

Warmth at Home

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04 October 2016



Action for Warm Homes

Northern Exposure Project

- Funded by the Public Health Agency
- A positive legacy from Investing for Health strategy
- Community Action based Project
- Provides referral mechanisms
- Works with a range of partners including the Health sector



The Warmth at Home Pilot

Aim :

To improve health outcomes for patients with respiratory conditions who are living in a cold home



The Steering group includes:

NEA

Respiratory Nurse Consultant

Health Improvement Team

Belfast Strategic Partnership



Overview of Warmth at Home

- NEA provides frontline health practitioners within the Belfast Trust with awareness raising sessions
- Using an assessment form, health practitioners identify householders for Warmth at Home on discharge from hospital or point of community assessment
- These householders are referred to NEA
- NEA assesses these householders and refers them on to a range of interventions



The assessment process

- Householders receive a comprehensive assessment of energy needs
- The assessment captures tenure, thermal insulation and heating needs
- Once needs are identified they are matched with schemes according to eligibility



Where the referrals go

Northern Ireland Sustainable Energy Programme

Affordable Warmth

Boiler replacement Allowance

Other grants e.g. home repair assistance

Heatsmart

NEA Northern Exposure



Action for Warm Homes

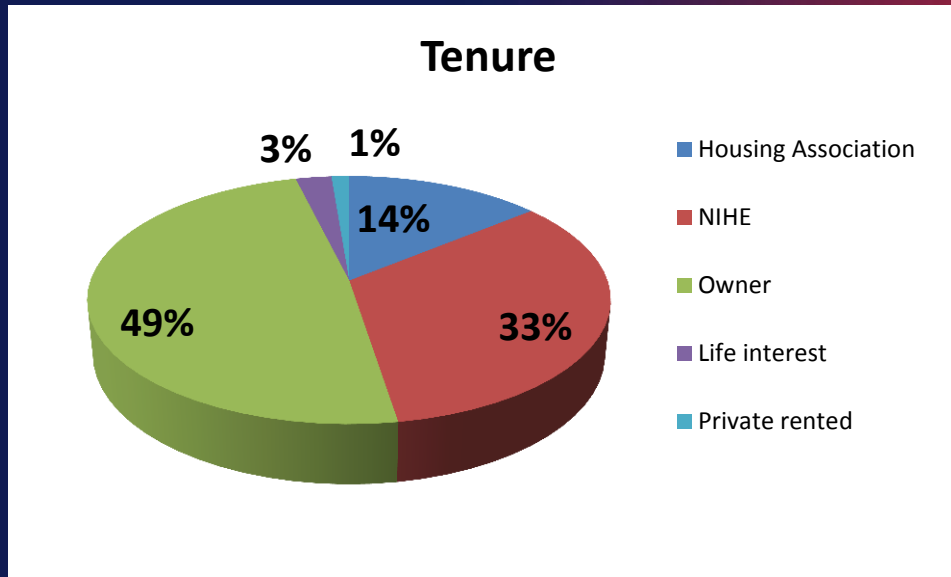
Householders are also offered:

- A home safety check
- A benefit entitlement check
- Handyman
- Keep warm pack
- An NEA information pack
- NI Chest Heart and Stroke

Referrals

84 referrals received to date

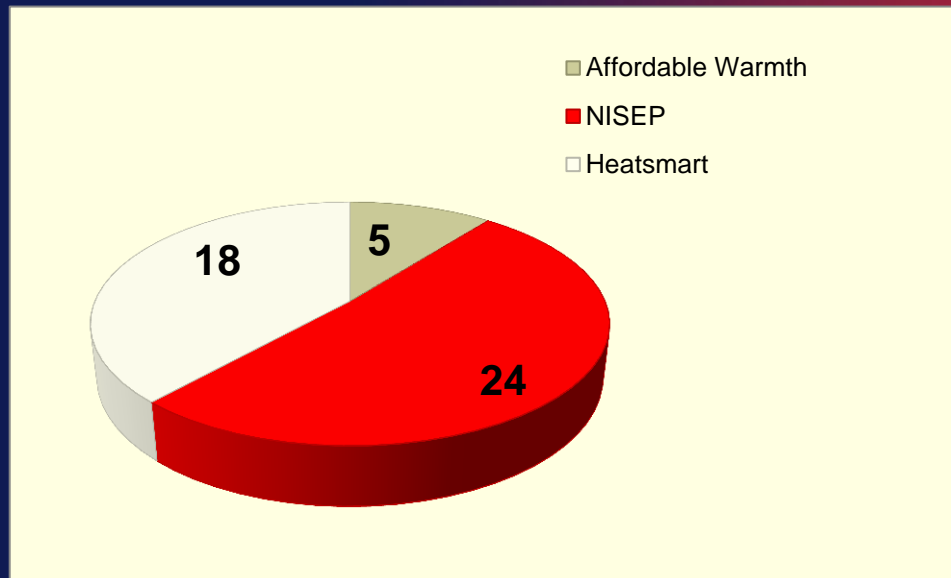
Tenure



Referrals

Energy Efficiency Schemes

46 referrals made to energy efficiency schemes



Referrals

- 51 referrals for Home Safety Checks
- 41 referrals for benefit entitlement checks
- 3 referrals to Environmental Health
- Advocacy provided for 8 Housing Association tenants
- Advocacy provided for 10 NIHE tenants

what next?

- Evaluation commencing soon
- Currently working towards referrals directly from GP's

Case study

Mr C is an owner occupier and lives in a ground floor flat, he wanted to know if he could get cavity wall insulation as the flat was quite cold. At assessment stage he was entitled to a fully funded heating replacement grant because his heating was Economy 7. He was initially concerned this would be an upheaval as he is aged over 90. However having discussed this with us and family the referral was made and he now has gas central heating and cavity wall insulation.

Case study

Evelyn is a Housing Association tenant and had problems with draughts and rainwater leaking into the hall. After us negotiating with her landlord her doors have been replaced. Additionally she received a benefit entitlement check and now receives an extra £60 per week equating to over £3,000 per year.

case study

Cathy is in the process of getting new windows via the affordable warmth scheme. She has other repair issues with her home which include needing a damp proof course. Through Warmth at Home, she was assisted in applying for a home repair assistance grant under exceptional circumstances.

The Warmth at Home project endeavours to:

Keep homes warm to help aid patient's recovery and prevent them from returning to hospital.

It is also reflecting the **NICE guideline [NG6]** which makes recommendations on how to reduce the risk of death and ill health associated in a cold home.



Thank You

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