HEALTHY HOMES HEALTHY PEOPLE

LEAD AGENCY: FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

OTHER PARTNERS: Flintshire Affordable Warmth Partnership, Cardiff Affordable Warmth Partnership, Public Health Wales, Environmental Health, Care & Repair North East Wales (NEW), Care & Repair Cardiff & Vale of Glamorgan, North East Wales Energy Advice Centre, North Wales Fire & Rescue Service, Flintshire Flying Start, Warm Wales and 2025

PROJECT SUMMARY: This project takes a person-based approach to address peoples’ needs; to improve their health and wellbeing by creating a home for all which is safe, sound, warm and secure which everyone can live, play and grow in. One area is looking at removing householders with cold-related illnesses from cold homes, fuel poverty and those at risk of fuel poverty by providing measures such as heating, insulation and other complementary measures that will lead to an improvement in their circumstances.

Our project is called “Healthy Homes Healthy People” and is a Wales-wide project with hubs in North Wales (Flintshire Affordable Warmth Partnership) and South Wales (Cardiff Affordable Warmth Partnership). Flintshire is the lead authority for overseeing the delivery of the Warm and Healthy Homes Fund, which has been the catalyst for developing and expanding the partnership work which already exists between Flintshire County Council, Care and Repair North East Wales and the North Wales Energy Advice Centre in the North and Cardiff City Council and Care and Repair Cardiff and Vale. Both lead authorities have active affordable warmth partnerships addressing the specific fuel poverty and health issues prevalent in Wales. Cardiff led the successful Cyd Cymru Wales-wide mass tariff switching.

Work between Care & Repair Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan and Warm Wales/Wales West Utilities involves developing a one-stop house doctor service, building on the 46 GP referral contacts in the Cardiff area. Care & Repair North East Wales will look to build on their existing healthy homes visits to help more residents (owner-occupiers). Flintshire Environmental Health housing section is looking to use the knowledge of a successful project delivered in Wirral called Healthy Homes which was led by one of the environmental health officers now working in Flintshire. Flintshire environmental health will look at working with front-line staff such as health visitors, social workers, support works and others to target vulnerable tenants living in private rented properties.

The project relies on effective inter-agency working and by using a simple assessment form to refer in services such as:

- Housing, Health & Safety Rating System visits which will reduce 29 hazards in the home, further reducing GP contacts and avoidable A&E and hospital admissions and speed up hospital discharge
- Tenancy support to secure the tenancy and ensure that it is sustainable and to help prevent homelessness
- Fire safety visits in vulnerable properties will reduce accidental house fires and related injuries
- Benefit/debt advice can enhance income, another key health determinant
- Police home safety advice and neighbourhood warden can improve perceptions of security in the home and community safety;
- Energy efficiency improvements which will contribute to reducing fuel poverty and excess winter deaths and improving energy efficiency of properties;
- Home improvements, disabled facilities grants, adaptations and financial assistance to get urgent works carried out
- Health related advice and referrals to improve health outcomes and encourage behaviour change.

Using these interventions will go some way to addressing the underlying causes that contribute to health inequalities and low life expectancy; it will also improve the health and wellbeing of those involved.

Councils have a statutory duty to resolve complaints of poor living conditions using the Housing Act 2004, but the most vulnerable residents are unlikely to report poor housing conditions. Healthy Homes Healthy People looks to go beyond statutory duty to improve health outcomes.

**REGION IN WHICH PROJECT WILL BE DELIVERED:**
Wales

**LOCAL AUTHORITY AREAS (S) / KEY LOCATIONS IN WHICH PROJECT WILL BE DELIVERED:**
Flintshire, Cardiff

**DETAILS OF MEASURES INSTALLED:**
Eligible individuals will benefit from heating and/or insulation measures as required.

### ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS ASSISTED

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEA GRANT WITH GAP FUNDING</th>
<th>MATCH</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>288</td>
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