



Report to Climate Change, Economy and Development Transitional Committee 10th March 2022

Report of: Mick Crofts – Place, Tom Finnegan-Smith – Head of Service for Sustainability, Transport and Strategic Infrastructure

Subject: Domestic Retrofit working group

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Introduction

Following the meeting of the 10th February 2022, on 24th February 2022 members of the Climate Change, Economy and Development Transitional Committee met virtually to hear evidence from representatives of four organisations leading in the field of domestic retrofit:

Attendee	Topic
Wayne Bexton Nottingham City Council Director of Carbon Reduction, Energy and Sustainability	Fuel Poverty and Energy Efficiency Retrofit Briefing
Mark Atherton Greater Manchester Combined Authority Director of Environment	RetrofitGM - Accelerating the renovation of Greater Manchester's Buildings
Lewis Sharman People Powered Retrofit	Community-led Retrofit Services
Chris Bryan Savvi Lettings and Property Management	Private Landlord Perspective

The summary notes of this meeting and presentations from the speakers are attached with this paper, alongside a summary of the skills arrangements for Sheffield.

Over the course of the session, seven general themes came through from the evidence provided by external attendees, and from the questions from committee members. These are outlined below.

Key Themes

1. Clarify Council approach to funding to enable Officers to maximise the benefit of available resources and get bids 'in the bottom drawer', including how we can utilise opportunities such as Levelling Up.
2. Regional collaborative approach is key to increase buying power for successful grant bids and maximise skills development.
3. Address cost and benefit is critical for Private Rented Tenure, improving out engagement, having the right tools to support action and engage landlords to participate in retrofit.
4. Engage with residents early to test generic assumptions, barriers, and willingness of local population.
5. Understand SCC and City property stock and archetype; Understand our maintenance schedule.
6. Target ready-to-act through the development of an informed homeowner offering for those able and willing to act now can begin to support retrofit in homeowner occupant tenure, enable scale up of activity, and development of the sector with a view to drive down costs.
7. Building skills and supply chain will be crucial to enable delivery at scale and at an affordable cost. The Council has roles in procuring housing works, setting regulatory standards and in supporting the development of skills

Next steps

The Council transitions to a full committee system in May, and governance arrangements are currently being finalised, but the March meeting of the Transitional Committee will be the last.

The Council Housing Decarbonisation Pathways work focused on our own stock is continuing to understand the archetypes and solutions, and work will also start on the wider Housing Decarbonisation Routemap to identify the actions needed to accelerate decarbonisation of the housing stock.

The evidence heard by the Committee and its reflections and recommendations on next steps can inform the new committee structures and support the work of officers during the transition to the new system.

The Committee is being asked to:

- Reflect on the evidence provided to it in the February meetings
- Consider if the key themes identified are correct
- Provide a report to Officers and to the subsequent Committee (or Committees) to outline the current position and to make advisory

recommendations for actions to continue, improve and accelerate activity

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