

ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION – MARCH 2017

HOME ENERGY CONSERVATION ACT (HECA) REPORT 2017

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 On 9 March 2017 the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel received a report on the Council's performance against the requirements of the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 (HECA).
- 1.2 New Forest District Council has a duty to submit a copy of their HECA report to the Secretary Of State for the Department for Business, Energy and industrial Strategy by 31 March 2017. The proposed HECA report for publication and submission to the Secretary of State is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.
- 1.3 The HECA report provides an update on energy conservation for residential properties within the New Forest District and has to be produced on a bi-annual basis.
- 1.4 The report shows how the New Forest District compares to local and national statistics regarding domestic energy use such as CO2 emissions, Gas and Electricity consumption and fuel poverty.
- 1.5 Findings show that gas and electricity consumption ,carbon emissions from domestic sources and Fuel Poverty across the district continue to show a steady decline.

2.0 VIEWS OF THE ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

- 2.1 The Panel noted the HECA report and commended it to the Portfolio Holder for the Environment for publication on the Council's website and for submission to the Secretary of State for the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

3.0 CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 None arising directly from this report

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The HECA report forms part of the Government's initiative to reduce carbon emissions and energy consumption.

5.0 DECISION

- 5.1 That the HECA report, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, be approved for submission to the Secretary of State for the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

6. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

- 6.1 None

7. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED

- 7.1 None

ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO HOLDER

I have agreed to the recommendations of this report.

Signed: S Beeton

Date: 20 March 2017

Date on which notice given for this Decision – 20 March 2017

Last date for call-in – 27 March 2017

Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) Report March 2017

Introduction

This report is the 2017 update on home energy conservation with residential properties within the New Forest district as required under the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 (HECA).

This report outlines the progress made since the previous report in March 2015 and sets targets for the next period (2017-2019).

The next report will be due in March 2019 and every two years thereafter until March 2027.

Data and timeframes used

The data in this report comes from a range of local and national sources. There may be delays to the publication of large datasets and therefore the majority of the data covers the data up to and including 2014.

Local energy efficiency ambitions and priorities

Domestic carbon emissions

Table 1: CO2 Emissions from domestic use.

CO2 emissions (KT CO2) from domestic use emissions	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% reduction on 2009 data
New Forest	400	428	373	398	385	324	-19%
Hampshire	2,821	3,020	2,653	2,830	2,749	2,314	-18%
England	110,907	120,482	105,764	112,171	105,260	91,411	-18%
National	136,393	147,158	129,014	115,433	121,614	109,762	-20%

This data shows that:

Carbon emissions from domestic sources in the New Forest have fallen by 19% in the 2009-2014 period¹. This is slightly better than the Hampshire and England total % reductions.

Per capita carbon emissions have declined by 15% in the 2009-2014 reporting period². The per capita carbon emissions take into account those emissions that are considered to be within the local authority's influence and excludes emissions such as those from motorways, the EU Emissions Trading System and diesel railways.

¹ Local CO2 emissions estimates for 2009 - 2016; gov.uk

² Per capita local CO2 emissions estimates, industry, domestic and transport sectors, 2009 - 2014; gov.uk

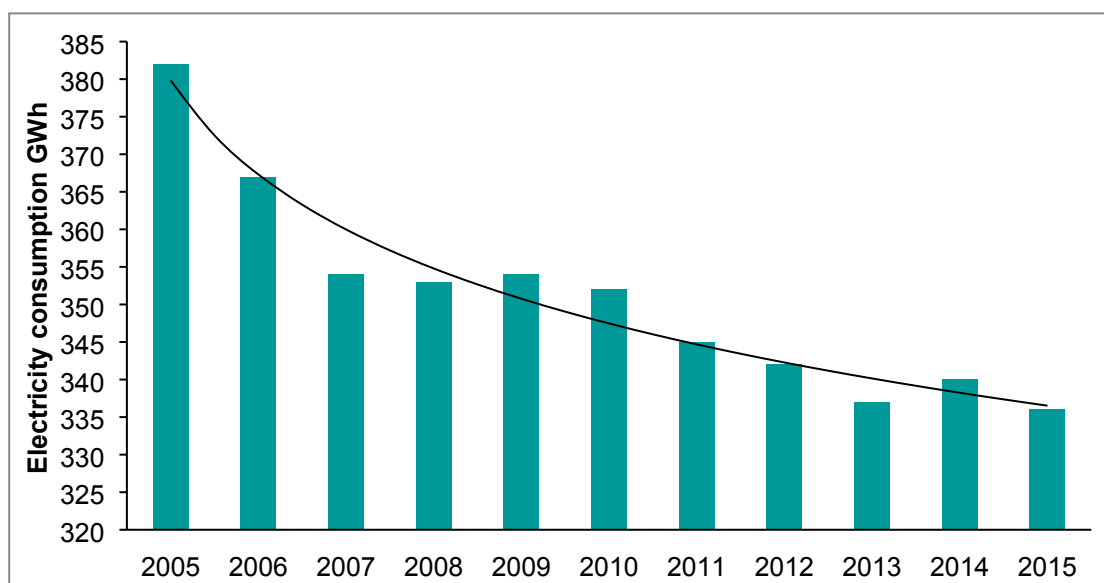
Table 2: Per capita emissions

Per capita emissions (t)	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% reduction on 2009 data
New Forest	6.80	7.00	6.60	6.70	6.50	5.80	-15%
Hampshire	6.10	6.30	5.70	5.90	5.70	5.10	-16%
England	6.10	6.30	5.90	5.90	5.70	5.10	-16%
National	6.30	6.60	5.90	6.20	6.00	5.30	-16%

This data shows that:

Domestic emissions declined across all local authorities between 2013 and 2014. This has been attributed to a decrease in the use of coal for electricity generation and a lesser demand for heating as temperatures were, on average, 1.3 degrees Celsius warmer in 2014 than 2013³.

Table 3: Domestic energy consumption



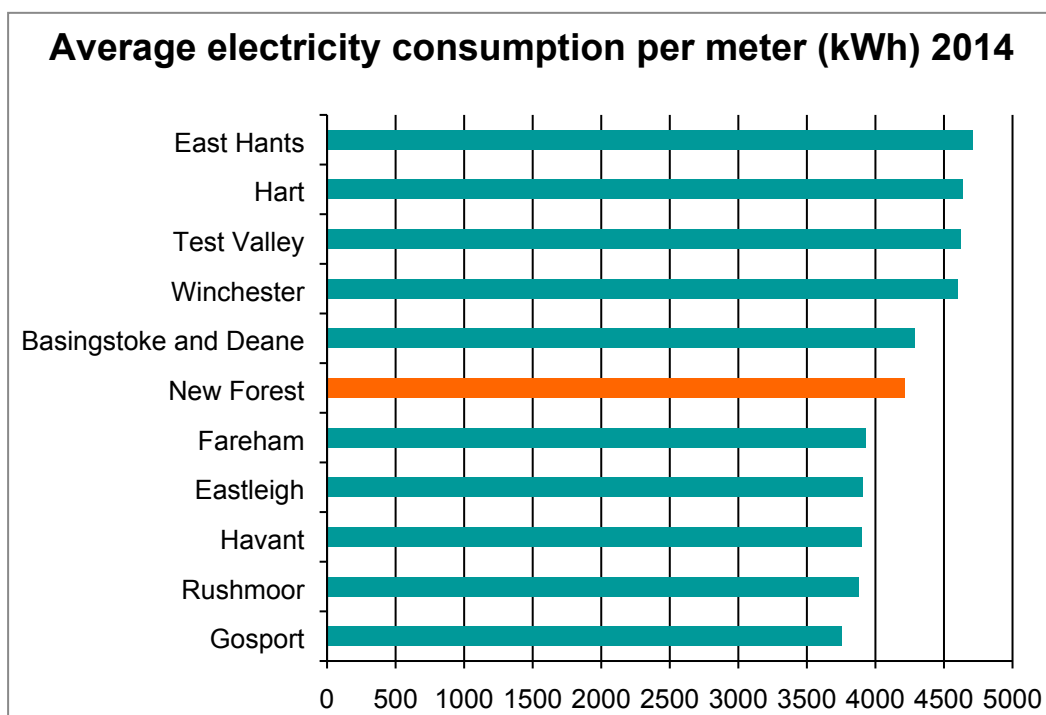
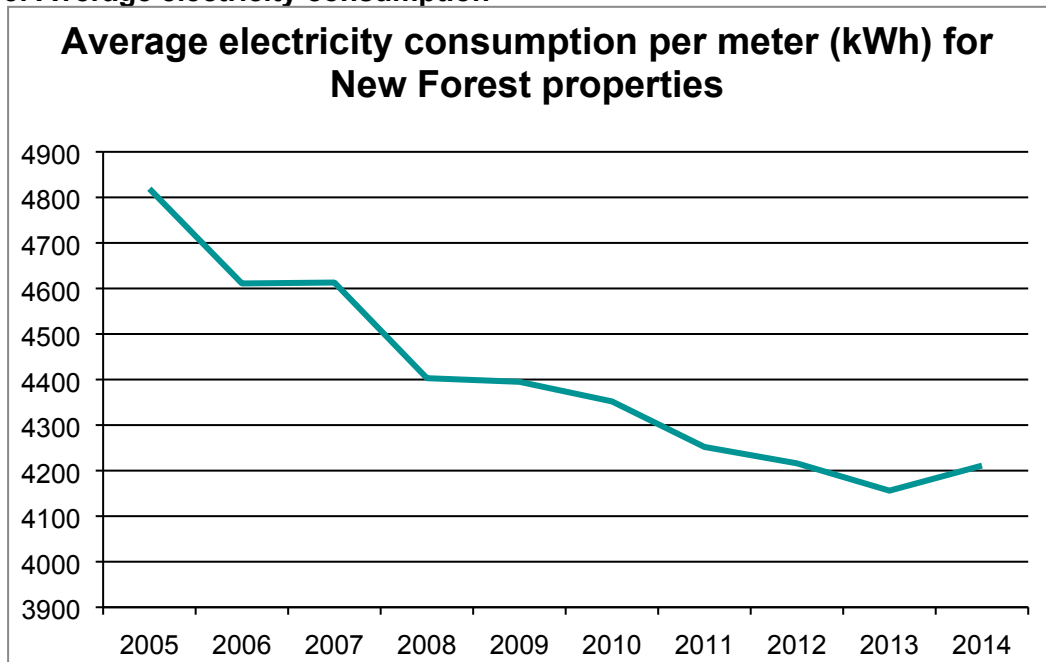
This data shows that:

Domestic electricity consumption in the New Forest has been declining since 2005⁴, with the exception of an increase in 2014. The rate of decline is now slowing down but the decrease in consumption is continuing.

³ Local authority carbon dioxide emissions estimates 2014 statistical release

⁴ Regional and local authority electricity consumption statistics 2005-2011, gov.uk

Table 4 & 5: Average electricity consumption

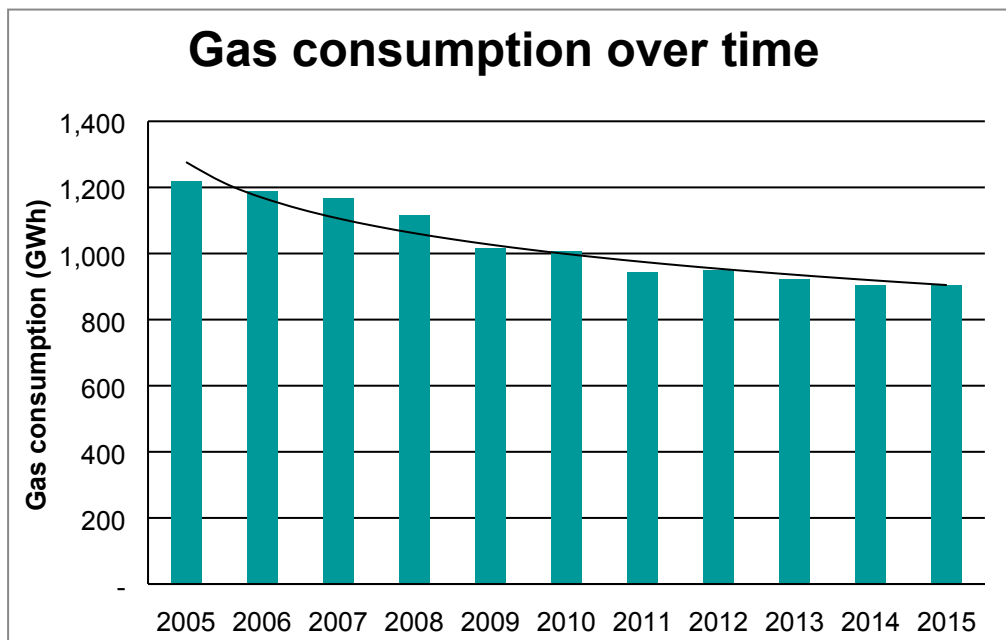


This data shows that:

The average electricity consumption per meter⁵ was on a steady decline in the New Forest during 2005-2013. However, it rose by 55 kWh/meter in 2014, which reflects the increase in overall electricity consumption seen in the same year. This compares well with other authorities in Hampshire and is average.

⁵ Subnational electricity and gas consumption analysis tool, gov.uk

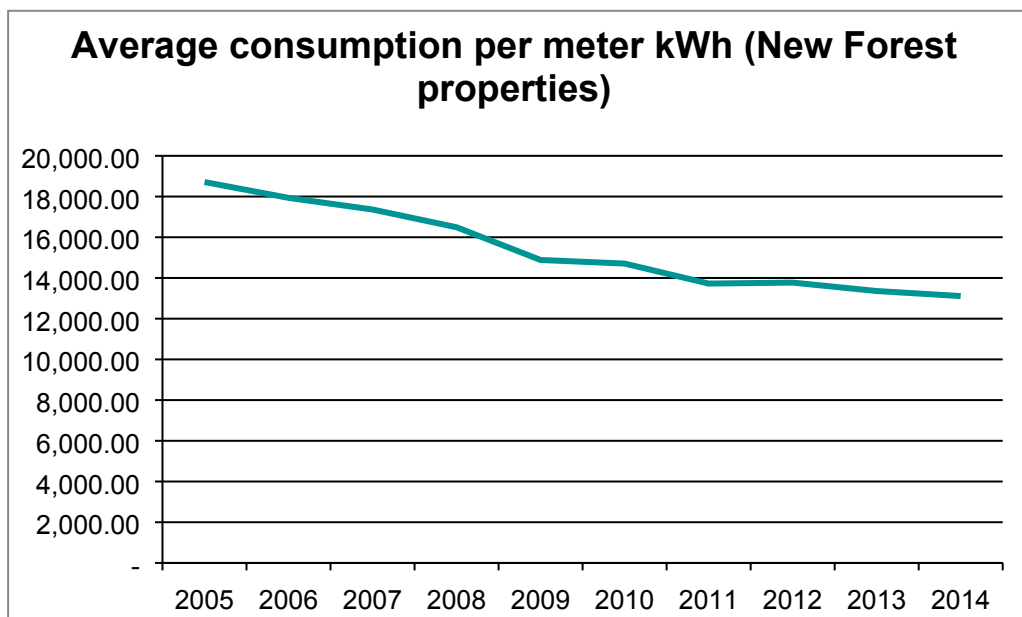
Table 6 & 7: Average gas consumption



This data shows that:
Domestic gas consumption also shows a general downward trend⁶ but this stalled in 2015 and 2016 to 902GWh.

The average gas consumption per meter⁷ for properties in the New Forest has decreased from 18,713 kWh in 2005 to 13,110 kWh in 2014. This consumption is average for Hampshire.

Table 8 & 9: Average consumption



⁶ Gas sales and numbers of customers by region and local authority, gov.uk

⁷ Subnational electricity and gas consumption analysis tool, gov.uk

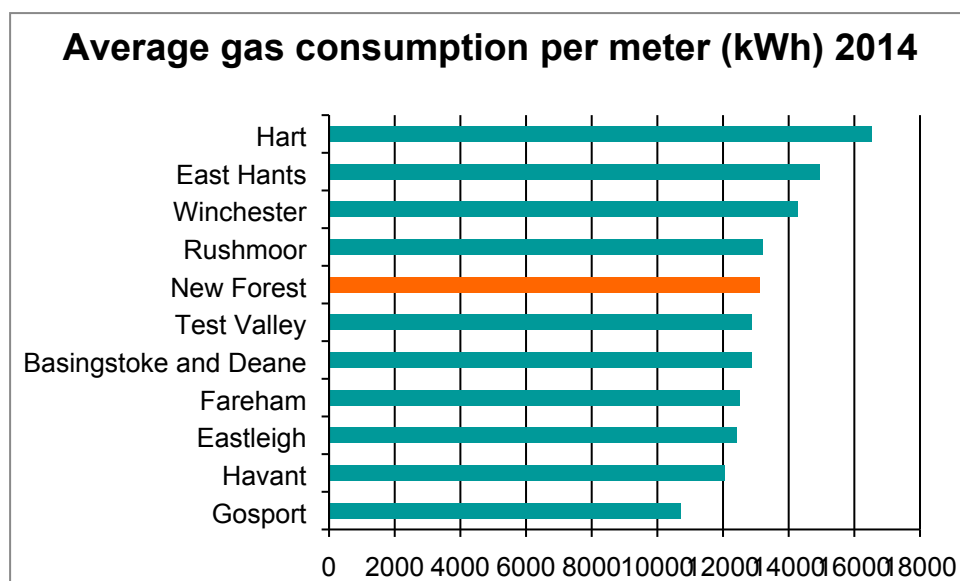


Table 10: Fuel poverty

Households in fuel poverty	2008	2009 (base year)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
New Forest	11.10	13.20	12.70	11.90	9.20	6.90	6.80
Hampshire	9.50	11.50	10.70	9.30	7.60	6.70	7.00
England	15.60	18.40	16.40	11.00	10.40	10.40	10.60

This data shows that:

Our current performance on fuel poverty is that 6.80% of households in the district are fuel poor⁸. This is well below the national average and lower than the Hampshire average.

Under the Low Income High Cost (LIHC) definition, a household is considered to be fuel poor where they have required fuel costs that are above average (the national median level), and were they to spend that amount, they would be left with a residual income below the official poverty line. Using these new figures we can see that NFDC is slightly lower than the Hampshire average.

Measures we are taking to result in significant energy efficiency improvements of our residential accommodation

Hitting the Cold Spots and Central Heating Fund

We have been working in partnership with Hampshire County Council and other local authorities to promote the HCC strategic aim to improve the health and wellbeing of all Hampshire residents, specifically through the Hitting the Cold Spots project.

In the period 2015-17, the Hitting the Cold Spots and Central Heating Fund schemes achieved:

⁸ Sub-regional fuel poverty data, gov.uk

- 140 Households received advice &/or home visit support
- 19 Households assisted with heating &/hot water repairs or replacements
- 7 Households assisted with first time central heating

We will continue to support and promote the Hitting the Cold Spots campaign.

In 2013 consideration was given to signing up to the LGA 'Climate Local initiative', but the Council decided against committing to this in view of the administrative requirements and the activity already underway across the district to address the carbon reduction agenda.

We joined with Hampshire County Council in promoting the Switch Hampshire scheme to help residents in 2013/14 see if they could save money on their energy bills by switching supplier. In our district 171 residents registered for the scheme— those who switched saved an average of £163 each. The council also helped small and medium-sized businesses in the New Forest find and switch to cheaper energy tariffs by encouraging them to register for the scheme.

Feed in tariffs

At the end of September 2016 there had been 3,123 domestic solar PV systems installed within the District.

Large-scale solar PV sites in the New Forest have an installed capacity of 26.1KW, with another in progress that will provide a further 4KW.

Three domestic Micro CHP's had been installed by the end of September 2016.

As a council, we have continued to install solar PV schemes on our properties at.

Appletree court
 Lymington Town Hall
 Lyndhurst Public Conveniences
 Lymington Health and Leisure
 Gore Grange
 Testwood Crescent
 Totton Health and Leisure
 Barton Court Avenue Public Conveniences
 Bannister Court

Renewable Heat Incentive

Between April 2014 and October 2016, there were 170 accredited domestic RHI installations in the New Forest district⁹

Zero Carbon Homes

The previous Council planning policy, which required all new homes are built to zero carbon standards from 2016 (Policy CS4), has been withdrawn following the Government's withdrawal of the Code for Sustainable Homes

⁹ RHI monthly official statistics tables, 31 October 2016, gov.uk

We will continue to keep efficiency standards under review and consider the potential for introducing locally determined sustainability standards as part of the Local Plan under the Planning and Energy Act 2008

The adopted Local Plan Part 2 (Sites and Development Management) document includes a policy which supports renewable and low carbon energy generation schemes subject to a number of criteria ([Policy DM4](#)).

Measures we propose to cost effectively deliver energy efficiency improvements in residential accommodation by using area based / street by street roll out

We will:

Continue to work with partner authorities across Hampshire to promote the Hitting the Cold Spots campaign.

Identify target areas including possible priority areas (in line with the new LHIC data and emerging government strategy for targeting reductions in fuel poverty).

Timeframe for delivery and national and local partners

Target	Timeframe for delivery
Reduce carbon emissions in the domestic sector by 10% on 2009 levels by 2020	2020
Reduce the level of households in fuel poverty by 20% on 2012 levels by 2020, based on LHIC data	2020