

2 HEEPS CASH BACK FOR SOCIAL HOUSING PROVIDERS (AN171-2015)

HEEPS Cash Back for Social Housing Providers is a source of funding for domestic energy-efficiency measures such as external wall insulation (EWI) launched by the Scottish Government in June, 2015.

Bids have been requested by the Scottish Government from Local Authorities and Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) for a share of the fund for projects in 2015/2016. All schemes must be completed on site by the end of March, 2016. This fund is in addition to HEEPS-ABS (Home Energy Efficiency Programme Scotland - Area Based Schemes), another Scottish Government domestic energy efficiency fund from which the Council has successfully obtained £2,647,500 this financial year for carrying out EWI on mixed tenure blocks of flats. The two funding streams cannot be combined. HEEPS can only be spent on owner-occupied and privately rented properties, whereas the emphasis for HEEPS Cash Back is on social rented properties, although it can be used for owners within social housing areas.

Work is currently on site in Mid-Craigie 2nd development to externally insulate Council and private flats with HRA capital being used to fund Council flats supplemented by HEEPS and ECO for the private properties. Due to the higher unit rate for installation of external insulation to cottages in the area it has not been possible to include owners of adjacent 33 cottages (24 Council, 9 owned).

Therefore the Council has submitted a bid for £100,000 for EWI work to be completed to all 33 properties. Bids had to be submitted by the 23rd July, 2015. The Scottish Government will announce the successful bidders in August.

Committee is requested to note the submission of the bid to the Scottish Government for HEEPS Cash Back for SHP on the basis outlined above.