

CAN members' survey 2013

SURVEY OF CAN MEMBERS - RETURN OF HECA REPORTING AND BEYOND

Since the last members survey two years ago, there have yet again been major changes in the fields of fuel poverty and climate change. The changes have had a significant impact on the role of members and how their work is viewed in their local authorities.

In light of the policy changes from central government, the launch of ECO and Green Deal and ever increasing fuel costs, the role of the CAN member has become ever more important in the fight against fuel poverty, and the improvement of domestic sector energy efficiency.

The refreshed guidance of the Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) has seen the first submission of HECA reports after a long break. Though the new reports are different from the traditional HECA reports, many members were pleased to see the return of reporting. DECC has confirmed that nearly 80% of local authorities have submitted HECA reports.

There has also been the introduction of the new definition of fuel poverty. Although we can use the old definition until 2016 for reporting purposes, the government will be using the new Hills definition immediately. Whilst this new low income high fuel costs definition does allow for the depth of fuel poverty to be addressed it is taking many vulnerable households and individuals outside of the definition of fuel poverty and so out of the scope for help.

Since 2010, CAN has organised 10-one day events. The last two day-conference was in 2009 in Leeds. This survey also wants to find out from members whether they want to see a return to the two-day conference or continue with the current one-day event format.

This survey should be completed by all CAN members. Over the years the network has grown to include local authority and private sector members. CAN is interested in learning of the opinions of all members. It is intended that the results of this survey will help develop the forthcoming work plan and direction of CAN.

About You

1. Your name

2. Your job title

*3. Your organisation

4. Your department (if applicable)

5. Which of these describes your level in your organisation?

- 1st tier manager (e.g. Director)
- 2nd tier manager (e.g. Asst. Director)
- 3rd tier manager (e.g. Head of Service)
- 4th tier manager (e.g. Manager)
- Non managerial officer
- Other (please specify)

*6. Your CAN/HECA region

- East Midlands
- East Pennine
- East
- London
- North East
- North West
- South East
- South West
- West Midlands
- Cymru (Wales)
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Not sure
- No specific region
- Other (please specify)

*7. Your organisation type

- Energy advice providers (charity)
- Energy advice providers (commercial)
- Lobbying group
- Local Authority (LA)
- National or devolved regional government
- NHS/Public Health
- Not for profit
- Other commercial
- Other community group
- Other registered charity
- Other voluntary organisation
- Registered Social Landlord (RSL)
- University, College or other educational establishment
- Other (please specify)

Local Authority Specific Questions

About your Local Authority and your role as a local authority employee (if answered 'a' in Question 5 only)

8. What type of local authority do you work for?

- District Council
- Unitary Council
- County Council
- Metropolitan Council
- London Borough Council

9. Has your council signed up to the European Covenant of Mayors?

- Yes
- No
- Has plans to
- Not sure

10. Has your council signed up to Climate Local?

- Yes
- No
- Has plans to
- Not sure

11. Does your council have: (Please tick any that apply)

	Yes	No	Don't know
An adaptation strategy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A mitigation strategy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A carbon management plan	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A sustainable energy action plan	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A Fuel Poverty strategy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

12. Do you know whether fuel poverty and/or excess winter deaths have been included in Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNA)?

- Yes
- No
- Don't have a JSNA
- Not sure

13. Has your council submitted a HECA report in 2013?

- No
- Yes, please provide the link

14. Has the HECA report raised the profile of your work in the organisation?

- Yes, definitely raised the profile at a strategic level
- Yes, raised the profile at an operational level
- Yes, raised some profile overall
- Yes, slightly raised profile
- No, not at all

15. Has it helped in another way? Please explain

16. Did you use a regional/local template for the report?

- Yes
- No

17. Do you feel supported at a strategic / senior level within your organisation for your work on tackling fuel poverty?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

18. Have you previously performed duties related to the Home Energy Conservation Act or HECA reporting?

- Yes
- No

19. What is the priority for your organisation?

- Gigajoules/GWh savings
- CO2 emissions
- SAP / EPC improvements
- Fuel poverty reduction
- Green Deal plans
- Maximising ECO uptake
- No targets set
- Other (please specify)

About Your Role

***20. Which of the following topics do you currently work on? (Please tick all that apply)**

- Affordable Warmth
- Air Quality
- Carbon Management
- Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC)
- Climate Change – Domestic
- Climate Change – Industrial and Commercial
- Climate Change – Transport
- Climate Local
- Energy Company Obligation (ECO)
- EPC assessment
- Energy Efficiency and Advice Domestic Sector
- Energy Efficiency and Advice Commercial Sector
- Environmental Health
- Environmental Policy
- Feed-in Tariffs (FiTs)
- Fuel Poverty
- Green House Gas emissions
- Private Sector Housing
- Public Health (other than environmental health and fuel poverty)
- Renewables
- Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) and the Renewable Heat Premium Payment
- Smart Meters
- Social Housing
- Sustainable Development
- The Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA)
- Waste
- Zero/Low Carbon Homes
- Other related issues (please specify)

21. How long have you been in your current post?

- Less than a year
- 1 to 2 years
- 2 to 5 years
- 5 to 9 years
- Over 10 years

22. Is your post under review/facing a cut?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Green Deal and ECO

23. Which of the following categories does your organisation fall into?

- Green Deal Provider – Raising finance to deliver the Green Deal
- Green Deal Partner – Enter a partnership with a Green Deal provider to deliver a particular package
- Green Deal Supporter – Encouraging residents and businesses to take up the Green Deal
- Green Deal Recipient – Installing Green Deal your organisations properties
- None
- Not sure
- Other (please specify)

24. Is your council offering residents access to Green Deal funding?

- Yes – managed by your local authority
- Yes – jointly managed with other council or councils
- If yes, please tell us how your scheme is funded:
- No – but your council supports an externally run scheme(operated by an energy agency for example)
- No – but your council funds local installers
- No
- Not sure
- Other (please specify)

25. If yes, please tell us how your scheme is funded:

26. Do you have any comments to make about the Green Deal?

27. Is your council offering residents access to ECO funding?

- Yes, through a partnership
- Yes, through signposting
- No
- Not sure

Who is your partner or who are you signposting to?

28. Have you been able to access ECO funding for any schemes you are involved in?

- Yes, Home Heating Cost Reduction Obligation (HHCRO) (Affordable Warmth element)
- Yes, Carbon Saving Community Obligation (CSCO)
- Yes, Carbon Emissions Reduction Obligation (CERO)
- Yes but don't know which type
- No
- Not sure

29. How do you find the delivery of ECO compared to the delivery of CERT?

- Much better
- Slightly better
- Some good parts some worse parts
- Slightly worse
- Much worse
- Not engaged with this funding

30. How do you find HHCRO (Affordable Warmth) compared to Warm Front?

- Much better
- Slightly better
- Some good parts and some worse parts
- Slightly worse
- Much worse
- Not engaged with this funding

Do you have any comments to make about Affordable Warmth (HHCRO)?

31. How do you find CSCO compared to CESP?

- Much better
- Slightly better
- Some good parts and some worse parts
- Slightly worse
- Much worse
- Not engaged with this funding

Do you have any comments to make about CSCO

32. How do you find CERO compared to CERT?

- Much better
- Slightly better
- Some good parts and some worse parts
- Slightly worse
- Much worse
- Not engaged with this funding

Do you have any comments to make about CERO?

33. Do you have comments to make about the ECO?

About the Carbon Action Network

34. What do you expect from CAN? (tick all that apply)

- Advice
- Information on funding
- Support
- Networking
- Policy and other updates
- Other (please specify)

35. How often do you attend Regional CAN meetings?

- Attend all meetings
- Attend most meetings
- Attend some meeting
- Attend no meetings

Please explain why:

36. Do you attend any other local government focussed fora or networks e.g. NEA, LGA events?

- No
- Yes, please specify

37. Are you a member of any of the following bodies? (please tick all that apply)

- National Energy Action
- LGA
- The Energy Institute
- The Energy Efficiency Partnership for Homes
- All Party Parliamentary Fuel Poverty & Energy Efficiency Group
- End Fuel Poverty Coalition
- Energy Bill Revolution
- Association for the Conservation of Energy (ACE)
- Other bodies (please specify)

38. Do you receive the Carbon Action News?

- Yes, hardcopy
- Yes, electronically
- Both hard copy and electronic copy
- No

39. Do you read the Carbon Action News?

- Read all editions
- Read most editions
- Read some editions
- Never read

40. Do you receive the CAN e-bulletin?

- Yes
- No

41. Do you read the CAN e-bulletin?

- Read all e-bulletins
- Read most e-bulletins
- Read some e-bulletins
- Never

42. How often do you use the CAN website or online discussion forum?

- Visit and use frequently
- Visit and use occasionally
- Visit sometimes but never use
- Never visit and never use

Conferences

43. Have you attended a CAN one day conference/training day event?

- No
- Yes, please specify how many:

44. Have you previously attended a CAN or HECA two-day conference?

- Yes
- No

45. Would you attend a two-day conference should one be organised in the future?

- Yes – if free to attend
- Yes – if cost was under £100
- Yes – if cost was under £200
- Yes – if cost was under £300
- Yes – if cost was under £400
- No prefer one-day format

Do you have any comments to make?

46. Does your organisation allow you to claim travel and accommodation expenses for attending free conference events?

- Yes – travel only
- Yes – travel and accommodation
- No

CAN Objectives

*47. Currently the objectives of UK HECA (CAN is a trading name of UK HECA) are:

“To represent the mutual interests of members of the UK Home Energy Conservation Association and to assist in the achievement of meeting national, regional and local targets within the UK in the fields of energy conservation, energy efficiency, energy management and alternative sources of energy so as collectively to reduce carbon emissions and alleviate fuel poverty by the following means:-

- Provide leadership and support for energy conservation authorities and the regional and devolved HECA Fora.**
- Share information and good practice via the HECA Fora website, newsletters and the annual HECA Conference.**
- Develop and support HECA officers' roles.**
- Build partnerships between local authorities and other statutory, voluntary and private organisations in order to promote mutually beneficial schemes.**
- Act as a voice for local government energy officers with central government and other relevant bodies on matters relating to policy and programme delivery.**
- Act as a channel for Government and other relevant agencies to consult with local government energy officers on their energy policies and programmes.”**

Should these be changed? (please select one)

- No change. CAN should continue as it is.
- Yes CAN should be more proactive and initiate campaigns
- Yes CAN should actively seek to influence policies
- Yes CAN should be more vocal in response to programmes and policies
- Don't know

48. In light of the recent policy changes, do you feel:

- CAN should rebrand back to its official company name UK Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA)
- CAN should remain as CAN
- Have no preferences either way

Please explain your answer:

Sponsorship

49. Are you happy with E.ON's involvement to date as national CAN sponsor?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

50. How do you feel about having an energy supplier as a sponsor?

- Pleased
- Not pleased
- No opinion

51. Is there anything you expect to get from E.ON as sponsor that you feel they can do better?

- More involvement
- Less involvement
- No opinion

Do you have any comments you would like to make?

Thank you for completing this survey