

**COMMUNITY & SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**24<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2012**

**REPORT OF HEAD OF REGULATORY SERVICES**

**WARM HOMES GRANT FUNDING 2012**

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform Members of a successful bid for grant funding of £195k for making homes warm in the private sector.
- 1.2 To gain approval to spend this grant for this purpose
- 1.3 To confirm that a condition of the grant is that the funding is to be spent before April 2012.

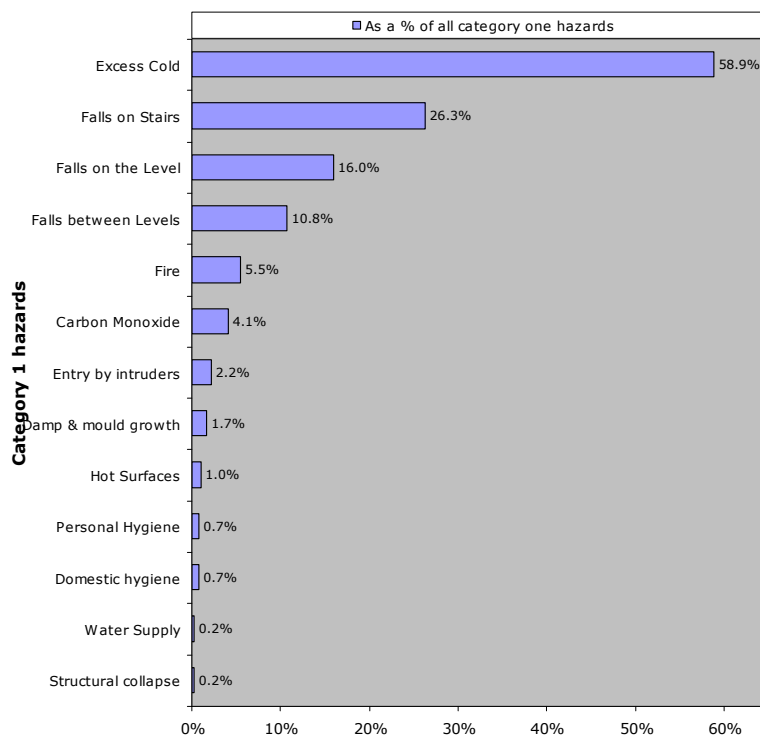
**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 **That approval is given that this grant fund is brought into the Capital Programme for 2011-12 and that the project is commenced.**
- 2.2 **That Policy & Finance Committee are requested to approve the business case.**

**3.0 KEY ISSUES**

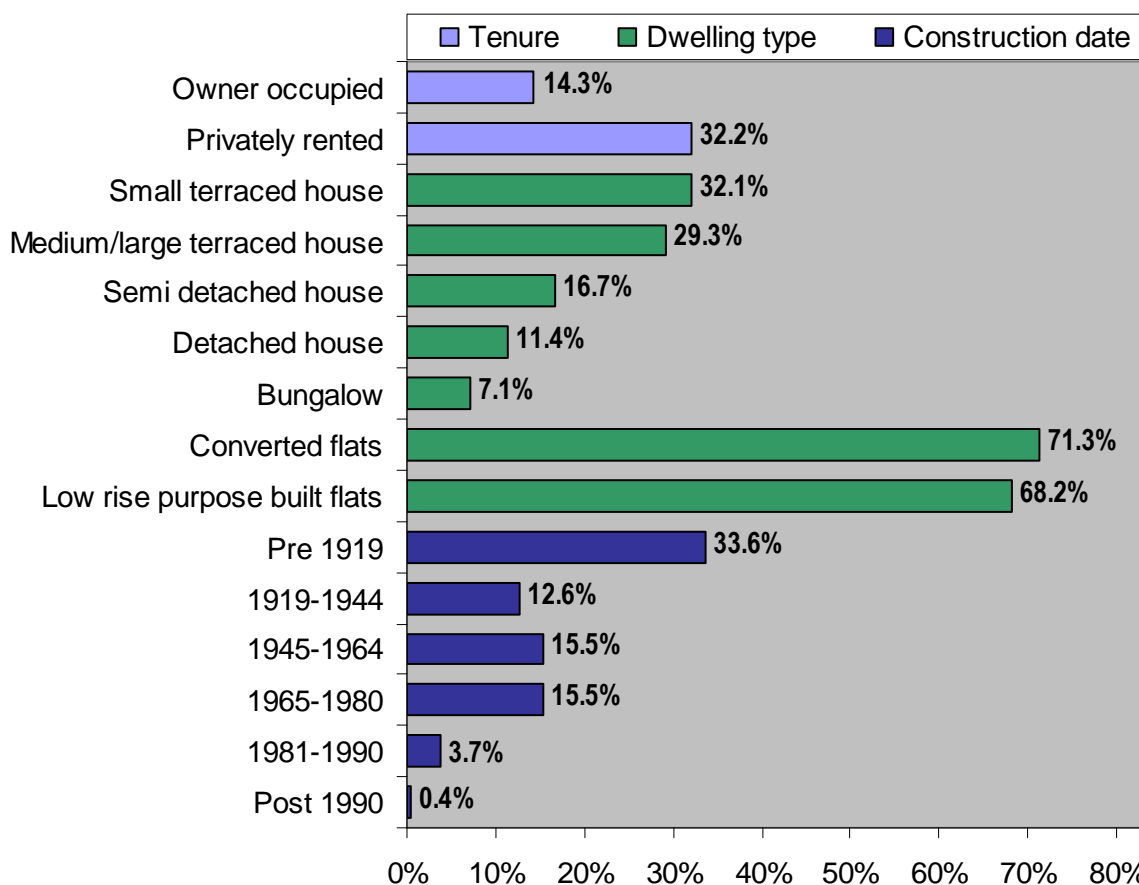
- 3.1 The 2010 private sector house condition survey for Melton Borough Council identified excess cold as the main reason for failure of the Decent Homes Standard in the Borough of Melton.

**Figure 1: Category 1 Hazards by reason, as % of Category 1 Hazards**



3.2 In more detail these failures mainly relate to pre-1919 properties, mainly flats and terraced properties more often privately rented.

**Figure 2: Thermal comfort failure by general characteristics**



3.3 In December 2011, the Department of Health (DoH) offered the opportunity to bid for grants for Warm Homes. These were offered to County Councils. Leicestershire County Council (LCC) was successful in obtaining a grant for £120k; a portion of this should benefit the Borough of Melton. Melton Borough Council approached the DOH in acknowledgement of the above facts and they determined that we could submit a separate bid through LCC.

3.4 Melton Borough Council was successful in obtaining £195k for measures to improve warmth in private sector homes in Melton. In general, grants will be means tested. Some funding will be targeted at the private rented sector, where landlords will be required to match fund any approved works. This has been a successful approach in the past to try and improve the living conditions of some of our more vulnerable (see project mandate for more specifics on the eligible works).

3.5 Approval is requires to spend this funding as it needs to be progressed by April 2012.

#### 4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Increasing the number of Decent Homes is a Corporate Priority. These works will enable us to exceed our performance targets for the current financial year.

4.2 It enables partnership working with the Voluntary sector who will refer into the system.



## 10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE

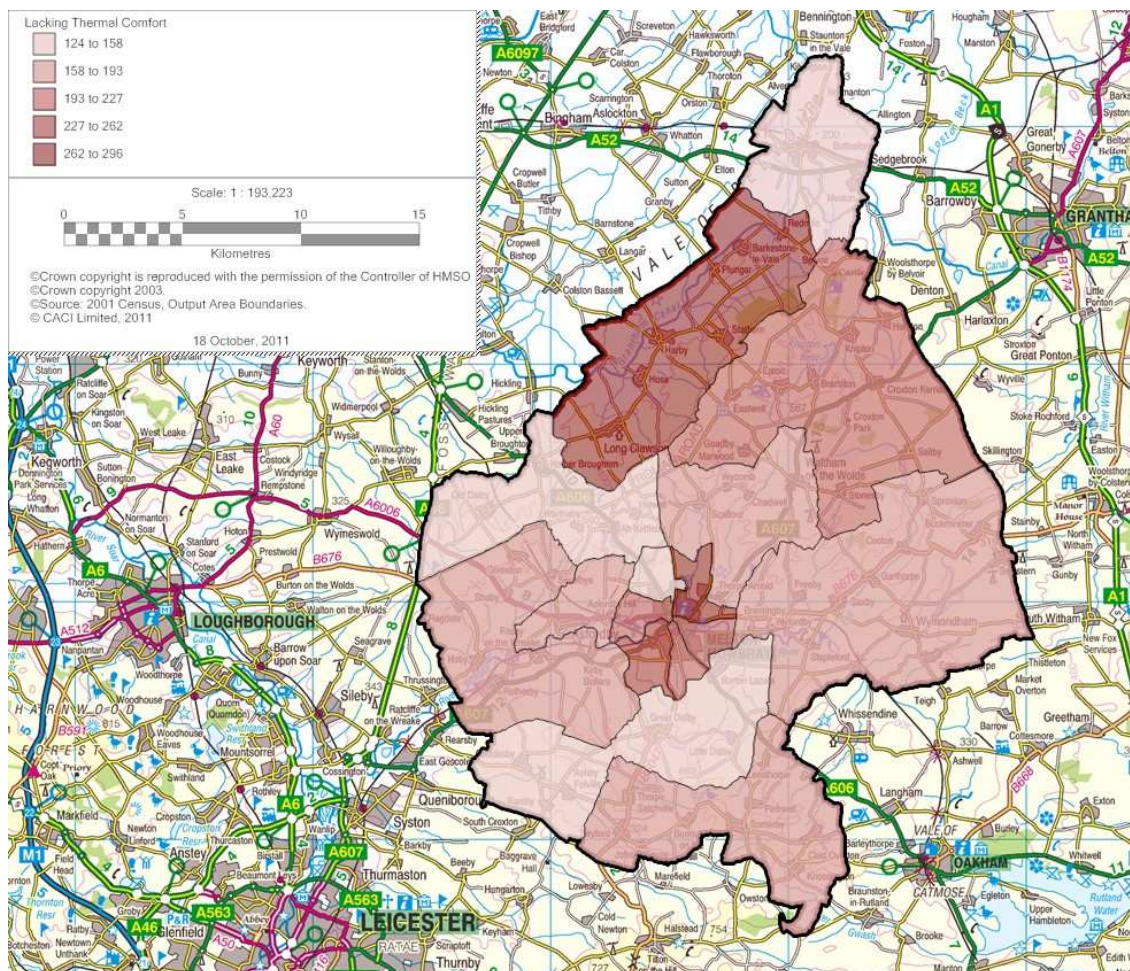
10.1 Insulation measures will also be fitted and the boilers installed will be energy efficient (and better efficiency than any existing that is replaced).

## 11.0 CONSULTATION

11.1 There has been liaison with Charity and voluntary organisations to assist in this project.

## 12.0 WARDS AFFECTED

12.1 Potentially any ward may benefit from these works, although some are more likely than others (see table below)



2010 House Condition survey – properties lacking thermal comfort.

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Date: 19/01/12

Appendices: Appendix A: Project Mandate  
Appendix B: Business Case

Background Papers:

Reference: CSA Committees