Thermal Comfort in Older Homes

Now is a good time to consider energy efficiency measures in your home because Cambridgeshire has new funding to help 1500 families across the County with grants of up to £6000 per household. The grants come from the government's Green Deal Communities scheme and will be delivered through Action on Energy which is a joint venture between Climate Energy and Cambridgeshire district councils.

Justin Smith from Cambridge City Council said "The government's Green Deal financial package has been available for some time but few of us have taken the bold step to upgrade the bricks and mortar. The new Grants should get this process moving".

One reason takeup has been slow is that money is not the only consideration. Many Cambridge homes have interesting and desirable period features and retrofitting them in a sensitive fashion is a challenge. Voluntary group Transition Cambridge will hold an Energy Forum on 17 June to address these issues. It will start at 7:30pm at Cambridge Friends Meeting House, Jesus Lane. The Forum is open to everyone and entry is free, though the group relies on donations to cover their costs.

Experts: Jason Dorks from Natural Building Technologies and Jim Ross from Cambridge Architectural Research will explain the benefits and the practicalities of retrofitting an old property to modern standards of comfort. They will answer questions such as:

- How long will the job take?
- What will it look like?
- Is secondary glazing as good as double glazing?
- Can insulation cause damp?

There will also be a representative from Action on Energy and two householders who will describe their experiences of taking the plunge. For full details go to www.transitioncambridge.org/energyathome

The funding is only available up to March 2015 so don't miss the boat.

NOTES:

# Transition Cambridge is a voluntary group promoting a better quality of life, now and in the future beyond oil.
www.transitioncambridge.org/faqs/greendeal
Donations always welcome.

# Fossil fuels that keep us warm now are running out. New reserves will be more expensive, less secure and if exploited will push the climate into chaos.

# Green Deal Communities is delivered in Cambridgeshire by Action on Energy, a joint venture between Cambridgeshire County Council and Climate Energy Ltd.

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