

Free Green Deal Assessments to Kick Start the Green Deal in Cambridgeshire

Cambridge City Council, in partnership with the other Cambridgeshire districts, has won funding to provide more than 50 free domestic Green Deal Assessments in Cambridge.



GREEN DEAL is the Government's new scheme to support you in improving the energy efficiency of your home (both private homeowners and private tenants). The aim of the scheme is to give confidence to the public through the Green Deal Accreditation Scheme for both assessors and installers and by providing access to finance through Green Deal for those who are unable to fund improvements through alternative methods.

For a limited period, householders who take up measures through the Green Deal could also benefit from up to £1,000 cash back as part of the Government's 'Green Deal Cash Back Scheme'.

To access the Green Deal and the cash back scheme, householders will need to have a Green Deal assessment completed on their properties to determine what measures could be used to make their properties energy efficient. These assessments are likely to cost in the region of £150.

The offer of free assessment will help to 'kick start' the Green Deal in Cambridgeshire. However the assessments will only start the ball rolling. What is particularly important is to do extra follow-up work to understand how the assessments are received and subsequently used by homeowners interested in doing something to improve household energy efficiency. We hope to use these findings to produce some locally focussed promotional material that will inform residents how the Green Deal can help local households improve their homes.



To get the most out of this project we are keen to get a good spread of different property types and households. This will allow us to learn as much as we can about the issues and opportunities arising from the assessments in as many different local circumstances as possible.

Are you interested in a Free Green Deal Assessment?

We have funding for the assessments, but what we do not have are the households. **We are seeking Cambridge residents to assist us in assessing this new Government scheme and we would like volunteers who are willing to have a Green Deal Assessment carried out on their property.** The timescales for this project are tight as all assessment work has to be completed by the end of March. **Therefore if you, or someone you know is interested in having your property assessed, and they live in Cambridge, then contact us right away.**

We are able to offer a free Green Deal assessment on your property. Each Assessment is likely to take 2-3 hours you will receive a Green Deal report explaining how you can improve the energy efficiency of your home. There will be a follow-up interview/questionnaire to see what people thought about the process and whether you would consider having measures installed. This interview/questionnaire is a condition of eligibility for a free assessment however there is no obligation to take any action in response to the findings of the report - but of course we're hoping it will prompt some energy saving improvements to be carried out!

Ideally we are hoping to assess a mixture of common Cambridge property types. Therefore should we receive a large number of applicants, properties will be selected based on certain criteria.

If you would like to be considered for a free assessment, please complete the attached application form and return it as soon as possible.

The key things we're looking for from households happy to have a free Assessment are:

1. **That the Assessment could be quickly booked up by the Assessor with the householder at a convenient time from the 6th of February onwards.** The Assessor will obviously try and choose a day and time that works well for the householder but because they are going to have a lot of them to do in quite a short period we are going to be looking for householders that can be fairly flexible with booking times. The assessors are going to be working pretty much flat-out mornings, afternoons and evenings 7 days a week and so will be looking for as much householder flexibility as possible in booking and filling all these time slots.

2. **That properties have a reasonable potential for energy efficient improvements** (i.e. The properties are not already owned by a very energy conscious person who has already carried out all realistic energy saving measures).

3. **The participating householders are happy to have the data from their Green Deal assessment and Report used anonymously** to help create local community promotional material to boost Green Deal take up.

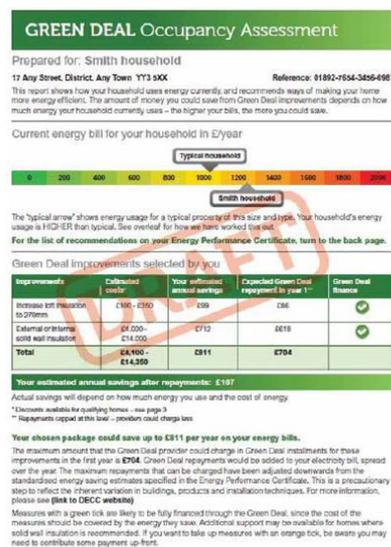
4. If we're lucky enough to end up with **more than 50 householders coming forward for assessments, then we will have to select properties using criteria** of:

- a balanced spread of property types in the group of 50;
- a balanced spread of household types/sizes;
- being prepared to participate in a follow-up interview or questionnaire
- flexibility in booking an Assessment slot;

Households not on the initial list of 50 would be put on a reserve list to contact should there be difficulties booking appointments with any of the first 50.

Householders need to be aware that the Green Deal Reports for their properties would be added to the national EPC register (as per standard requirement for EPC's).

All households keen to have a free Assessment will need to complete the attached form (that the Assessors will use to make contact and will also allow us to short list if necessary)



Free Green Deal Assessments Offer: Application Form

Name:..... Postcode:.....

Address:.....

Email address (If you have one):.....

Home Tel..... Mobile/daytime Tel:.....

Property Ownership:

- Privately owned Privately rented

(Note: If property is privately rented, the property owner needs to sign below to indicate their permission. Green Deal is not available to support residents in Council/Housing Association properties, please contact your housing provider directly for advice).

Property Type

- Detached Terraced Flat
 Semi-detached Bungalow

Planning Restrictions - Is your property:

- Listed In a conservation area Not applicable

Age of Property

- Before 1920 1950's 1990's
 1920's 1960's 2000 to present day
 1930's 1970's
 1940's 1980's

Assessment Availability

The Green Deal property and household occupancy assessment is likely to take between 2 to 3 hours to complete. Please indicate the days of the week/times of days that you would be available to be at home to have the assessment done (please tick all possible times – There are a lot of assessments to do in a short time so flexibility is appreciated).

- Mon to Fri: 8:30am to 12:00noon Sat: Afternoons
 Mon to Fri: 12:00noon to 5:00pm Sun: Mornings
 Mon to Fri: 5:00pm to 8:00pm Sun: Afternoon
 Sat: Mornings

Permissions

If my home is selected for one of the free Green Deal assessments, I give permission for the assessments to be shared with Cambridge City Council for generating material to promote the Green Deal in Cambridgeshire. (Please note no names or addresses would be included and photographs that could readily identify the property would only be used with the owners consent.

- Yes No

If my home is selected for one of the free Green Deal assessments I would be happy to fill in a brief questionnaire or have a short interview about the Green Deal assessment process and how I view taking up the energy efficiency improvement options that the Green Deal report puts forward.

- Yes No

Signed (property owner)..... Date.....

For more information please contact Justin Smith on 01223 457954.

Please return applications via email to Justin.Smith@cambridge.gov.uk or post to

Justin Smith, Refuse & Environment, Cambridge City Council, PO BOX 700, Cambridge, CB1 0JH