East Midlands CAN & NEA Fuel Poverty Forum

The East Midlands Carbon Action Network is kindly sponsored by:
EMCAN Chairs Update
Thanks to our Sponsors

The East Midlands Carbon Action Network is kindly sponsored by:

InstaGroup working in partnership with the snug network
East Midlands CAN Award 2013

Congratulations to the Winners
Rosemary Leach and Isabel Clark
Using new fuel poverty definition reduces % of fuel poor in East Midlands from 18.4% to 13.3% (Graph opposite uses old definition)
250,000 households in the region are fuel poor using new fuel poverty definition compared to 350,000 using old definition. (Graph opposite uses old definition)
Warm Homes Healthy People Funding

Anna Soubry – Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Public Health

“The Warm Homes Healthy People Fund will not be repeated this year. However ring fenced funding of £5.45 billion for 2013-2015 has been made available to local authorities to address public health priorities determined at the local level. In setting their priorities local authorities must take into account the Public Health Outcomes Framework which has excess winter deaths as an indicator.”
£20 million of capital funding is available for Green Deal street/area based proposals.
Applications may be submitted at any time from September to 31 December 2013 for a minimum of £1 million.
DECC is inviting local authorities (LAs), working with their partners, to come forward with ambitious and innovative street/area based proposals for funding. These proposal should aim to deliver Green Deal plans to as many households as possible.
DECC funding can also be used to support households who choose to self-finance measures.

Green Deal Communities application pack [PDF, 116KB, 18 pages]
Green Deal Communities application pack [MS Word Document, 139KB]
Local authorities and the Green Deal
Forthcoming Events

Nextgen incorporating ebec 2013
9th and 10th October at Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire
Cost:- Free
The ultimate renewable energy generation event for both the urban and rural communities.
For more information:- ebec.nextgenexpo.co.uk/

Retrofit Roadshows
22nd October – Cambridge
12th November – Sheffield
18th February 2014 – Nottingham
Cost: £125+VAT
The Retrofit Roadshows will shine a spotlight on the low carbon building refurbishment and retrofit opportunities on a region by region basis across the UK.
www.retrofit-roadshow.co.uk/the-retrofit-roadshows
Next East Midlands CAN meeting
10th December in Leicester

Sponsored by Energy Audit Company
Speakers:-
Lucy Breeze – LGA
Bill Wilkinson – Energy Audit Company
Thank you

Contact Details:-
Karen Lond – EMCAN Chair
Energy & Climate Change Officer

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West Lindsey District Council,
Guildhall, Marshall’s Yard, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, DN21 2NA
karen.lond@west-lindsey.gov.uk
East Midlands CAN & NEA Fuel Poverty Forum

Wednesday 2nd October 2013
## Is ECO well understood?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total no. of Forum attendees</th>
<th>East</th>
<th>NW</th>
<th>Y&amp;H</th>
<th>WM</th>
<th>SW</th>
<th>EM</th>
<th>NE</th>
<th>L&amp;S E</th>
<th>Total s</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>No Forum held</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>202</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ECO programmes are well underway and/or I am actively involved</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>32</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>65</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>I understand what the eligibility is for ECO</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>107</td>
<td>53</td>
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<tr>
<td>I know what measures are available under ECO</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>131</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel poor households know where to go for help</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
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DECC is considering changing the ECO Affordable Warmth criteria to reflect the revisions to the welfare benefits system – what is important?

Carbon calculation restricting measures people want and need.

Make schemes available for those just above benefit eligibility criteria - think about vulnerability rather than box-ticking. Make available a discretionary fund that trusted agencies can use on a recommendation. This particularly applies in rural areas whether other costs e.g. transport are higher.

Once you have lifted someone out of fuel poverty, tell others! Builds trust among agencies and individuals through this clear output.

Whole house approach - e.g. offer fuel debt and demand reduction advice too.

The new Universal Benefits replaces the individually named eligibility benefit criteria. What is important is the communication and the mapping of benefit on a like-for-like basis so that applicants as well as scheme participants give out the right information in marketing as well as operational briefings. It is important that DECC issue guidance to the industry rather than allow multiple interpretations of the eligibility, As the changes are to be phased and regional - it is important that the change-over geography, period and timings are effectively communicated.
Into the Future

- 9th July Baroness Verma proposed amendments to the Energy Bill in the House of Lords
- Within six months of the regulations being implemented, the Government must publish a new strategy setting out how the objective will be realised
- LIHC definition accepted
- Protected block of consumption
“This new, better targeted definition will help get support to the most vulnerable in society.”

- How will the better targeting be done, how will programmes be adjusted? Unsure.
- Current figures suggest fewer fuel poor benefiting from fuel poverty programmes than under 10% indicator.
- Also shows that the ‘fuel poverty gap’ for those fuel poor households that don’t benefit from HHCRO is £890m a year.
- Announced would publish figures under both methods until 2016. Did for 2011, then ......
- CSE modelling for 2013:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>England h.h.</th>
<th>England % fuel poor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LIHC definition</td>
<td>2,799,729</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10% definition</td>
<td>5,109,312</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
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## Fuel poverty by region (LIHC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Number of households in fuel poverty (thousands)</th>
<th>Total number of households (thousands)</th>
<th>% of households in this group that are in fuel poverty (SORTED DESCENDING)</th>
<th>% of all fuel poor households that are in this group</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West Midlands</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>2,285</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>13.2</td>
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<td>East Midlands</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>1,911</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>10.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>2,982</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>15.6</td>
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<td>142</td>
<td>1,147</td>
<td>12.4</td>
<td>5.9</td>
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<td>Yorkshire and the Humber</td>
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<td>2,266</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>10.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East England</td>
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<td>2,443</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>10.5</td>
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<td>London</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>3,103</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>12.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>South West</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>2,248</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>8.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>290</td>
<td>3,533</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>12.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,390</td>
<td>21,918</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>100.0</td>
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</table>
Latest figures – EHS, July 2013

- **Private renters typically spent more on their rental payments** than owner occupiers spend on their mortgage payments (£164 compared with £141 per week).

- **For private renters, rent payments were on average 41% of their gross income**, whereas social renters spent 30% of their gross income on rent. Amongst owner occupiers, households typically spent 19% of their gross income on mortgage payments.

- 6.4 million unfilled cavities, 5.9 million incomplete loft insulation and 10.6 million with conventional, non-condensing boilers.

- Lone parents are the group most likely to be fuel poor, with nearly one in five being so in 2011. However, they tend to have smaller fuel poverty gaps, on average, than most other household types.

- Households where the youngest person in the household was under 24 are much more likely to be fuel poor than those containing only older people.

- Owner occupiers had a higher rate of under-occupation (49%) than social renters (10%) and private renters (16%).

- There were an estimated **967,000 vacant homes in England in 2011-12**. Of these, 157,000 (16%) were in the social rented sector and the remaining 810,000 (84%) were privately owned.
Fuel Poverty Statistics, 8th August

- The aggregate gap is projected to increase from £1 billion in 2011, to £1.2 billion in 2013
- Average gap is projected to increase from £438 in 2011 to £494 in 2013

- **2.6 million** households in England that are fuel poor; an estimated 500,000 fuel poor households live in rural locations.
- **Fuel poor households that heat their properties with oil, solid fuel, LPG or electricity** typically have individual fuel poverty gaps double the average, typically over £1000.
- **Households containing larger numbers of people** (5 or more) tend to both be more likely to be fuel poor, and be more deeply in fuel poverty (with larger fuel poverty gaps)
- **Unemployed households** only make up 11% of fuel poor households.
Possible level of minimum energy efficiency target(s) for fuel poor households

• NEA do not have a final fixed position on the level of the those targets at the moment but NEA think the approximate level could be as follows:

• As a minimum, band B or better will be required by late 2020s/v early 2030 and D or better is reasonable by 2022.

• Rationale: over 1.5 m fuel poor households in England (1,661000 households) live in E, F or G rated properties (circa 70% of all English fuel poor households) and are responsible for over 60% of the current aggregated fuel poverty gap. This compares with over 7.5m of all households in England that currently live in E, F or G rated properties (or to put it another way just over 20% of E, F or G rated households in England are fuel poor).
Call for Evidence into Community Energy

- 10 key actions which are required to maximise the involvement of Councils, voluntary sector organisations and other trusted intermediaries within the new fuel poverty strategy.

- Community Energy Strategy should include explicit, primary aim to prioritise energy efficiency standards of fuel poor households by certain dates pre and post 2016.

- Added value of fuel poverty projects in the context of local regeneration.

http://www.nea.org.uk/policy-and-research/consultation-reponses
NICE consultation

'Excess winter deaths and morbidity and the health risks associated with cold homes'

‘Even if, at a conservative estimate, only a tenth of 'excess winter deaths' are due to fuel poverty, that means 2,700 people are dying each year in England and Wales, more than die on the roads. Beyond this are many other health problems and costs to the NHS from living in cold homes.’
Private tenancy rights

If you pay the bill directly, you cannot be unreasonably prevented from switching supplier, even if this was in your contract.

However, you may be required to reinstate original supplier and original meter if you do change.
Consumer Vulnerability Strategy, Ofgem

Developing ‘a more nuanced perspective of vulnerability.’

Includes recognition of the person, their circumstances and how these can change over time.

Action on the strategy started.

Link to EMR and simpler tariffs.

Conference Season

- Widely reported Ed Miliband announcement at Labour Conference re: energy price freeze for 20 months if Labour are elected
- Lib Dems are first major party in UK to back Energy Bill Revolution campaign calling for carbon revenue to be used to fund much bigger energy efficiency programme to insulate all the homes of the fuel poor
Standards of Conduct

- Not just a competency tick list
- Part of new License Conditions
- Covers suppliers and their intermediaries
- Covers behaviour, information and process

RMR Timetable

- Oct 2014: can’t make changes to fixed term deals
- Dec 2013, four core tariffs in place
- June 2014, all customers on ‘dead tariffs’ transferred away
- TCR and personalised usage predictions
DISTRIBUTION OF CARBON EMISSIONS IN THE UK: IMPLICATIONS FOR DOMESTIC ENERGY POLICY

Ian Presson, Vicki White, Joshua Thurnam and Toby Bridgeman, Centre for Sustainable Energy. Christian Brand, Environmental Change Institute, University of Oxford

The report looks at the distribution of carbon emissions and abatement opportunities of households in England, and the implications for energy and climate change policy impacts.

The UK government has a target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% on 1990 levels by 2050. In addition, there are existing targets to ensure that no household is in fuel poverty by 2016. An understanding of how current and proposed policy approaches to meeting these targets are likely to impact differentially on domestic energy consumers is fundamental to ensuring policies are both fair and effective.

This research project uses advanced modelling techniques to develop and analyse the datasets needed to support and further understanding of:

- the distribution of carbon emissions — from energy consumed in the home and through personal travel by car, public transport and air travel — across households in Great Britain;
- the impact of existing government energy and climate policies on consumer energy bills and household emissions in England;
- the potential for an alternative approach to reducing emissions in the domestic sector through a whole-system vision of the housing stock.

MARCH 2012
WWW.JRF.ORG.UK

The hardest hit: Going beyond the mean
A report by CSE on the impact of energy policy on consumers’ bills

Consumer Futures
Who emits the carbon

Top 10% by income (direct emissions)

16.1 tCO₂ per year

Bottom 10% by income (direct emissions)

5.0 tCO₂ per year
Triple injustice:

Lower income households emit less, contribute more to energy policy costs, and benefit less from policy interventions

Electrically Heated Homes:

10% of homes
20% of policy costs
7% of benefits
Green Deal Communities Fund

£1m and £3m

LAs will need to demonstrate that they have secured ECO funding to complement Green Deal Plans under their Green Deal Communities bid, and to have specifically identified the streets/areas targeted

Creativity in offering local incentives to drive demand for Green Deal Plans

Up to 31 December 2013 or when the £20m of funding is exhausted

Big Energy Saving Network

£725,000 to create a network of energy champions

5pm on Wednesday 9th October;

Community Action Award

- Community action to tackle fuel poverty across all vulnerable groups
- Community action to tackle hard to reach groups (in fuel poverty)
- Community action to tackle fuel poverty in rural areas

- Regional: £1.5K, conference place; National: £2K
- Phase 1 - closing date for applications **31 October 2013**.
- Phase 2 - closing date for applications **14 Feb 2014**.

nina.dunlavy@nea.org.uk or 0191 269 2935
East Midlands CAN & NEA Fuel Poverty Forum

DECC Feedback on HECA

2nd October 2013

Dora Slater
Background

“Home Energy Conservation Act, 1995” – applies to Local Authorities in England

- Purpose: set out activities planned to make a significant contribution to energy efficiency of residential accommodation in LA areas

- “Significant” - using financial assistance, eg ECO/Green Deal and on an area or street-by-street basis

- Aim: allow assistance to be given to help achieve those aims, and to make public aware
Feedback on HECA

Numbers Received

• 326 LA’s required to report

• We have had about 90% so far

• East Midlands – received 35 out of 40

• (Question about Notts & Derbs LAEP report?)
Comments on reports

• Varying length – 1 page - >50

• Some submitted other reports such as Fuel Poverty Strategy/Green Annual Review – therefore less focus on HECA issues

• c.75% followed DECC template more or less (often as an Annex)

• Several consortium reports
• **Comments on reports**

  • Key messages:

  • *Where we are now, where do we want to be, how we will get there*

  • *Think about audience – local residents, and those that can help you (energy companies/providers etc)*

  • *Text can be used to set the scene/scale of ambition etc, but limit extent*
Feedback on HECA

• Comments on reports
  • Good to clearly state eg:
    • “We calculate GD is worth £x, this should reduce fuel bills by £y, save xtCO2 & would remove z homes from fuel poverty”
    • “Priority to target SWI urban areas, incentivising PRS landlords to tackle fuel poverty”
    • “Plans to engage rural communities on GD, workshop for planners, installer briefings, thermal imaging project”
Feedback on HECA

• **Comments on reports**
  
  • Summary of any housing stock analysis done
  
  • Potential for measures installation
  
  • Plans for area/street-based approaches
  
  • Maps are useful
Feedback on HECA

• **What are we doing with reports?**
  • Seeking to help you achieve your ambitions
  • Collated summary info into spreadsheet, eg:
    – ECO/GD/FP goals/progress
    – Whether FP Strategy in place
    – Whether housing stock data stated
    – Area based approaches
    – Partners
    – Funding eg ECO sought/in place
  • Sharing information with DECC policy colleagues, eg Fuel Poverty, ECO
  • Sharing info with energy companies & GD Providers
  • Publishing links and spreadsheet on GOV.UK/DECC website
What are we doing with reports?

Looking to develop approach for 2015 reports and guidance

Thoughts so far:
- Boost template approach
- Make use of pointers outlined here
- Be a bit more ‘prescriptive’?

We would value your thoughts on:
- How we can help you meet your HECA ambitions
- How we can improve guidance for next round

Contact: dora.slater@decc.gsi.gov.uk and/or heca-reports@decc.gsi.gov.uk
Green Deal
Customer Journey

Presentation to EMCAN Forum
Presentation By: Peter O’Neill
Date: 2nd October 2013
Number of GDARs Lodged to July 2013: 58,194
1. Understanding my home’s requirements

- **Appointment booking**
  - Understand what my home has already
  - Check my ECO eligibility / Pre survey Questions

- **Pre-survey letter**
  - Confirm time, price and what to expect
  - Explain how my data will be used & with whom

- **Green Deal Survey**
  - Take me through how I can save energy
  - Give details of my financing options, including cash back
  - Share with me the GD process including credit checking
  - Check my bill and identity
2. Choosing how I will pay

- **GDAR lodge**
  - Send me my GD advice report
  - Tell me how much the building works will cost
  - Cashback

- **Adequate Explanation**
  - Provide me with a quotation for finance
  - Gain my agreement to proceed with finance

- **Credit Check**
  - Contact with my electricity supplier I have no debt
  - Check my credit rating with Experian
3. Agreeing finance (optional)

Send me my Green Deal Plan:
- Installation T&Cs
- Schedule of Works
- SECCI
- Finance agreement
- Finance T&Cs
- Insurance summary

I will sign the contract and return to you within 10 days
4. Quality installations

Installation
  PAS2030 accredited installers

Sign off
  I am happy to sign off each product installed

Guarantees
  Send me my product warranties
  Also my GD insurance backed guarantee
5. Setting up my GD payments (optional)

- 2nd EPC: My EPC is updated & available on Landmark should I move home
- Cashback: Government credits my bank account
- GD payments: My electricity supplier confirms my first date of payments
Welfare Reform

Changes & Impacts
Welfare Reform - changes

- Universal Credit
- Disability Living Allowance
- Social Fund
- Council Tax Benefit
- Benefit Cap
- Benefit Appeal Rights
  ESA / IB / IS / SDA
  Reviews
Universal Credit

- Replaces existing means tested benefits
- A single means tested benefit to people of working age.
- Replaces existing means-tested benefits including:
  - Income-based JSA
  - Income-related ESA
  - Income Support
  - Housing Benefit
  - Working Tax Credit
  - Child Tax Credit
Universal Credit

- Is 'digital by default' new claims to be submitted by online electronic claim form.

- Is a single payment made monthly in arrears.

- There will be four conditionality groups

- You must agree a claimant commitment when you claim
Universal Credit

- Phased introduction of Universal Credit between 2013 and 2017.

- April 2013 new claims 1 pilot area (originally 4)

- October 2013 new claims nationally (original intention)

- Those on benefits that are being replaced will be transferred in one of two ways
  Natural Migration
  Managed Migration
Disability Living Allowance
Personal Independence Payment

From 8 April 2013

- Disability Living Allowance is replaced by a new benefit called Personal Independence Payment

- There is no longer a low rate component for care; it is estimated that 500,000 will be refused or have their claims withdrawn.
Timetable of changes

- **April 2013** new claimants.

- **June 2013** - onwards new claimants.

- **October 2013** - currently claiming

- **October 2015** – **October 2017** - anyone else claiming DLA
Social Fund

Parts of Social Fund be replaced by a Local Welfare Assistance Scheme designed and run by Local Authorities

- Budget has been reduced compared to previous years.
- No obligation on local authorities to “ring fence” funds for specific crisis loans / community care grants.
- Many local authorities are providing “vouchers” to redeem at foodbanks / furniture resource centres
Council Tax Benefit

1st April 2013, current system of Council Tax Benefit in England is abolished.

- Local authorities can set their own rules about whether people of working age can get Council Tax Reduction (pensioners protected)

- Local authorities have had a 10% reduction in their budget

- Estimated **2.4 million** will have an average loss of £2.60 per week
Benefit Cap

The cap will be set at the average net earned income of working households:

- £350 per week for a single adult with no children
- £500 per week for a couple or lone parent, regardless of the number of children they have.
Benefit Cap

- Cap to be phased in April 2013 in four London boroughs - Bromley, Croydon, Enfield and Haringey.

- National rollout to other LA’s from 15 July and applied everywhere by September 2013

- Estimated that **67,000** households will be affected by the Benefit Cap in 2013/14.
Housing Benefit

Variety of names
bedroom tax, social sector size criteria
under-occupation penalty, spare room subsidy

- The cut will be a fixed percentage of the Housing Benefit eligible rent set at
  - 14% for one extra bedroom
  - 25% for two or more extra bedrooms.

Average loss of £14 / £16 per week (660,000)
Benefit Appeal Rights

April 2013, only have a right to appeal against a Universal Credit or Personal Independent Payment decision after the DWP has looked at it again

- This will apply to other benefits from October 2013
- Legal Aid withdrawn from April 2013 – welfare benefits, housing etc.
- Estimated 75% reduction - no welfare benefit help.
- 40% disability related appeals overturned in favour of claimant
Impacts

**HEAT**

- 14% / 25% reduction in Housing Benefit (660,000)
- Benefit Cap applies (56,000)
- Average of £2.60 per week Council Tax (2.4 million)
- PIP (DLA) – (500,000+)
- 1% increase benefit – wage increases frozen
- Decreasing income – increasing costs

**EAT**

**HOME**
Impacts

Low income / vulnerable clients

- Will be hardest hit by welfare reforms
- Universal Credit paid monthly in arrears
- No access to emergency payments for gas / electric
Impacts

Energy Company Obligation – AWG

- 7.27. …The Order does not define AWG by reference to Universal Credit, …. but until that time a person in receipt of Universal Credit is not a member of the AWG…….

- 7.39…. capable of establishing that the relevant person was a member of the AWG at some point in time during the supplier‘s promotion of the measure. The documents must not be dated more than 18 months prior to the date of completion of the qualifying action.
Impacts

Energy Company Obligation - (AWG)
Warm Home Discount – Broader Group

Potential for not qualifying for ECO / WHD

“Qualifying component” – may prove to be an issue

- DLA / PIP – 500,000 not entitled
- ESA /IB (IS/SDA) to be reviewed - possibly refused / withdrawn - no target figures
Thank You