

## Written response to question / issue raised at Council

**Meeting Date:** 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021

**Public / Private\*:** Public

**Minute Reference:** C.111/21 – Portfolio Holder Reports

**Written response to:** Cllr Miss J Whalen

**Written response from:** Cllr P Nedved

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### Resolution / Question:

That the Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder provide a written response to Cllr Miss Whalen regarding the inclusion of Registered Social Landlords in the Green Homes and Sustainable Warmth Grants – Local Authority Delivery (LAD2).

### Response:

**Background:** There have been various rounds of BEIS funding under the Government's Sustainable Warmth Strategy for retrofitting homes with energy efficiency measures – each have slightly different eligibility criteria and are being delivered differently in Cumbria.

**LAD Phase 2** funding is being overseen by the North West Energy Hub. Eden District Council are the lead authority of a Cumbrian consortium of District Councils. EON have been procured by Eden DC to deliver the programme. The scheme is currently due to end in December 2021 although it is likely to be extended to March 2022. Unfortunately, due to no fault of Carlisle City Council, there have been delays and we are still waiting to sign the MOU agreement with Eden DC for the funding which leaves little time for delivery.

LAD2 funding is available for all tenure types including social housing tenants. Where a property is rented the landlord has to contribute a minimum of 1/3<sup>rd</sup> to the cost of the upgrades with the average subsidy cost not to exceed £5,000 per property. For example, for an upgrade costing £7,500, the landlord would receive the maximum landlord grant of £5,000 and contribute £2,500. To qualify the tenants should have an income of under £30,000 p.a. and an EPC rating of D,E,F or G.

**LAD3 / Home Upgrade Grants:** Carlisle City Council have applied as the lead authority on a Cumbria Consortium of District Councils for the next round of Sustainable Warmth funding. We should find out in the Autumn whether we have been successful. This round is primarily aimed at private domestic dwellings but some adhoc social housing properties can be included.

**Any social landlords who want properties to be included for LAD2 funding or for LAD3/ HUG should contact Emma-Kate Bishop, HIA Team Leader, Homelife Carlisle HIA.**

There is also an opportunity for social landlords to apply in conjunction with local authorities to the **Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund** which is aimed primarily at social housing tenants. A decision on how this scheme may be delivered in Cumbria has not been made yet. Any social landlord who wants more information should contact Jeremy Hewitson, Housing Development Officer or to the North West Energy Hub.

There is **other help available for energy efficiency measures**. Carlisle City Council's HIA, Homelife Carlisle, can offer energy advice and grants available for private tenants for smaller energy efficiency measures such as draught-proofing and also administers the Help to Heat Local Authority flexible eligibility ECO scheme (LA flex). Any residents, including tenants, can contact Homelife for further information and advice.

**Date: 19<sup>th</sup> August 2021**