



Health, Care and Housing Scrutiny Committee

Scrutiny Observations to Cabinet on:

- (a) **Wales Audit Office Report – WHQS**
- (b) **Damp and Thermal Comfort Strategies**

The Health, Care and Housing Scrutiny Committee met on 8th November, 2018 and considered the following documents:

- Report of the Wales Audit Office – Implementation of WHQS in Powys
- Report of the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Housing and Public Protection regarding Damp and Thermal Comfort Strategies

The Health, Care and Housing Scrutiny Committee thank the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Governance, Housing and Public Protection and officers for attending scrutiny.

Wales Audit Office Report – WHQS.

Scrutiny's Recommendation	Accept (plus Action and timescale)	Partially Accept (plus Rationale and Action and timescale)	Reject (plus Rationale)
1 That the installation of fans in bathrooms be considered where suitable to alleviate condensation issues.		The strategy covers this when assessing damp issues, and fans are installed during WHQS upgrade work. As added to section a proactive measure, this will be added to the void property standard, and done at each void. - Jan 2019 and ongoing. Future stock condition surveys will check if required, and annual programmes of installation developed. - Annual, ongoing	

Damp and Thermal Comfort Strategies.

Scrutiny's Recommendation	Accept (plus Action and timescale)	Partially Accept (plus Rationale and Action and timescale)	Reject (plus Rationale)
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1 The Council should investigate how it can assist tenants in the bulk buying of fuel such as oil and LPG	Accepted, This was raised by Councillor Huw Williams in Council and the Council is looking into this, this has been referenced in section 4.8 of the strategy.		
2 That the Portfolio Holder for Housing make representations to the Minister and Welsh Government to bring pressure on utility companies to extend energy networks to reduce fuel poverty in Wales	Accepted, the portfolio holder to write to the Welsh Minister in January 2019		
3 That local energy co-operatives and local energy production be included in the strategy	Accepted, and incorporated in the final strategy, at section 4.8.		
4 That other energy systems such as ground source heating and air source hybrid systems be included in the strategy	Accepted, and more directly incorporated in the strategy (section 3.4 and 4.8)		

In accordance with Rule 7.27.2 the Cabinet is asked to provide a written response to the scrutiny report, including an action plan where appropriate, within 2 months i.e. by 15.03.19

Membership of the Health, Care and Housing Scrutiny Committee on 8th November, 2018:

County Councillors:

G I S Williams, J Charlton, S C Davies, D E Davies, J Gibson-Watt, H Hulme, A Jenner, E Jones, G Morgan, K M Roberts-Jones, D Rowlands, E Vaughan, R Williams and S L Williams