Home Upgrade Grant (HUG2)

Home Upgrade Grant (HUG2) funding was awarded in 2023 to the County Council to retrofit the homes of low income residents living in energy inefficient homes (up to \pounds 38,000 per property).

During the 23/24 financial year, despite a number of challenges, 65 homes were upgraded across the county, including 15 in West Oxfordshire. Although this was less than originally planned, there is a strong pipeline for the second year of delivery and are already on the way (31 homes to date) to completing an additional 150 upgraded properties before the scheme closes in March 2025.

There is capacity for a few more households, so if you, or any organisations you work with are in contact with residents who could benefit from the funding, please direct them to register their interest with our delivery partners: <u>Register your interest</u> <u>Welcome the Warmth</u>. Please note, the scheme will close to new applications at the end of October and to properties requiring planning permission (e.g. listed buildings or homes in a conservation area) at the end of July, so the opportunity to apply is time-limited.

The eligibility criteria for HUG2 funding is as follows:

- Home owners or private renters
- Annual household income of £39,000 or less OR in receipt of means-tested benefits
- EPC rating of D or below (free survey can be completed if necessary)
- Not heated by mains gas

Social media content and a Toolkit to order posters and flyers etc is available here: <u>https://oxfordshire.canto.global/v/communicationsportal</u>

Thank you for your help in reducing fuel poverty and carbon emissions in Oxfordshire.