

11 UNIVERSAL HOME INSULATION SCHEME (AN157-2011)

Members are asked to note the allocation of £360,000 which has been secured from the Scottish Government's Universal Home Insulation Scheme (UHIS) for carrying out free insulation measures in 1,365 privately owned dwellings in Dundee. An additional £216,000 of CERT (Carbon Emissions Reduction Target) is being supplied by Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE - known locally as Scottish Hydro Electric) to make the project viable.

As all Council stock has previously benefited from insulation measures, the funding obtained is for non-flatted properties in the private sector across the City. As the insulation will be offered free to householders, it has been decided that it should be targeted at owners in the lowest cost properties as evidenced by Council Tax band. Only after demand has been satisfied in Band A properties will it be offered to Band B properties and so on until the funding is exhausted.

The funding will cover main measures of cavity-wall and loft insulation in 1,365 properties with radiator panels and tank jackets fitted, as required. The work will be carried out between now and the end of March 2012. The contractor Scottish Hydro Electric (Housing Department's Preferred Energy Supplier) has chosen to carry out this work is Everwarm Ltd. Scottish Hydro provides suitably qualified contractors to carry out all of the surveying, installation, contract management and quality control elements of the project. Everwarm Ltd have been appointed by Scottish Hydro after an in-house tender process that has ensured competitive pricing and suitably qualified and experienced contractors. The reporting and financial mechanisms are already in place and have been proven over many similar projects; this will ensure a swift start to the project, providing the best opportunity to deliver the proposed number of measures within the contract period.

In addition to insulation which will make it cheaper and easier for residents to keep their homes warm, a package of energy and income-maximisation advice will be provided by the local Energy Saving Scotland Advice Centre. Any resident found eligible for further measures (such as central heating) will be referred on to the relevant schemes and agencies.