

Insulate now and save a packet on winter fuel bills

Warm Streets Insulation

Warm Streets is a loft and cavity wall insulation scheme available across Somerset that can help reduce winter fuel bills, particularly as gas, oil and electricity prices are on the rise.

As many families continue to be affected by high fuel prices, Warm Streets is offering free insulation* to low-income households¹, householders in receipt of benefits and people aged over 70. And for those who don't meet the criteria, discounted loft and cavity wall insulation is still available. Prices start from as little as £125 for cavity wall insulation and £125 for loft insulation and both measures will save a lot off your fuel bills. Installing cavity wall insulation can save you up to £110 a year. Residents will also be able to find out about various ways to lower their heating and electricity bills with free and impartial energy saving advice, as well as ensuring they are getting all of their entitlement in income benefits.

Phillip Morris, Warm Streets Project Manager, said: "It's particularly important people prepare for the cold winter months now, and insulating their homes is the most effective way to do this. Waiting times for insulation schemes are short and you will get the insulation installed before the cold weather draws in. It's also important we try to help maximise people's income by ensuring they receive all the benefits they're entitled to and so they can afford to pay their fuel bills, so they don't have to economise in other areas of household expenditure, such as food or clothing."

Warm Streets Benefits

The Warm Streets benefits team can offer advice on how to claim any state benefits you are entitled to. Confidential benefits checks can be carried out by our trained advisors where requested. As well as the extra income you might secure, being in receipt of a benefit could mean you qualify for free insulation. If you have never had an assessment to see if you are entitled to pension credit, or if your health is not as good as it used to be, then now could be the time to have an assessment by one of our trained benefits advisors to make sure you are not missing out on an essential benefit. This can increase your income by £49.30 if you receive Attendance Allowance, and if you receive the guaranteed element of pension credit, you get a full rebate on your council tax.

If you would like to find out if Warm Streets can help you get a grant for your home insulation call the Energy Saving Trust² on **0800 512 012** or email warmstreets@cse.org.uk.

Warm Streets is a joint local project between all the local authorities in Somerset (Bath & North East Somerset, Mendip, North Somerset, Sedgemoor, South Somerset, Taunton Deane and West Somerset), Scottish and Southern Energy, and the Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE).

*subject to a completed survey

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1. If you have a household income below £30,000 and savings below £20,000 you can get free cavity wall and loft insulation
2. The Energy Saving Trust advice service for the South West offers free, impartial energy efficiency advice to ensure that you are warm in the winter, saving money on your energy bills and reducing your carbon emissions. The friendly advice team in Bristol can put you in touch with local grant schemes for insulation (loft, cavity wall and solid wall) as well as giving you up to date advice on the latest developments in the small scale renewable sector, such as information on the Renewable Heat Incentive Premium Payments.

For further information contact Paul Winney on 0117 934 1403 or email paul.winney@cse.org.uk