Warm Homes, Healthy People

Bryn Kewley, E3G

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Insulating homes ≈ Healthy people
Job done?
Tackling fuel poverty

- Range of solutions
- Lacking political interest
- Payments for cold snaps & the elderly
- Targeting: ‘fuel poor’ or ‘low income’
- Previous policy failure

- Total funding for energy efficiency
## The cold man of Europe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2013</th>
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<td>Switzerland</td>
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ACE, Cold Man of Europe 2015
UK vs Sweden

The UK has:
• Warmer winters
• Lower Energy Prices
• Same Income

The UK also has:
• 4 X more people unable to heat their home
• 20% higher rate of excess winter deaths
• 70% more fuel poverty
• Homes that leak three times more heat
Wrong way!
Instillations falling in the UK

Figure 1: Major energy efficiency measures installed under major programmes to date, with predicted outcome for 2014/15

ACE, Fuel Poverty Update 2014
Where’s the policy?

- Private rented sector – Some regulation
- Zero Carbon Homes – Defeated
- ECO 3 – Severely underfunded, poorly focused
- Green Deal replacement – Nowhere to be seen!
How do we fix it?

Re-defining energy efficiency as infrastructure: Recognising the benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BCR</th>
<th>NPV (£bn, 2014 prices)</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>BCR = 1.5</td>
<td>£8.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>BCR = 1.6</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCR = 3.2</td>
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</table>

BCR assuming 50% of measures are funded privately = 2.0

Recognising wider economic benefits = 1.7

Frontier Economics, *Energy Efficiency an Infrastructure Priority, 2015*
Energy Efficiency as Infrastructure

- £3.20 returned through increased GDP per £1 invested by government

- £1.27 in tax revenues per £1 of government investment, through increased economic activity, such that the scheme has paid for itself by 2024, and generates net revenue for government thereafter

- 23.6MtCO₂ reductions per annum by 2030, after accounting for direct, indirect, and economy-wide rebound effects. This is roughly equivalent to cutting the CO₂ emissions of the UK transport fleet by one third.

- Improved health and reduced healthcare expenditure, due to warmer and more comfortable homes, and improved air quality. For every £1 spent on reducing fuel poverty, a return of 42 pence is expected in National Health Service (NHS) savings. ⁵ ⁶
Progress made

• Consensus between Green and Social groups – insulating homes is key

• Support from:
  – 200 Charities, Businesses, Universities, Green and Social Groups
  – 230 MPs
  – 100,000 members of the public

• Increasing interest from the National Infrastructure Commission
The challenges

• Overcoming a lack of political will in Government

• Spending commitments are scary
  
  “Cavity wall insulation gives a better rate of return than Apple Ltd. has over the last five years.”

• Brexit
When things go right

John Boulton
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

5/6 hospital visits in 2013

Windows & loft insulated

“Last year he had been into hospital five or six times. He was really poorly and we had a terrible Christmas. So far this year – touch wood – he’s not been in hospital once and his health is so much better. He’s much happier in himself because he’s not suffering.” Margaret Boulton