



Mount Eagles Drive Action Group (MEDAG) is very supportive of the retention of funding for the NISEP scheme up until 2017 and beyond.

It is our considered experience that the NISEP scheme has been extremely beneficial to households in Mount Eagles as an energy efficiency measure and as a tool in targetting fuel poverty. This has been achieved through the extraction and retrofitting of cavity wall insulation of 54 households in Mount Eagles. The results were extremely positive and have made an enormous difference to families who have suffered from cold and damp conditions.

Please find attached a booklet on the impact of the NISEP scheme within Mount Eagles. MEDAG cannot stress enough the importance of NISEP funding which made the cavity wall insulation retrofit possible. Otherwise it would not have happened! It is our contention that the success of our cavity wall retrofit scheme should be expanded throughout N.Ireland and that NISEP is a invaluable vehicle for achieving this.

MEDAG does not agree with the 80/20% split as the NISEP scheme should be used exclusively for fighting fuel poverty within the domestic market as opposed to the industrial sector.

It is our considered view that there should be appointed a Fuel Poverty Tsar or commissioner who will act as a fulcrum point for the co-ordination of all energy efficiency measures for the fuel poor. This would ensure best practice and remove a lot of the ad hoc disparate, inefficiencies that are associated with current energy efficiency schemes.

MEDAG believes that the hEAT programme could be extremely useful in targetting those households that do not qualify for the Affordable Warmth scheme (either because of income or location). However we feel that there is insufficient information to fully evaluate the hEAT programme at present.

Our association in principle fully supports the NEA submission response to this consultation and feel that they have fully articulated many of the main points, on our behalf.

It is imperative that there is extensive community involvement and input into the formulation of a highly innovative NISEP programme that is fit for purpose.

Regards,

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Mount Eagles Drive Action Group (MEDAG)