

CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM

Question 1 - The table in part 5 provides an overview of the proposals under each of the EU 2020 headings – Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive – matched against the relevant thematic objective and investment priorities. Do you think the investment priorities are the most appropriate ones for the activity suggested?

*ExHA is a coalition of organisations calling for urgent action to transform Scotland's existing housing stock and make it fit for the 21st century. It includes private, public and third sector organisations focussed on the fuel poverty and climate change agendas. Members include WWF Scotland, Energy Action Scotland, Scottish Federation of Housing Associations, the Energy Saving Trust, Chartered Institute of Housing, the Association for the Conservation of Energy, Consumer Futures Scotland, Age Scotland, Shelter Scotland and others.
(www.existinghomesalliancescotland.co.uk).*

Given the Scottish and EU Governments' various targets (many legislative commitments) on fuel poverty, carbon reduction, energy efficiency/demand reduction and climate change it seems entirely irrational not to utilise this funding stream to help deliver on these. We fundamentally believe there is a real need for the Scottish Government to embrace the principal that EU Structural funds should be used to support the Scottish Government's efforts on retrofitting homes.

In terms of sustainable development, tackling social exclusion and creating jobs this activity has been shown to be highly effective. Hence its adoption by the Scottish Government.

With the coming reduction in ECO, the Scottish Government Spending Review and Budget estimates of resources available for climate change and fuel poverty targets will not be delivered without alternative funding streams.

We point to the SFHA response for more detailed argument and evidence and fully support the position regarding making this fund available for retrofitting of homes.

Question 2 – Section 6 sets out the linkages between Structural, Rural and Fisheries Funds as well as linkages to other EU Funding Programmes. We would welcome stakeholder comments on these linkages in order to help us develop this thinking further

Question 3 - Do you think the new proposals will have a positive or negative impact on the protected characteristics and wider issues of inclusion and participation?

Question 4 - If you think there will be a negative impact on the protected characteristics or inclusion and participation please provide suggestions as to what could be done differently to diminish this impact.

Question 5 - Please provide your views for improving the process for design, procurement, delivery, monitoring and evaluation to strengthen delivery of sustainable development.

Question 6 – Do you have any further comments on the proposals outlined in this document?

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the user to provide their comments on the proposals.