



EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

# HOME ENERGY TEAM

LISA EVES & CLAIRE FINCH



# Two primary roles

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## Supporting residents to manage current energy needs

- Support residents with general energy questions
- Liaising with energy providers on behalf of residents
- Providing some grant funding for residents who are at risk of being without energy
- Assisting residents to access third party grant funding e.g. Household Support Fund and Stay Well Grants
- Working closely with other ECDC teams and external organisations to address multiple issues

## Supporting residents to reduce future energy needs

### Retrofit

- Providing guidance to residents on the measures, costs & benefits to reducing longer term energy consumption
- Accessing Government funding to improve the energy efficiency of residential properties
- Key stakeholder in the delivery of funding via the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) Flex scheme
- Supporting the Able To Pay Market to feel confident to undertake retrofit works

Behavioural changes



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# Why do we need to retrofit buildings?

The Climate Change Act 2018 sets out a legal target for the UK to reach net zero carbon emission by 2050. A subsequent 78% reduction by 2035 target was added in 2021. The ambitions within this legislation have been adopted by the Cambridgeshire local authorities (LAs) who each have or are developing their own carbon reduction targets and plans

In Autumn 2019, East Cambridgeshire District Council declared a climate emergency. In doing so, we agreed to explore a wide range of actions to improve our local environment and do our bit to help mitigate climate change. One of the key steps is to improve the energy efficiency of buildings. This in turn, will help residents reduce fuel bills.

A significant amount of the UK housing stock is, by current standards, deemed to be very energy inefficient. Lack of suitable insulation in lofts, walls & floors, old and leaky doors & windows, inefficient heating and domestic hot water systems combined with the ever increasing costs means that residents are living in cold houses because they are to afraid to turn the heat up.



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# The route to Retrofit in East Cambridgeshire



ECDC works in partnership with 4 other District Councils and Cambs CC as the Cambridgeshire Energy Retrofit Partnership (CERP) to play our part in helping meet national & international carbon reduction goals through retrofitting the county's domestic buildings. We use the branding **Action on Energy**.

We will be supporting residents who are Able To Pay for energy improvement measures to access clear guidance and support whilst continuing to bid and administer, Government Grant Funding to improve energy efficiency for Low Income High Cost (fuel) households.

The CERP has recently successfully bid for 2 rounds of Government Grant Funding and plan to continue to bid for additional funding as it becomes available.

*ECDC were awarded*

- **<£670,000** to support planned upgrades to Social Housing & Private Homes (Scheme closes May 22)
- **£1.775,000** to provide improvements to private housing (owned or rented) (Scheme ends March 23)

*Individual grants can be up to £25,000 (depending on the energy inefficiency of a home and whether it is on or off the gas grid).*



# How to access Government Grant Funding

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## Eligibility Criteria for current scheme (April 22-March 23)

- Households are required to have a maximum household income of £30,000 to qualify.
- Target properties will be E, F and G EPC rated properties with the aim to increase them to a band C where feasible by adopting a whole house, **fabric first** approach.

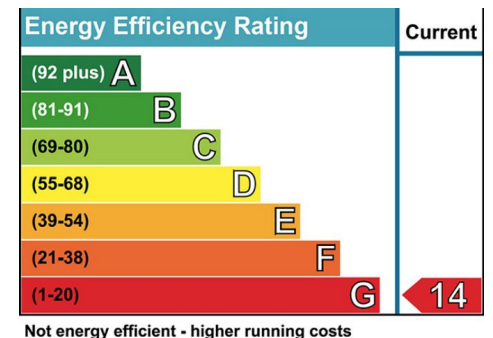
Applicable measures include Loft, Cavity & Solid Wall Insulation (including room in roof), Draught Proofing, Air Source Heat Pumps and Solar PV.

Measures installed under this scheme for Owner Occupiers will be **Fully Funded**.

Landlords will be required to contribute 1/3 towards cost of measures

## How do we identify eligible Householders?

- Identify suitable properties using Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs)
- Communicate widely to residents about the scheme and ask them to self-refer
- Proactive marketing via Installers & LA
- Word of mouth between residents and from trusted sources such as Parish Councils





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## How can you help us reach eligible & vulnerable residents

Claire and I would like to send all Clerks information relating to this presentation (in appropriate formats) and ask that you share it with your Parishioners via your websites, newsletters, community notice boards, local gathering place's and by word of mouth.

Encourage Parishioners in need to call us so we can help support them with managing the cost of their current energy needs and reduce future costs by making their homes as energy efficient as possible.

Thank you for listening and we will now take any questions.