

Title of project/initiative	Area Based Schemes External Wall Insulation Evaluation
Contact for project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name, email, telephone Website of project, if available 	Cassandra Dove cassandradove@energyagency.org.uk 01292 525534 http://www.energyagency.org.uk/en/evaluation-project_46663/
Which organisations are involved? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning/monitoring/delivery Partners Sponsors Funders – how funded? 	Energy Agency NHS (Ayrshire & Arran) East Ayrshire Council South Ayrshire Council Scottish Government
Brief description of project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rationale Aims and objectives Key activities Target population Geographical area Start (± finish) dates 	<p>The project was initiated by a collaborative working group in order to investigate the impacts of domestic insulation retrofits (Areas Based Schemes) in the West of Scotland, including the potential links between improved energy-efficiency and health outcomes.</p> <p>The particular aims of the project are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate the impacts of wall insulation upgrades in relation to improvements in energy efficiency, the health of the occupants and any other significant benefits Obtain perspectives from households who have participated in the Area Based Schemes regarding their experiences of the initiative Develop a methodology for continued evaluation to be incorporated into future schemes <p>The key activities include engagement with households through interviews and questionnaires as well as the collection of quantitative data such as energy consumption figures and temperature/relative humidity monitoring.</p> <p>The target population for the study was households in South and East Ayrshire receiving either external or internal wall insulation upgrades through the Area Based Schemes (ABS) initiative. An initial feasibility study was completed in April 2015 while a larger prospective study began in November 2015. It is anticipated that the final report will be completed in April 2017 however additional follow-up studies may continue beyond this period.</p>
Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staffing Time Financial 	1 full time research officer with additional support from Steering Group members Equipment – Temperature/RH data loggers
Evaluation and outcomes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reach Impact 	The project will analyse a wider range of outcomes than that of existing practice by measuring the actual impacts (e.g. fuel savings, changes in temperature/comfort, experiences of the occupants) rather than modelled impacts which are currently calculated using Energy Performance Certificates. This will therefore help to evaluate how well the measured energy savings correlate with the predicted improvements as well as helping to identify any other significant impacts (e.g. health and well-being improvements). Health impacts will be

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	measured through self-reported data including a validated health questionnaire (SF-36).
Reflections on project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was successful? • What was challenging? • What would be done differently in future? 	The project is still ongoing however to date there has been a good level of engagement from householders. The biggest challenges have been co-ordinating the household visits with the programme of works and obtaining documentary evidence such as energy bills from the householders.
Next steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the future of this initiative? 	Following the results of the initial study to be completed in April 2017, it is anticipated that further monitoring and evaluation will be embedded into future ABS scheme. A longer term follow-up (e.g. 2 – 3 years after the intervention) is also being proposed.
Wider application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is this project scalable? • Is it transferable to other areas/contexts? 	The project is applicable to Area Based Schemes in other local authorities in Scotland.
Any further information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports or publications • Other reflections 	An Interim Report was completed in June 2016. A further report for a separate retrospective study is expected in September 2016 while the final report will be completed by April 2017.
Person completing pro-forma	Cassandra Dove
Date of completion	14/9/16

Pro-forma for gathering information on case studies