

## **Energy initiatives and grants for your home**

### **West London Renewal Project (WLRP)**

The West London Renewal Project (WLRP) is a partnership between Hounslow and the other seven west London boroughs to improve housing conditions in private sector homes in our areas.

The project has received a total of £8.5m government funding over two years.

### **Warm Zone**

London Warm Zone, a not for profit organisation will be working in partnership with Hounslow Council as lead agent in managing and delivering the WLRP Project.

Over the next two years (from March 2007) they will carry out 40,000 doorstep assessments in targeted areas to identify vulnerable households in west London. If the household is deemed eligible, Warm Zone will arrange for grants towards the cost of installing loft and cavity wall insulation for everyone who owns their own home, regardless of your income. And if you are over 70 or receiving certain benefits, and either own your own home or rent privately they may be to arrange for insulation **and** heating work to be installed free of charge.

### **Warm Front Top Up Scheme (Hounslow grant)**

Hounslow Council and Eaga will deliver a Warm Front Top-Up Scheme – Eaga pays to an agreed £2,7000 limit in accordance with their criteria. However, we will use our available discretionary capital grant to top up the Warm Front fund in order to offer a more comprehensive, and best value energy efficiency measures.

This grant has been introduced by Hounslow to provide the possibility of funding for people who are without qualifying benefits, and therefore not eligible for the Warm Front scheme. It allows our low-income families, elderly and disabled clients to access grant aid for energy efficiency measures.

Hounslow will fund:

- new central heating systems
- replacement boilers (deemed by our installers to be faulty or over 15 years old)
- heating upgrades.

### **Eligibility for owner occupiers are:**

- Under 60s on means tested benefit (on benefit for min. 6 months with children under 16 (householder in receipt of means tested benefits not WF eligible) or
- 60 years and over not on means tested benefit facing hospital discharge and (living alone or with partner over 60) or
- 60 and over with a severe case of disability or chronic illness.
- 80 and over with category (1) conditions.
- Under 60s with children under 16, not on a benefit but, with (joint) low income (£15,050 – £20,000)

- Any one who does not qualify under the above criteria will be considered under the Home Repair Assistance means tested grant.

#### **The following conditions will apply:**

- **The applicant/partner does not own another property in the UK or abroad**
- **The grant amount will be registered on the local land charges for 5 years and will be wholly repayable without interest if the property is sold within that period.**

Measures available include new or replacement heating systems, insulation for both loft and wall cavities and heating controls. The grant is available for homeowners or private tenants on benefits and either, over 60; OR under 60 on benefit for at least 6 months or disabled or have a child under 16.

Call Hounslow Energy Help Line on 0800 281768 for further details of current schemes.

#### **Means test**

The aim of the grant system is to provide financial help for those who can least afford to pay for works to their properties and are subject to a means test. Any amount of grant received will be the difference between the amount you are assessed as being able to afford and the total cost of the eligible works. A local authority has discretion on how to calculate the amount of grant to offer.

Contact Grants/Admin 020 8583 3877.

To see what other grants for renewable energy are currently available, please call the Hounslow Energy Efficiency Helpline direct on 0800 281 768.

#### **Eaga (Warm Front)**

The Warm Front grant is up to a maximum of £2,700, except where oil central heating is being installed or repaired where a maximum of £4,000 will apply.

If the property has previously received any measures under Warm Front, the value of the grant available to the existing householder under Warm Front 2 will be the balance of £2,700, or £4,000 if oil central heating is involved, less the value of all works previously completed in the property under Warm Front since June 2000.

#### **Eligibility**

Householders aged 60 or over, **and** are in receipt of one or more of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Council Tax Benefit
- Housing Benefit

- Job Seekers Allowance (Income-based)
- Pension Credit

**OR**

Householders who

- (a) have a child under 16, or
- (b) are pregnant and have been given maternity certificate MAT B1 in relation to the pregnancy concerned,

**and** are also in receipt of one or more of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Council Tax Benefit
- Housing Benefit
- Job Seekers Allowance (Income based)
- Pension Credit

**OR**

Householders in receipt of one or more of the following benefits:

- Working Tax Credit with income less than £15,050 + Disability Premium
- Disability Living Allowance
- Child Tax Credit with income less than £15,050
- Housing Benefit + Disability Premium
- Income Support + Disability Premium
- Council Tax + Disability Premium
- War Disablement Pension + (Constant Attendance Allowance or Mobility Supplement)
- Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit + Constant Attendance Allowance
- Attendance Allowance

**Notes**

Householder includes the applicant's spouse or partner if they are living with the applicant.

Partner means the spouse, or person with whom the applicant lives as husband or wife, or civil partner, or the person with whom the applicant lives if residing in a same-sex relationship.