Developing a Cambridgeshire approach to getting the most benefit from the Green Deal for residents, business and the local economy

Oct 2011 – Mar 2012

- Details emerge of Govt's flagship finance (and supplemental grant) scheme to remove barriers to investment in whole house/building sustainable energy retrofits across entire stock.
- Replacing existing CERT, CESP and Warmfront schemes.
- Commercially driven but LAs recognised as key players in successful delivery.
- Cambs districts come together under collaborative project to ensure most is made of GD benefits for local residents, businesses and economy. This is the GD Community Connection study funded by Sustainability East.
- Verco, CAG and Public-i commissioned to assess value of GD to Cambs, consult with all potential partners and shape up options to move forward.

• Details of how GD will operate still coming forward from Govt.

Apr 2012 – Oct 2012

- Two very well attended workshops run as part of Cambs GD *Community Connection* project, alongside public website with registration facility etc.
- Project reports that:
- Value of improving the energy efficiency of Cambs homes and other building is estimated at £830m.
- The supply and installation could stimulate local industry and provide a substantial number of local jobs.
- Local authority activity is needed to embed GD in Cambs local communities.
- A Cambs branded GD is needed to increase awareness, momentum and trust.
- A 'Partnership' delivery model fairly unanimously supported. Requires LAs to procure a relationship with appropriate GD player for Cambs.

• GD 'soft' launch 1st October. First Providers start to appear in market place.

Oct 2012 – Jan 2013

- GD Assessments and Plans not available until end of Jan 2013.
- Key GD players start to reveal delivery plans.
- Govt. reveal incentive package: £125m as cashback for customers and £75m for LAs to kickstart GD activity – initial £10k for spend by end March 2013 (GD Pioneer Places Fund).
- Cambs LAs identify range of approaches for detailed markettesting and risk assessment, plus consider consultancy support to practically assist. To move forward LAs need to:
- Formalise inter-district working group (ToR, work prog,)
- Clarify resources (money & staff)
- Agree milestones and feeds to exec mgt. and members.
- Agree project mgt. & procurement lead.
- Carry out market testing towards drafting sustainable business plan options for each LA to approve.
- Bid to GD Pioneer Places Fund.

 Cambs LAs, having received approval to take forward a shared business plan to procure a relationship with key GD player(s), gets on with delivering the plan.

Feb 2013 – Sep 2013

- Likely to require an open, equitable and competitive tendering process.
- Two-horned process of ensuring LA offer is sufficiently attractive whilst setting criteria for working relationship that deliver greatest benefit for local residents, businesses and local economy.
- Launch single Cambs GD brand in partnership with appropriate GD player(s) in Autumn 2013.