



# Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) Report 2019

**Date of completion:**

15/5/2019

**Name of Local Authority:**

Ryedale District Council

**Type of Local Authority:**

District Council

**Name and contact details of official submitting the report:**

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**Job title of official submitting the report:**

Senior Specialist (People)

**Names of teams working on policy areas covered by this reporting tool:**

Housing Services

Community Team

**Total number of staff working in above policy areas (by FTE) broken down by team if possible:**

1 (working across both teams)

## Headline and Overview

**1. Does your Local Authority have a current strategy on carbon reduction and/or energy efficiency for domestic or non-domestic properties?**

YES

**2. If yes, please provide a link to your current strategy here:**

Ryedale District Council - Private Sector Housing Action Plan 2015-2021

<https://democracy.ryedale.gov.uk/documents/s38624/Private%20Sector%20Housing%20Action%20Plan%202015-2021.pdf>

North Yorkshire Housing Strategy 2015-2021

<http://nycyerhousing.co.uk/data/documents/New-Y-NY-and-ER-Housing-Strategy-2015-to-21-LR-DRAFT-FINAL.pdf>

Ryedale Climate Change Scrutiny Review

<https://democracy.ryedale.gov.uk/documents/s42812/Scrutiny%20Review%20CC%20report%20draft%20V4.pdf>

**3. If no, are you planning to develop one?**

N/A

**4a. What scheme(s) has your local authority implemented in support of energy saving/carbon reduction in residential accommodation (such as owner-occupied, privately rented and social housing) or non-domestic properties since 2017? (if you have not implemented any scheme, please enter 'N/A')**

Since 2017, Ryedale District Council has delivered the following initiatives:

The Ryedale Energy Saver Scheme

A district wide programme offering vulnerable people in or at risk of fuel poverty access to fully and part funded energy efficiency home improvements.

Landlord loan and grant

Financial support to help private sector landlords improve the energy efficiency of their housing stock.

Ex Forces Discretionary Repair Scheme

Offering subsidised energy saving measures to elderly and vulnerable residents who have served in the armed forces.

Gas Safety Scheme

Providing a tailored gas safety service to ensure vulnerable householders have a working and energy efficient gas boiler.

Warm and Well North Yorkshire

Reducing fuel poverty across North Yorkshire, providing vulnerable residents with home visits, advice sessions and access to energy efficiency measures.

Health Through Warmth

Working with Npower to reduce excess winter deaths whilst capitalising on match funding for heating and insulation upgrades.

#### Choices4Energy

Bespoke unbiased energy saving advice for residents across Ryedale.

#### Oil Buying Cooperative

Working with Scarborough Borough Council to help residents in rural communities buy heating oil at competitive rates.

#### Collective Switch

Helping residents switch their energy tariffs via the energy broker Ichoosr, who can source the cheapest deals through economies of scale.

#### **4b. What scheme(s) is your local authority planning to implement in support of energy saving/carbon reduction in residential accommodation (such as owner-occupied, privately rented and social housing) or non-domestic properties in the next two years? (if you are not planning to implement any scheme, please enter 'N/A')**

We plan to continue to deliver all of the schemes highlighted in section 4a. We are also in the planning stages for the following initiatives:

#### North Yorks Warm Homes Scheme

Working with North Yorkshire County Council, Scarborough Borough Council and Hambleton District Council to install first time central heating in 108 fuel poor households off the mains gas network. The scheme will blend Warm Homes Funding from National Grid with ECO grants and capital secured from each Local Authority. Ryedale District Council is committed to helping 20 vulnerable homeowners and range of private renters benefit from the scheme.

#### LA Flex

Ensuring eligible residents that meet the criteria in our Statement of Intent (Sol) receive support from industry approved and respected installers, helping to maximise the impact of ECO Flexible Eligibility funding whilst safeguarding vulnerable householders in the process.

#### Heat Pump Programme

Working with a range of partners to bid for external funding to implement a renewable heating scheme across North Yorkshire, helping households in remote off-gas rural communities upgrade their heating facilities using clean and sustainable home-grown energy.

#### **5. What has been, or will be, the cost(s) of running and administering the scheme(s), such as the value of grants and other support made available, plus any other costs incurred (such as administration) as desired? Please provide figures and a brief narrative account if desired.**

Administration - the equivalent of 1 FTE administers our energy efficiency schemes (in partnership with Scarborough Borough Council) at an estimated cost of £21,000 per year. The Ryedale Energy Saver Scheme is managed by YES Energy Solutions, who take an annual project management fee of around £4,000.

Grants - £113,085 of grant-funding was distributed from a variety of sources including ECO, the Ryedale Home Improvement Grant and capital secured through external partners.

Energy advice - £10,120 was spent via our Choices4Energy and Warm & Well programmes.

Future schemes - £50,000 has been ring-fenced. We are also considering finance options for renewable energy technologies.

**6. What businesses, charities, third sector organisations or other stakeholders do you work with to deliver the scheme(s)?**

- Age UK
- Carers Resource
- Carter Jonas
- City of York Council
- Community First Yorkshire
- Elder Persons Forum
- Hambleton District Council
- Ichoosr
- Margaret Davies Estate Agents
- Mid-North Yorkshire Citizen Advice (Warm & Well Team)
- National Energy Action (NEA)
- North Yorkshire County Council
- Northern Gas Networks
- R Yates & Sons Ltd
- Scarborough Borough Council
- Whitby, Scarborough & Ryedale Disability Action Group
- YES Energy Solutions
- Yorkshire Housing

**7. What has been the outcome of the scheme(s) (e.g. energy savings, carbon savings, economic impacts such as job creation and/or increased business competitiveness, societal impacts such as alleviation of fuel poverty and/or improved health outcomes etc.)?**

**This does not have to be measured against national data or benchmarks, but rather focuses on the local authority's own monitoring and evaluation.**

Since 2017 we have helped 577 households benefit from our energy efficiency schemes, the majority of which are vulnerable resident in or at risk of fuel poverty:

- Ryedale Energy Saver Scheme – 34 households received energy efficiency measures.
- Ex Forces Discretionary Repair Scheme – 5 households received an energy saving home improvement.
- Gas Safety Scheme - 11 households received gas safety work including boiler services, upgrades and replacements.
- Warm and Well North Yorkshire – 1 household received energy advice and referrals to wider support groups.
- Health Through Warmth – 2 households received a heating measure part funded by Npower.
- Choices4Energy – 32 households received energy saving advice.
- Oil Buying Cooperative –144 households registered on the scheme, accessing heating oil at a lower rate

- Collective Switch – 348 households registered on the scheme and received energy saving advice, with approximately 30% switching to a lower energy tariff as a group.

Ryedale District Council currently does not have a system to directly monitor energy savings or carbon savings other than comparing national statistics.

Our energy saving schemes have helped secure the employment of seven direct members of staff, working across Ryedale and Scarborough:

1 X Project Officer  
2 X Wellbeing Advisors  
1 X Energy Advisor  
3 X Handy Person

## **8. What lessons have you learned from delivering this scheme(s)?**

The main lessons:

### Finding eligible householders that meet funding criteria.

This is one of the biggest challenges, especially with limited funds to roll out marketing campaigns. We are heavily reliant on external partners to drive engagement.

### The low hanging fruit has gone.

ECO is geared towards low cost insulation measures. However, the majority of these measures have been completed, leaving the 'hard to treat' homes that require high cost measures. With only limited Council and external funding available, many fuel poor households fall out of schemes - as they don't have the money to invest, even though a finance agreement.

## **Local Communications Strategy**

### **9. Does your local authority provide any advisory service to consumers (and businesses) on how to save energy?**

YES

### **10. If yes to question 9, please briefly outline how this is undertaken (or enter 'N/A' if appropriate)**

YES Energy Solutions, who manage the Ryedale Energy Saver Scheme have a team of advisors who have undertaken specialist training to provide bespoke energy saving advice over the phone, via home visits and at events.

An Energy Advisor from White Rose Home Improvement Agency is employed to provide tailored energy efficiency advice to residents across Ryedale and Scarborough as part of our Choices4Energy service.

Energy tips and scheme information is also disseminated to residents via the environmental section of our website, social media channels, printed leaflets and via display screens in the waiting area of our head office.

**11. How do you communicate or encourage energy saving amongst domestic consumers and/or local businesses? (If you do not, please enter 'N/A' and move on to the next section 'Local Green Supply Chains')**

Ryedale District Council communicates the benefits of energy efficiency to householders and local businesses by:

- Working with specialist external organisations (e.g. YES Energy Solutions) who undertake a range of targeted marketing activity.
- Running forums and events - engaging householders, landlords and small businesses.
- Emailing key stakeholders, highlighting the latest funding opportunities and 'the need to be green.'
- Distributing press releases and newsletters.
- Providing relevant information in the environmental section of the Council's website.
- Social media updates.
- Encouraging front line staff and other public sector partners (e.g. fire service) to share information on our energy saving schemes.

## **Local Green Supply Chains**

**12. Does your Local Authority promote the use of energy efficient products amongst consumers (and businesses)? (if you answer no please move onto the next section 'Private Rented Sector')**

YES

**13. If yes to question 12, please briefly detail how this promotion work is undertaken.**

Although this is not a core focus, some of our energy efficiency schemes (e.g. Collective Switching programme) includes offering tailored advice on energy efficient products. Information and advice on LED lighting, A-rated white goods and energy saving appliances is provided where relevant.

Residents are also referred to the Energy Saving Trust for further information on the best energy efficiency products.

**14. What engagement (formal or informal) does your local authority have with local businesses/supply chains involved in promoting energy efficiency products or carbon reduction?**

We work directly with organisations that help us deliver our energy efficiency schemes, such as YES Energy Solutions.

The main businesses we engage with regarding energy efficiency are estate agents that represent private sector landlords. We work with these companies to improve living standards, highlight changes in legislation and recommend the most appropriate interventions.

As part of our recent Climate Change Scrutiny Review, we are now ensuring all of our suppliers to commit to a level of Climate Change reduction which is built into our service specifications. We are also encouraging businesses to join the Ryedale Environmental Forum.

## **Domestic Private Rented Sector (PRS) Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards**

The Minimum Energy Efficiency Regulations (the Regulations) apply to all privately rented properties in England and Wales. As of April 2018, all such properties are legally required to have an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) of at least an E before they can be let on a new tenancy. This requirement will then extend to all such properties by 1 April 2020, even if there has been no change in tenant or tenancy (please see BEIS's published guidance documents for the full details on the standard).

The PRS Regulations give enforcement powers to local authorities, and authorities are responsible for ensuring landlord compliance within their area.

### **15. Is your authority aware of the PRS Minimum Efficiency Standards which came into force in April 2018?**

YES

### **16. Which team within your authority is responsible for, or will be responsible for, leading on enforcement of the PRS minimum standard?**

Housing Services

### **17. Please provide the contact details of the person leading this team.**

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### **18. What method or methods does your authority use to communicate with landlords and tenants about the standards and other related issues?**

Ryedale District Council is very proactive in communicating and engaging with private sector landlords. We maintain a full contact list covering landlords, estate agents and letting agents that we disseminate information to on a regular basis.

We also host an annual landlord forum, which includes presentations on the latest legislation as well as our landlord energy efficiency loan programme.

Training events are also implemented throughout the year, helping landlords to understand their duty of care. For example, we coordinated MEES training with our largest estates in February 2019.

Information relevant to landlords is also displayed on our website.

### **19. Do you directly target landlords of EPC F and G rated properties?**

NO

All landlords, regardless of the standard of their housing stock are provided with information on energy efficiency options and their legislative requirements. We don't just focus on the worse cases.

We do however, put enforcements in place when we have identified a private rented property that doesn't meet MEES criteria.

On some of our future projects (e.g. the North Yorks Warm Homes Scheme) we will be targeting properties in lower EPC bands as part of the marketing drive, which will include private rented accommodation.

## Financial Support for Energy Efficiency

**20. What financial programmes, if any, do you have to promote domestic and non-domestic energy efficiency or energy saving? If applicable, please outline the sums, where such funding is sourced, and where it is targeted.**

**(If you do not have any financial assistance programmes, please enter 'N/A' and move onto the next section 'Fuel Poverty')**

We secure and blend funding from a variety of sources to support our energy efficiency and fuel poverty schemes. Over £123,000 has been utilised since 2017:

- Ryedale Energy Efficiency Grant – annual Council fund dedicated to reducing fuel poverty. (£96,198)
- Ryedale Home Improvement Loan – a low cost Council backed finance package. (£11,663)
- Disabled Facility Grants – sourced through the MoD Aged Veterans Fund. (£889.49)
- Gas Safe Hardship Fund (for heating upgrades) – secured through the gas safety charity FILT. (£1,384)
- ECO funding - sourced through YES Energy Solutions who have contracts with a range of obligated Energy Companies. (£13,307)
- Health Through Warmth funding (for central heating improvements) - provided by Npower where 50% of install costs are covered. (£1,305)
- Warm and Well North Yorkshire (single point of contact for energy and wellbeing services) - secured through North Yorkshire County Council. (£480)

Future allocations:

- Ryedale Energy Efficiency Grant - £40,000 has been allocated to the next financial year.
- Warm Homes Fund – North Yorkshire County Council secured £268,529 through National Grid's Warm Homes Fund to support a central heating scheme in Ryedale, Scarborough and Hambleton. Around £81,000 will be used in Ryedale. We are also committing £10,000 from our capital fund to the scheme.

## Fuel Poverty

**21. Does your local authority have a fuel poverty strategy?**

YES

**If yes, please describe the scope of the strategy, and the support that is available for low income and vulnerable households to help tackle fuel poverty in your local area. Please also provide a link to your strategy if published.**



Our approach to fuel poverty alleviation is specified in our Private Sector Housing Action Plan:  
<https://democracy.ryedale.gov.uk/documents/s38624/Private%20Sector%20Housing%20Action%20Plan%202015-2021.pdf>

The strategy is focussed on identifying the extent of poor housing standards across Ryedale, highlighting the reasons why poor standards exist, understanding the risks imposed on vulnerable householders and then setting out appropriate solutions (based on the resources we have available) to help improve housing across the district.

The strategy is closely linked to the 'North Yorkshire, York & East Riding Housing Strategy' and covers nine key priority areas from improving compliance processes to identifying specific housing needs across the community.

Although the strategy is broad, each priority area includes specific objectives that link to reducing fuel poverty. It also highlights the Council's approach to delivering positive outputs.

*Examples include:*

Objective – to improve quality and access to private rented housing for those in housing need or who are vulnerable.

Outputs:

- Build working relationships with landlords
- Provide financial assistance to landlords and tenants
- Interlink with other support functions

Objective – to reduce the number of non-decent homes.

Outputs:

- Offer energy efficiency grants and home appreciation loans
- Actively promote the availability of schemes and funding opportunities

Objective – increase access to affordable warmth to enable more sustainable homes by increasing energy efficiency and reducing fuel poverty

Outputs:

- Link with external experts to drive activity and bring in external funding
- Offer residents relevant advice and support
- Develop tailored programmes relevant to Ryedale (e.g. oil buying co-op)
- Train front line staff to identify and support fuel poor residents

We know that more needs to be done to fulfil the objectives in our Housing Strategy. However, we have made some positive headway, especially in the last two years where a number of new partnerships have been established to target fuel poverty and capitalise on external funding opportunities.

**22. What steps have you taken to identify residents/properties in fuel poverty? (enter 'N/A' if not appropriate)**

Action on fuel poverty is at the heart of all of our energy efficiency schemes and completely interlinks with our approach to improving properties across Ryedale. The eligibility criteria for every scheme is tailored around residents with low household incomes and high energy costs.

To help us focus our attention on key areas, we regularly review the Ryedale Housing Stock Condition Survey which was completed in 2017. The information in the report has been valuable in helping us understand the types of schemes we should be delivering.

Our principle scheme, the Ryedale Energy Saver, directly targets householders that are in or at risk of fuel poverty. The appointed scheme manager, YES Energy Solutions, use a range of techniques to identify and locate eligible residents. This includes reviewing EPC data and fuel poverty statistics.

In preparation for the North Yorks Warm Homes scheme, our partners Mid-North Yorkshire Citizens Advice commissioned YES Energy Solutions to undertake a detailed research study to identify households with no central heating in areas with a high proportion of fuel poor residents. Over 1000 households in Ryedale were identified which will now be the core focus of the scheme.

**23. How does fuel poverty interlink with your local authority's overall carbon reduction strategy? (enter 'N/A' if not appropriate)**

Reducing fuel poverty is our primary driver. If anything, interventions to prevent fuel poverty influence our overall approach to reducing carbon emissions across the district.

Almost all of our energy saving schemes are aimed at supporting vulnerable householders who struggle to afford to heat their homes to an acceptable temperature.

The Home Improvement Agency, that covers both Ryedale and Scarborough, is completely focussed on supporting the fuel poor - maximising health and wellbeing benefits through energy efficiency advice and interventions.

Our drive to alleviate fuel poverty prompted us to work with specialist external partners such as NEA and YES Energy Solutions, who are now an integral part of our engagement strategy, where we utilise their expertise to effectively locate and support the most vulnerable residents.

All of our future energy efficiency initiatives will be aimed at reducing fuel poverty across Ryedale.

**24a. What measures or initiatives have you taken to promote fuel cost reduction for those in fuel poverty? (enter 'N/A' if not appropriate)**

Information on the cost saving benefits of energy efficient improvements are highlighted through all of our fuel poverty schemes.

Residents are provided with advice on indicative bill savings and pay back periods when considering energy efficiency measures. This is provided by our external partners, home improvement agency staff, via leaflets, letters, web and social media posts and through presentations at events.

Should residents require additional information, we refer them to our delivery partners - YES Energy Solutions, or to the Energy Saving Trust's website that provides useful and up to date information on fuel cost reduction for different measures and property types.

We also help residents find the best energy deals. Our Collective Switching and Oil Buying schemes with Scarborough Borough Council are key examples of specific activity focussed on helping vulnerable residents reduce their energy bills through the best tariffs.

**24b. If you have taken measures or initiatives to promote fuel cost reduction for those in fuel poverty, what partnership with business or energy providers have you undertaken? (enter 'N/A' if not appropriate)**

Our main fuel poverty partner is YES Energy Solutions - a Yorkshire based Community Interest Company that specialise in delivering schemes that support the most vulnerable householders. YES Energy Solutions have established bilateral working relationships with many of the largest energy companies, enabling them to channel ECO funding into our energy efficiency schemes.

Through our Collective Switching programme, we are working with Ichoosr - an independent organiser of group buying schemes. They work with multiple energy suppliers to find the most competitive deals for scheme participants.

Our joint Home Improvement Agency with Scarborough Borough Council manages our Oil Buying Cooperative, who sources heating oil from local providers – accessing the best rates through the power of group buying.

We also work collaboratively with other neighbouring Councils to promote fuel cost reduction across North Yorkshire and attend a regular Winter Heath forum to consolidate our approach to fuel poverty and share ideas.

## **The Energy Company Obligation**

**The Energy Company Obligation (ECO) is an obligation on energy suppliers aimed at helping households cut their energy bills and reduce carbon emissions by installing energy saving measures. Following the Spring 2018 consultation, the Government set out in its response that ECO3 will fully focus on Affordable Warmth – low income, vulnerable and fuel poor households.**

**The recently introduced ECO “flexible eligibility” (ECO Flex) programme allows LAs to make declarations determining that certain households in fuel poverty or with occupants on low incomes and vulnerable to the effects of cold homes, are referred to ECO obligated suppliers for support under the Affordable Warmth element of ECO. LAs involved are required to issue a Statement of Intent that they are going to identify households as eligible, and the criteria they are going to use; and a declaration that the LA has been consulted on the installation of measures in a home.**

**25. Has your local authority published a Statement of Intent (Sol) for ECO flexibility eligibility?**

YES

Link to Sol:

[ryedale.gov.uk/images/Environment\\_Planning/Local\\_Authority\\_Statement\\_of\\_Intent\\_RyedaleDC.pdf](http://ryedale.gov.uk/images/Environment_Planning/Local_Authority_Statement_of_Intent_RyedaleDC.pdf)

**26. Please use the following space to provide any further information you feel might be of benefit to BEIS, in helping us to understand ECO Flex delivery in more detail. For example, the number of declarations signed versus the number of households helped.**

Due to limited time and resource, we have enlisted our ECO delivery partner YES Energy Solutions to support our flexible eligibility administration process.

We have entered into an agreement with them to on-board quality contractors, validate eligible customers against the criteria in our Statement of Intent and collect and store the qualifying evidence. They then submit a progress report stating which addresses have met the criteria for us to issue the ECO declaration. We then audit a proportion of the customers to ensure YES Energy Solutions are compliant with our criteria and making appropriate recommendations.

This process is very much in its infancy, but is supporting some ECO Flex delivery in Ryedale. We predict that this will increase when the North Yorks Warm Homes Scheme gathers momentum over 2019 and 2020.

## Smart Metering

**27. Please provide a brief statement outlining your current or planned approach to:**

**Engage and support your residents (including those in vulnerable circumstances or with pre-payment metering) to promote take up of smart meters and achieve associated benefits (e.g. ability to control energy use, identify best value tariffs)? Please detail any work undertaken or planned with local/ community groups, housing associations, micro businesses, Smart Energy GB under their Partnership Programme and energy suppliers.**

We haven't promoted the roll out of Smart Meters due to their current lack of flexibility which makes it increasingly difficult for residents to switch energy provider. We feel that the current Smart Meter models will only cause undue disruption and stress, especially with our most vulnerable residents.

However, we are aware that improvements are being made to help standardise the technology so that they can be installed in every property and work in conjunction with any energy provider.

When these improvements have been made, we will happily promote the roll out of Smart Meters in Ryedale as we can see the benefits this can bring to householders. We will also ensure that our frontline staff are fully trained in the use of Smart Meters, so they can provide advice and support to the most vulnerable residents.

**28. Please provide a brief statement outlining your current or planned approach to:**

**Integrate your approaches to delivering energy efficiency improvements in residential accommodation with the opportunities presented by the installation of smart meters, drawing**

**upon materials from the Smart Meter Energy Efficiency Materials Project or other sources of independent information.**

There are clear opportunities to identify additional domestic energy efficiency improvements via the roll out of Smart Meters. However, we currently do not have a strategy to link our schemes to the Smart Meter campaign – mainly due to the reason provided in point 27.

We have not been approached by any energy companies to support their own roll out.

Once improvements to the technology have been implemented, we will review our stance on Smart Meters and how this can aid our approach to reducing fuel poverty across Ryedale.

**29. Please detail any:**

**Resources/ support (e.g. services, funding) available to residents who have had an appliance(s) condemned for safety reasons and cannot afford to replace it (e.g. during visual safety checks conducted during their smart meter installation or otherwise).**

Ryedale District Council does not have any programmes to support the replacement of condemned appliances. However, North Yorkshire County Council holds the North Yorkshire Local Assistance Fund, which could be used to support extremely vulnerable adults on a case by case basis. We would make referrals into this scheme for appropriate cases.

We do work directly with landlords to ensure they were making appropriate improvements, especially when appliances have been condemned. Housing Associations in Ryedale also have their own programmes and support lines in place to cover the replacement of condemned appliances.

**30. Please detail any:**

**Existing relationships with energy suppliers to help ensure that the opportunities presented by vacant properties under your control are effectively utilised (i.e. gaining access to install a smart meter).**

Ryedale District Council does not have any direct relationships with energy companies. Nor do we own any Social Housing.

We do however, work closely with Housing Associations and estate agents across the district, so could potential support the roll out of Smart Meters over the coming months.

## Future Schemes or Wider Initiatives

**31. Please outline any future schemes or wider initiatives not covered above that your local authority has carried out or is planning to undertake to improve the energy efficiency of residential accommodation or businesses in your area, for example, within your Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Energy Strategy (if you do not plan any future schemes currently, please enter 'N/A').**

Despite our size and limited resources, Ryedale District Council is a key player in the promotion of energy efficiency throughout North Yorkshire and has helped bring other Local Authorities together under a common purpose.

We were instrumental in helping set up the bid for the North Yorks Warm Homes Scheme, introducing key stakeholders and encouraging neighbouring Councils to participate. This resulted in a successful submission securing £268,529 of funding for a first time central heating scheme covering Ryedale, Scarborough and Hambleton.

We are members of the North Yorkshire Winter Health Partnership - a group of proactive organisations including community groups, businesses and Local Authorities, with a shared drive to reduce fuel poverty and promote affordable warmth. Through regular meetings and idea sharing, we have strengthened our approach to energy efficiency (including the production of the North Yorkshire Winter Health Strategy) whilst tapping into the skills of experienced external partners that can add value to the Councils' collective offerings.

We are a firm believer in 'strength in numbers' and know that the best results come through proactive collaborations. Being part of county wide programmes with multiple partners, such as Warm & Well, not only helps us effectively identify households that can benefit from energy efficiency upgrades, but provides vulnerable residents with access to a host of valuable wellbeing services to help them improve their health and maximise their income.

The Energy Company Obligation scheme has been a core focus for Ryedale and we were one of early innovators to release a Statement of Intent to take advantage of the Flexible Eligibility mechanism.

According to the latest Government statistics (Household Energy Efficiency National Statistics), 1,108 measures were delivered through the ECO programme in Ryedale up to the end of September 2018. Of which 42.8% (475 measures) were installed after September 2017 during ECO2T.

Our future energy efficiency strategy is to continue to collaborate with neighbouring Councils as well as external experts to maximise funding opportunities that support the reduction of fuel poverty across the whole district.