

## **£2m award for social housing decarbonisation**

More than 100 council managed homes in the Folkestone and Hythe district will benefit from increased energy efficiency, thanks to a £2 million government grant.

The successful award is the result of a bid made by Folkestone and Hythe District Council under Wave 1 of The Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF).

Tenants will be individually contacted and a time arranged for the work to be carried out over the next 12 months, with the funding being used for homes with the most urgent need.

With an aim to create green job opportunities in the district, F&HDC will be looking to use local contractors for the insulation work where possible.

Cllr Lesley Whybrow, Cabinet Member for the Environment, said: “This substantial grant will improve the energy efficiency of our social rented homes where energy performance needs to be improved, reducing the overall carbon emissions by 358 tonnes per year.

“It will also improve the well-being of our residents, who will use less energy to keep warm in winter.”

In total, about 20,000 social rented homes across England will be made warmer and benefit from cheaper energy bills thanks to the £179m that has been made available by the fund.

The funding will also support about 9,000 jobs in the green energy sector and deliver carbon emissions savings equivalent to taking up to 6,000 cars off the road in any given year.

**ENDS**