

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

**County Council
11th July 2019**

**REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor James Evans, Portfolio Holder for
Corporate Governance, Housing and Public Protection**

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Linda Corfield

Would the Portfolio Holder please advise Members what is happening with regard to progressing the new ECO3 scheme? It is a while now since the SWAP report into ECO2 was made available. The SWAP report detailed many of the failings of ECO2, which resulted in the scheme having such a detrimental impact on local plumbing businesses within Powys. Following publication of the SWAP report Members were advised that a working group was to be set up to look at how the new ECO3 scheme is to be drawn up and administered, in order that loop holes which were so easily exploited by Agents from outside of Powys in ECO2 cannot be repeated with the new ECO3 scheme.

Response

A working group of senior officers has been established to review the development of ECO3 in Powys. This group met on 10th May to initially look at the nine recommendations contained within the SWAP report. Agreed actions to all recommendations were reported to Internal Audit Committee on 10th June. The working group met again on 5th July where a number of delivery options were discussed.

Detailed delivery options will be developed and proposed by the working group. Adoption of an ECO3 scheme in Powys will be subject to Cabinet decision following analysis of those delivery options by Scrutiny Committee. No decision has been made to date but various options are being pursued and any future scheme, if adopted, will be fully compliant with BEIS local authority guidance.