and revise affordable warmth strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Terms of reference for group Meetings held 2/4 times yearly Production of annual progress report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> short short ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HECA Group Social Services Health Authority Energy Agency/ EEAC Wider community
2. Encourage inter agency links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use existing networks to raise awareness with key groups make formal link through reporting progress of affordable warmth strategy to other groups develop database/flow-chart of relevant organisations and how they link keep information up to date establish information exchange between agencies research website with relevant links decide who will develop / maintain website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> list of relevant existing networks note of any new networks required database of networks and contacts presentations and briefings (minimum 12 per year) development and maintenance of website and links 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> short short medium short medium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable Warmth Steering Group HECA group Energy Agency/ EEAC Locality Planning Teams Social Services Health Authority Primary Care Groups Local Education Authority Gloucestershire CVS & Neighbourhood Project Network (GNPN) Schools, colleges and other educational establishments voluntary organisations other relevant council officers
3. Establish referral system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> review existing services linked to affordable warmth and referral mechanisms review advice outlets and establish correct referral procedures seek opportunities for community involvement monitor and evaluate effectiveness of network identify where there are gaps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> directory of services with referral details development of links where there are gaps production and distribution of referral map and directory annual updates of referral map and directory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> short medium medium ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable Warmth Steering Group District councils Social Services Health service EEAC EAGA Local Education Authority parish councils, libraries, churches, community groups

Aim: Establish effective and relevant multi-agency partnerships

Objectives	Key tasks	Targets/outputs	Timescales	Partners
4. Develop business involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> plan and resource awareness raising campaign aimed at local businesses identify and enlist support of those able to deliver campaign work with heating industry to seek ways to ensure that more efficient systems installed encourage public to ask questions about energy efficiency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> awareness campaign partnerships with business training sessions developed and run public information materials produced and distributed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> medium medium medium medium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HECA group local authority economic development Gloucestershire Development Agency TEC Business Link trade organisations energy suppliers Energy Agency
5. Establish partnerships with key agencies, such as Locality Planning Teams, Primary Care Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> identify key agencies research opportunities for links / common interest develop opportunities to encourage affordable warmth into work practices and policy ensure affordable warmth in Health Improvement Plans use LPT and other partners to distribute information update key agencies with relevant information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> list of key agencies and contacts links established with 20 key agencies information updates to key agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> short medium ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable Warmth Steering Group Locality Planning Teams Primary Care Groups other key agencies
6. Involve landlords (private and social sectors)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> inform landlords and tenants about benefits of affordable warmth and what can be done to achieve it develop targets for individual landlords 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> list of regular forums and meetings 12 presentations to private landlord forums and tenant meetings mailshots and information to landlords 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> short medium medium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HECA Group local authority housing officers private landlords tenants Tenants Associations Registered Social Landlords

Objectives	Key tasks	Targets/outputs	Timescales	Partners
1. Develop a co-ordinated approach to energy advice provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● set up a co-ordinating framework or request one organisation to take responsibility/offer central point of contact ● analyse and document existing provision ● identify gaps in provision ● seek ways to deliver services to fill gaps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● review of existing energy advice ● published details of frame work for ongoing energy advice ● plan to identify and deliver additional services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● short ● short ● medium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HECA Group ● Other local authority officers ● EEAC/ Energy Agency ● energy suppliers ● other advice agencies ● EAGA
2. Train key people to provide advice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify existing training and gaps in provision ● identify trusted people in direct contact with households, especially vulnerable ones ● identify potential trainers and providers of similar approach ● develop and deliver training in simple energy advice delivery ● provide ongoing support and updating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● review of existing training ● expanded plan for future training ● 100 people trained per annum ● provide information to update people already trained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● short ● medium ● medium ● ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Affordable Warmth Steering Group ● health professionals ● Social Services ● Neighbourhood projects ● Residents' organisations ● advice agencies ● voluntary sector agencies ● training providers ● education
3. Make advice accessible to all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Compile list of what is available ● Ensure advice is in a variety of formats, focusing on simplicity and clarity of messages ● Identify specific needs and gaps in provision ● development of materials to fill gaps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● list of materials available ● list of specific needs and gaps ● produce materials to fill gaps ● gaps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● short ● medium ● medium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● EEAC ● Affordable Warmth Steering Group ● Housing officers ● Social Services ● energy suppliers ● NEA ● community groups ● support organisations

Aim: Provide energy advice and information to all households

Aim: Raise awareness of energy efficiency and affordable warmth



Objectives	Key tasks	Targets/outputs	Timescales	Partners
1. Improve awareness in all sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● identify target groups ● research/develop approach and materials with reference to target audience ● develop effective marketing /publicity ● deliver awareness programme to householders via talks, presentations, mailshots, newsletters, posters target geographical communities and communities of interest ● monitor and evaluate improvement ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● list of target sectors and contact opportunities ● method, materials and plan of action ● priority list of target communities ● 60 talks/presentations to community groups ● 10 mailshots and/or newsletters ● annual report evaluating progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● short ● medium ● medium ● medium ● ongoing ● ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● EEAC ● HECA Group ● schools/colleges ● playgroups/ nurseries ● private sector landlords ● trade organisations ● heating engineers ● Energy Agency
2. Influence decision makers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● present affordable warmth strategy to all elected representatives ● lobby Members of Parliament and other key people on specific issues ● offer training/awareness-raising on affordable warmth for all elected representatives ● enlist key people to 'champion' the cause of affordable warmth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● affordable warmth strategy to all members ● awareness sessions run each local authority area at least 7 individuals ● enlisted to 'champion' the cause 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● short ● medium ● short 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Affordable Warmth Steering Group ● Councillors ● Chief Executives/Chief Officers ● Members of Parliament
3. Develop educational programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● establish education steering group ● target teachers ● research curriculum links and classroom needs ● include practical tips on affordable warmth in school curriculum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● education steering group programme for raising awareness with pupils, teachers, parents schools and other educational centres 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● short ● medium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Education Steering Group ● Local Education Authority ● community education centres ● head teachers, teachers, governors, pupils, parents ●
4. Promotional campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify target audience ● establish media contacts interested in issues ● compile database of relevant local media outlets to make available to partners including papers, parish magazines, radio. ● develop and deliver ongoing affordable warmth campaign using media contacts ● raise awareness of affordable warmth to all key media contacts ● support promotion of issues with local projects ● supplement countywide promotional campaign at local level ● monitor results of campaign 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● list of interested contacts production and distribution of leaflet to support strategy ● database of relevant local media outlets to make available to partners ● mailshots, press releases, leaflets, posters ● annual report of results ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● short ● short ● medium ● ongoing ● medium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HECA Group ● EEAC ● Social Services ● Benefits Agency ● Health Authority ● local media ● parish magazines ● local authority public relations and media officers

Objectives	Key tasks	Targets/outputs	Timescales	Partners
1. Seek and find those at risk of fuel poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● identify and list target groups at risk of fuel poverty ● identify relevant agencies working with those groups work together to develop affordable warmth aspect to services ● provide information to relevant agencies ● put affordable warmth 'on the checklist' for relevant agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● list of target groups at risk ● list of key contacts ● distribution of information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● short ● short ● medium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Affordable Warmth Steering Group ● health professionals ● social services staff ● HECA Group
2. Train and support professionals & volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● training for those who work with people in need ● develop training to cover relevant common interests, such as debt, health, recognition of symptoms ● link to simple referral mechanism ● set up support network ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● list agencies who deal with people in need ● identify who to receive training ● develop and run targeted training sessions ● provide support via phone and written literature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● medium ● medium ● medium ● ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Affordable Warmth Steering Group ● EEAC/ Energy Agency ● advice agencies ● health professionals ● social services staff ● voluntary groups
3. Provide support and information to those in most need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● link to initiatives already working with target groups ● reach people through specific relevant events ● target private landlords ● train housing officers, letting agents, benefits staff and other key staff ● promote mechanism to improve energy efficiency of properties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● list of initiatives and projects ● attend 10 events per year ● awareness sessions for key staff and landlords ● use LA database to target landlords and tenants via mailshots 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● short ● medium ● medium ● medium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Energy Agency ● housing officers ● EAGA ● HECA Group
4. Develop a crisis link to provide short and long term support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● explore opportunities to meet other needs of those targeted ● identify ways to target those out side normal community networks ● look at needs and possible solutions ● develop mechanism for reaching vulnerable people in cold snaps ● establish links with debt advisors ● establish links to 'flu inoculation and other health interventions /campaigns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● list of contacts ● establish working group to look at needs and possible solutions ● link to referral mechanism material to use as quick response to cold weather 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● medium ● medium ● medium ● medium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Affordable Warmth Steering Group ● other key agencies

Aim: Identify and help people in fuel poverty

Aim: Ensure that housing strategies support the issue

Objectives	Key tasks	Targets/outputs	Timescales	Partners
1. Improve the energy efficiency of all housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> improve data on energy efficiency of housing stock alongside data on households make-up and economic status to prioritise action 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> review of methods and results revised targets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medium Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HECA Group local authority officers elected members on relevant committees
2. Promote high standard of energy efficiency in newly built homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> develop co-operation and understanding between planning and housing promote concept of homes that are affordable to run, not just to buy encourage planners to design housing for all sectors of population and all ages plan for 'lifetime homes' in new build and renovation promote use of energy efficient appliances link measures and advice, covering all aspects including energy efficiency, fire safety, security; waste and recycling; water conservation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> review of current procedures production and distribution of material training courses for planners architects, developers etc planning and delivery of media campaign 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> medium medium medium medium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HECA Group local authority housing improvement planning officers community strategy officers construction industry developers occupational therapists Registered Social Landlords
3. Improve energy efficiency in existing housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify specific requirements of existing public sector and private housing stock Promote energy efficiency in home improvement and regeneration schemes ensure only efficient and economical heating systems installed adapt heating controls and advice for special needs Consult with households in planning energy efficiency measures and advice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> review of existing plans to bring housing stock to higher level of energy efficiency identify and develop examples of good practice in participative energy efficiency programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> medium medium to long 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HECA Group regeneration officers Home Improvement Agencies tenant and resident organisations Registered Social landlords
4. Provide energy from renewable sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> identify and encourage the use of renewable energy technologies that would benefit the fuel poor through low or zero running costs develop specific projects targeting renewable energy for the fuel poor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> identify existing projects develop pilot schemes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> medium medium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HECA Group Housing improvement planning officers Energy Agency Energy suppliers

Action
for
Affordable
Warmth:

Objectives	Key tasks	Targets/outputs	Timescales	Partners
1. Promote information on financial assistance to householder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> establish system for collecting, updating and disseminating accurate information on financial assistance decide which organisation will be responsible for maintaining and updating information use the inter-agency referral system to promote grants promote the referral network to relevant organisations look for opportunities to work with relevant agencies (such as the Energy Saving Trust and Eaga Partnership) to promote grants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> produce database/directory link to website distribute "directory" promote grants via referral system produce leaflets/mailshots etc promote grants at events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> medium medium ongoing medium short short 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable Warmth Steering Group EEAC EST Eaga Partnership HECA group Advice Agencies Home Improvement Agencies energy suppliers
2. Access funding and other resources from key partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> work in partnership with health, Social Services and others to identify ways to eradicate fuel poverty raise profile of fuel poverty with decision makers who have access to budgets identify opportunities for cross sector finance for projects collect data on health benefits of energy efficiency and financial savings made to National Health Service budgets as a result of reducing fuel poverty keep decision makers informed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> presentations to decision makers mechanism for collecting relevant data and encouraging research update through meetings, seminars, newsletters and presentations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> short medium medium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable Warmth Steering Group HECA Officers EEAC/ Energy Agency Health Authority local authorities universities
3. Secure finance from Central Government Energy Companies and national organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> identify opportunities for financing projects from central government, energy suppliers, private sector, national lottery, charities and other organisations provide support to groups wishing to develop relevant ideas into projects and obtain funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> list of sources of relevant finance list of possible partners and contacts completed funding submissions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> short short ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable Warmth Steering Group EEAC - EST energy suppliers Housing Associations other partners such as: Fire Service, Age Concern, Home Improvement Agencies, Red Cross Home Safety Check

Aim: Access sufficient finance and resources to implement action plan

HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

DISTRICT	1999 POPULATION	HOUSEHOLDS 1999	LONE PENSIONERS IN 1991	% LONE PENSIONERS	LONE PARENTS IN 1991	% LONE PARENTS	NO CENTRAL HEATING IN 1991	% WITHOUT CENTRAL HEATING
Cheltenham	106226	46121	7052	15.3%	1654	3.6%	9254	20.1%
Cotswolds	83605	32655	5302	16.2%	678	2.1%	4298	13.2%
Forest of Dean	78339	31157	4186	13.4%	727	2.3%	4789	15.4%
Gloucester	109264	44943	5271	11.7%	1742	3.9%	8504	18.9%
Stroud	109300	43562	6005	13.8%	1186	2.7%	6241	14.3%
Tewkesbury	75207	31365	3976	12.7%	761	2.4%	4717	15.0%
TOTALS	561941	229803	31792	13.8%	6748	2.9%	37803	16.5%

South Gloucestershire	248766	84283	17292	20.5%	3420	4.1%		
-----------------------	--------	-------	-------	-------	------	------	--	--

INCOME INFORMATION

DISTRICT	1999 POPULATION	HOUSEHOLDS 1999	UNEMPLOYED NOV 2000	% UNEMPLOYED NOV 2000	HOUSEHOLDS WITH INCOME SUPPORT & HOUSING BENEFIT IN 1998	% WITH INCOME SUPPORT & HOUSING BENEFIT	LONE PARENTS WITH INCOME SUPPORT IN 1996	PENSIONERS WITH INCOME SUPPORT IN 1996
Cheltenham	106226	46121	1471	3%	4198	9.1%	1587	2992
Cotswolds	83605	32655	363	0.90%	1775	5.4%	544	1812
Forest	78339	31157	901	2.60%	2330	7.5%	883	2297
Gloucester	109264	44943	1988	4%	5120	11.4%	2176	3066
Stroud	109300	43562	1022	2.10%	3000	6.9%	1158	2846
Tewkesbury	75207	31365	671	1.80%	1683	5.4%	687	1502
TOTALS	561941	229803	6416	2.20%	18106	7.9%	7035	14515

South Gloucestershire	248766	84283	2096	1.60%	6153	7.3%		
-----------------------	--------	-------	------	-------	------	------	--	--

EXCESS WINTER DEATHS

DISTRICT	1999 POPULATION	EXCESS WINTER DEATHS 1993/94	EXCESS WINTER DEATHS 1994/95	EXCESS WINTER DEATHS 1995/96	EXCESS WINTER DEATHS 1996/97	EXCESS WINTER DEATHS 1997/98	TOTAL EXCESS WINTER DEATHS 1993/98	EXCESS WINTER DEATHS/1000 POP	% WINTER DEATHS EXCEED SUMMER DEATHS
Cheltenham	106226	80	71	128	101	80	459	0.86	19.0
Cotswolds	83605	151	25	56	43	2	276	0.66	15.9
Forest	78339	27	86	64	51	76	303	0.77	22.9
Gloucester	109264	62	26	80	116	39	322	0.59	18.9
Stroud	109300	34	47	132	97	84	394	0.72	22.4
Tewkesbury	75207	45	50	5	102	60	261	0.69	20.7
South Gloucestershire	248766	151	45	90	133	74	492	0.40	16.6
TOTALS	52,212,000	26,018	27,402	40,237	48,020	19,984	161,660	0.62	18.0

South Gloucestershire



Appendix 2

List of other organisations whose representatives contributed to the development of the strategy:

- A&M Insulations Ltd
- Age Concern Gloucestershire
- Anchor Staying Put (Cotswolds)
- Anchor Staying Put (Forest of Dean)
- Care & Repair (Stroud) Ltd
- Centre for Sustainable Energy
- Cheltenham & District Housing Association (Bromford)
- Citizens Advice Bureau (Stroud & District)
- Cosy Coat Insulation Ltd
- Cosytherm Ltd
- Disability Action Gloucestershire
- Domestic & General Insulation Ltd
- EAGA Partnership Ltd
- East Gloucestershire NHS Trust
- Energy 21
- Excelsior Homecare Ltd
- Forest of Dean Primary Care Group
- Forest of Dean Senior Persons User Group
- Gloucester Royal Hospital
- Gloucestershire Social Services
- Gloucester Tenants Federation
- Gloucestershire Energy Champions
- Gloucestershire Energy Efficiency Advice Centre
- Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Service
- Gloucestershire Health Authority
- Gloucestershire Housing Association
- Gloucestershire Money Advice Service
- Health Promotion Gloucestershire
- Knightstone Housing Association Ltd
- Lydbrook Community Care
- Mark Insulation Group South West
- North Bristol NHS Trust
- npower
- Severn Vale Housing Society
- Severn NHS Trust
- Stroud Citizens Advice Bureau
- Stroud Valleys Project
- The Gloucestershire Furniture Recycling Project
- Vision 21
- Warm Hearted Homes
- Wolverhampton Metropolitan Borough Council



Appendix 3

Membership of Groups

Gloucestershire HECA Group

- Cheltenham Borough Council
- Cotswold District Council
- Forest of Dean District Council
- Gloucester City Council
- South Gloucestershire Council
- Stroud District Council
- Tewkesbury Borough Council

Affordable Warmth Strategy Steering Group

- Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Primary Care Group
- Forest of Dean Senior Persons User Group
- Gloucestershire HECA Group
- Gloucestershire Social Services
- Health Promotion Gloucestershire
- National Energy Action
- Severn Wye Energy Agency
- South Gloucestershire Primary Care Trust
- South Gloucestershire Social Services

For further information on the Affordable Warmth Strategy or energy efficiency activities in Gloucestershire and South Gloucestershire contact your local Council or call the Energy Efficiency Advice Centre on 0800 512012.

Glossary of terms

CVS	Council for Voluntary Service
EAGA	Energy Action Grants Agency
EEAC	Energy Efficiency Advice Centre
HECA	Home Energy Conservation Act
LPT	Locality Planning Team
NEA	National Energy Action
PCG/T	Primary Care Group / Trust
RSL	Registered Social Landlord e.g. Housing Association
SAP	Standard Assessment Procedure (for energy rating of homes)
SWEA	Severn Wye Energy Agency



Action
for
Affordable
Warmth:



an
Affordable Warmth Strategy
for Gloucestershire and
South Gloucestershire