

Minutes of the Affordable Warmth Sub-Committee
Held at the Civic Hall, Uppermill on Friday 24th September 2010

- There were present** Cllr. Mr. Royce Franklin – Chairman
Angela Carr (Oldham Council)
Julie Holt (NHS Oldham)
Lisa MacDonald (Saddleworth & Lees District Manager)
Nicola Shore (Oldham Council / Age Concern)
Helen Short (AWarm)
23. **Apologies** - Kath Edwards (Saddleworth PPG) & Gillian Clark (Delph Community Association).
24. **Welcome** – Lisa MacDonald was welcomed to the meeting. All the Community Associations had been invited to send representatives to the meeting. It was agreed that the sub-committee will continue to inform the groups of the work being undertaken.
25. **Affordable Warmth Strategy** – The Strategy was approved by the cabinet in July and by the Oldham Partnership on 16th September. The three year Strategy includes an annual delivery plan. The Warmth for Health scheme was launched earlier this month, it provides free cavity wall and loft insulation for those over 70 and with certain health conditions, other are eligible for the services at highly subsidised prices. The relatively high level of fuel poverty in Saddleworth is partly due to the number of old properties without cavity walls.
26. **Heat seekers** - 145 properties in Saddleworth and Lees have taken up Loft or Cavity wall insulation. Images have been taken of approximately 60% of the properties in the Borough, with around 15% left that are accessible to their vans.
27. **Publicity** – All people in receipt of benefits have been sent information about the Warm Front grant scheme. New web pages are being developed, publicity has appeared on Oldham Community Radio, Saddleworth News and the Saddleworth Extra. It will also be promoted at the Village a Month events.
28. **AWarm** – Across the Borough there have been 100 referrals since April. Training has been provided to 110 people in the last quarter, those trained will be contacted by e-mail to identify any barriers to making referrals. The majority of the referrals are coming from Children’s Centres. The sub-committee thanked Helen for all her work and wished her well in her future career.
29. **NHS Oldham** – The Primary Care Trust is currently reviewing all services and new initiatives. G.P. representatives have attended Affordable Warmth training, it is hoped that affordable warmth will be incorporated into G.P. contracts as they are reviewed. A review of Community Pharmacists is being undertaken, they currently have to deliver 6 health improvements each year. Cards will go out on prescription bags highlighting the Flu vaccination and affordable warmth. Awareness of affordable warmth is being raised across the P.C.T.
30. **Date of the next meeting** - Wednesday, 24th November, 2010 at 10 a.m.

