



Glasgow City Council

City Administration Committee

**Report by Councillor Ruairi Kelly, Depute Leader of the Council
and City Convener for Housing and Development**

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Item 1

1st October 2026

**GLASGOW'S AFFORDABLE WARMTH PROGRAMME: HEAT IN BUILDINGS
– AREA BASED SCHEMES GRANT FUNDING AWARD 2026/27**

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report is to advise members of the Heat in Buildings: Area Based Schemes (HiBs:ABS) grant award to Glasgow City Council and to accept the award for 2026/27.

Recommendations:

Committee is requested to:

1. Formally accept the award of £6,845,491 Heat in Buildings: Area Based Schemes grant funding for 2026/27.

Ward No(s):

Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes ☐ No ☐ consulted: Yes ☐ No ☐

1 Heat in Buildings: Area Based Schemes Programme

- 1.1 Energy efficiency was designated as a national infrastructure priority by the Scottish Government in 2015. This is the fourteenth year of the Area Based Schemes (ABS) programme (the 2026/27 programme is known as ABS 14). The programme aims to tackle fuel poverty and improve the energy efficiency of housing in the city and these aims will contribute towards making Scotland's existing buildings near zero carbon by 2045 wherever feasible and reasonably practicable.
- 1.2 The overarching objective of the Scottish Government's Heat in Buildings: Area Based Schemes (HiBs:ABS) programme is to provide funding that enables owner occupiers and private landlords, whose tenants are in or at risk of fuel poverty, to install energy efficiency measures through implementing a 'fabric first' approach. This helps homeowners and private landlords, who are eligible to receive funding from the ABS programme, to improve the energy performance of their home towards achieving an EPC rating of C or better and subsequently reduce energy usage and fuel costs.
- 1.3 The Scottish Government's ABS programme supports the delivery of priorities outlined in [Glasgow's Local Housing Strategy 2023-2028](#), particularly in relation to priority two "Improving the energy efficiency of Glasgow's homes, reducing fuel poverty and supporting a Just Transition to Net Zero through decarbonising domestic heating and energy."

2 Heat in Buildings: Area Based Schemes 2026/27 Funding Award

- 2.1 The Scottish Government's offer of grant to Glasgow City Council is £6,845,491 from the HiBs:ABS 2026/27 Programme.
- 2.2 In line with Scottish Government guidelines and to identify fuel poor households, the ABS programme in Glasgow will be targeted in geographic areas that are:
 - Within the lowest 25% Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (2020).
 - In Council Tax Bands A-C and Tax Band D in certain conditions.
 - In mixed tenure blocks in Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) areas of operation.
 - Where people are living in vulnerable conditions to the cold.
- 2.3 Following the Scottish Government Guidance criteria and 'fabric first' approach, projects will consist, in the main, of external wall insulation in both traditional and non-traditional properties.

- 2.4 In addition, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS) Housing continues to engage with Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) to identify projects that meet the ABS programme aims/guidance and explore the provision of funding to owner occupiers living in mixed tenure blocks who would benefit from external wall insulation. Where external wall insulation works have previously been completed, the provision of ABS grant funding can also be used to assist with installing additional fabric elements and the decarbonisation of heating and hot water systems. When feasible, ABS funding can also be used to support the delivery of energy efficiency measures to pre-1919 tenemental properties.
- 2.5 The identification of projects that can be delivered through the ABS programme is data driven primarily through the use of data analytics and following the Scottish Government's ABS criteria. This includes analysing house construction type, profiling by area, and reviewing previous measures installed to homes across the city. This enables NRS Housing to identify projects that meet the criteria of the scheme.

3 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

<i>Financial:</i>	No direct costs. Part of HiBs:ABS funding can be used for Council administrative and enabling costs.
<i>Legal:</i>	No legal implications arising from the report.
<i>Personnel:</i>	No additional personnel implications arising from the report.
<i>Procurement:</i>	HiBs:ABS projects are procured through Scotland Excel Procurement Framework and require input from Glasgow City Council Procurement Services.

Council Strategic Plan:

Grand Challenge 1:- Reduce poverty and inequality in our communities
Mission 3:- Improve the health and wellbeing of our local communities
Grand Challenge 2:- Increase opportunity and prosperity for all our citizens
Mission 2:- Support the growth of an innovative, resilient and net zero carbon economy
Grand Challenge 3:- Fight the climate emergency in a just transition to a net zero Glasgow
Mission 2:- Become a net zero carbon city by 2030.

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

<i>Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2025-29? Please specify.</i>	The programme supports the reduction of fuel poverty and therefore contributes to multiple equality outcomes.
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What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?

Delivering Glasgow's Area-Based Schemes and targeting investment towards hard-to-treat homes in fuel poor areas for external wall insulation and associated energy efficiency improvements is an action included in Glasgow's Local Housing Strategy 23-28. The Local Housing Strategy 23-28 was subject to an Equalities Impact Assessment.

Action to mitigate high fuel costs will generate positive equality impacts for groups with protected characteristics.

Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage.

The programme helps to mitigate against energy price increases and cost of living challenges for owners in poor and vulnerable households.

The Council's Corporate Procurement Unit utilises Scotland Excel's framework of contractors, which was re-tendered in 2021, to deliver the Council's Energy Efficient Scotland: Area Based Schemes projects. There are 16 external wall insulation contractors on the framework, which makes provision for both community benefits and Fair Working Practice.

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:

Theme 3 Well Connected and Thriving City
Action 8: Continue to work with Scottish Government to maximise grant funding for Area Based Schemes to invest in improving energy efficiency and tackling fuel poverty in private sector housing.

Action 39: Encourage and enable retrofit of all existing owner-occupied housing to EPC level C or above, and to reduce flood risk (where appropriate).

What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?

The installation of energy efficiency measures will contribute to a reduction in CO₂.

Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?

The delivery of the ABS programme can save carbon and reduce energy use to benefit the environment, contributing to the city's net zero carbon target.

Privacy and Data Protection Impacts:

Are there any potential data protection impacts as a result of this report
Y/N

Yes. Measures are in place to ensure the use of personal data complies with the current Data Protection laws

If Yes, please confirm that a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) has been carried out

5 Recommendations

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