

Social and environmental impact assessment

Energy and water at home: a strategy for efficiency and affordability for every household in Portsmouth 2019-25

Type	Description	Impact	Details	How can the impact be measured?
Social impact	Employment, training and education	Positive	Creating employment in delivering energy efficiency improvements. Reducing the amount low income households spend on energy and water will increase their disposable income, which is likely to be spent in the local area, supporting employment.	Numbers of jobs and apprenticeships created. Modelling of savings to households.
	Housing and local facilities	Positive	Improvements to existing housing stock - making homes warmer will help to reduce condensation and mould. Driving high standards in new developments.	Number and financial value of improvements. Efficiency standards of new homes.
	Income and financial inclusion	Positive	Maximising income, reducing expenditure on essential household utilities and setting up affordable debt repayments will improve household budgets.	Additional income achieved. Number of customers switching. Debt advice interventions and outcomes.
	Mental health and well-being	Positive	There is clear evidence linking cold homes and financial stress to poor mental health outcomes. Action to make homes warmer, reduce the cost of energy and increase incomes will reduce these risk factors.	Interventions provided to users of mental health services.
	Physical health	Positive	Respiratory and circulatory health issues are most directly affected by living in cold and damp homes, but other long term conditions can also benefit from improvements to home conditions.	Interventions provided to respiratory and circulatory patients.
	Family, friends and relationships	None		

	Citizenship and community	Positive	Including residents in the consultation and delivery of the strategy, particularly in relation to promoting the help that is available to friends, family and the wider community, can increase social cohesion and strengthen communities.	Number of people referred to energy services by friends/family/community.
	Conservation of the natural environment	None		
	Arts, heritage, sports and faith	None		
Environmental impact	Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Portsmouth	Positive	Continuing to develop solar PV and other forms of renewable energy, including energy storage, can offset GHG emissions. Although most of the energy used in homes is not produced in Portsmouth, making homes more energy efficient will reduce the GHG emissions from wasted energy. However, reducing the cost of energy could increase energy use in some low income households who are currently unable to afford to use the energy needed for an acceptable level of comfort and dignity, although this is expected to be outweighed by the impact of efficiency improvements.	Carbon savings from renewable energy generation and storage. Energy savings from efficiency interventions. Research into energy use by low income households before and after interventions.
	Plan for future climate change	Positive	Increasing efficiency will reduce the demand for energy in future. Making homes warmer will protect against the risk of more severe low temperatures. Improving water efficiency will help to prepare for water scarcity or increased cost.	Energy and water savings from efficiency interventions.
	Pollution: air/ water/ soil/ noise	Positive	Gas boilers contribute to air pollution, so improving efficiency in heating and hot water will reduce these emissions. Making homes warmer will help to reduce condensation and the mould spores it creates, reducing indoor air pollution. Water	Number of inefficient boilers replaced. Impact of additional insulation. Water savings from efficiency interventions.

			efficiency will mitigate damage caused by water-borne nitrates in the Solent.	
	Protect coastal and inland waters	None		
	Enhance biodiversity	None		
	Encourage resource efficiency (energy, water, materials and minerals)	Positive	This strategy focuses on energy and water efficiency. There will be some demand for new materials and minerals, but these will mainly be directed to improving the housing stock where they are likely to have a long lifespan and high use value.	Energy and water savings from efficiency interventions.
	Public Safety: Minimise waste generation/ infection control/ accidental injury /fire risk	Positive	Reducing the number of cold homes will reduce the risk of falls and other health issues exacerbated by the cold. LEAP home energy visits identify fire risk and refer to the fire service when needed.	Number of people with health issues assisted. Number of referrals to fire service.
	Reduce need to travel / promote sustainable forms of transport	None		
	Improves the physical environment e.g. housing quality, public and green space	Positive	Improve home conditions.	Number of homes improved, value of improvements.