

PARISHES LIAISON MEETING – 20TH FEBRUARY 2013

The Green Deal

What is it?

The Green Deal is a new finance mechanism that aims to help residents and businesses improve the energy efficiency of their homes or properties.

How does it work?

The Green Deal allows people to pay for eligible improvements over the long term through their electricity bill. This avoids large upfront costs. In addition, there should be no net cost. This is because the loan repayment will not be more than the predicted saving to monthly energy bills. The loan is unsecured and remains with the property not the person.

What can it be used for?

Eligible improvements include loft and cavity wall insulation; solid wall insulation; draught proofing; double, triple or secondary glazing; boiler replacement; and energy generation for instance through solar panels.

Who is eligible?

It's for everyone not just those on a low income. It's available to those who own their own home, to those who rent and to landlords. (Tenants need to get the permission of their landlord and vice versa). The loan is 'lightly' credit scored. This means that far more people will be eligible than would be for a normal loan.

Why improve energy efficiency?

Energy saving improvements can make homes and business properties warmer, healthier and more comfortable; reduce energy bills and potentially improve property values. They also contribute to reducing carbon emissions which is essential in tackling climate change.

Is the Green Deal the only way to pay for energy efficiency improvements?

The Green Deal is one option to consider. It may make more financial sense for some people to extend their mortgage or use their savings to make improvements or do the work themselves. People living in an older property or on benefits or a low income may qualify for extra or alternative financial assistance.

What is the Council doing?

Bath & North East Somerset Council aims to develop a local community partnership which will take a proactive role in Green Deal. This could mean appointing a Green Deal partner (or partners) to deliver good quality services that maximise benefits for the local community. The Parish Liaison meeting will be kept up-to-date with the proposals as they develop throughout this year.

Is the Green Deal available now?

The Green Deal is available now. In fact, those making use of Green Deal finance early will be entitled to apply for the Government's Cashback Scheme with packages worth up to £1000.

Anyone interested in the Green Deal and other energy saving opportunities should call the Home Energy Advice Line free on **0800 082 2234**.

Contact details for Marion Britton – Interim Project Manager, Sustainability, Policy and Partnerships :

Tel: 01225 477068

Email: Marion_britton@bathnes.gov.uk