



# Green Homes Grant

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COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK

MARCHES ENERGY AGENCY

# What is the Green Home Grants Scheme?

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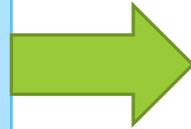
- A new government voucher scheme in England, worth about £2 billion, that will enable households to increase the energy efficiency of their homes.
- Vouchers up to £5,000, provided households make a minimum contribution of 33% of the cost of upgrades.
- Vouchers of up to £10,000 for low income households with no household contribution.
- Funding (£500 million of the £2 billion) will also be available to Local Authorities in England to support the upgrade of homes for low income households in their areas. See [Green Home Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme](#)
- Scheme will run from September 2020 to March 2021.



# Which home improvements are covered through the grant?

## 1. Primary Measures

- **Insulation**, including solid wall, cavity wall, underfloor, loft or roof insulation.
- **Low carbon heating**, such as air-source or ground-source heat pumps, or solar thermal systems



## 2. Secondary Measures

- Draught-proofing
- **Double or triple glazing, or secondary glazing** (*only if you currently have single glazing – it won't cover replacement double glazing; Also not clear if you are eligible if only part of your house is single glazed.*)
- **Energy efficient doors** (*replacement of doors fitted prior to 2002*)
- **Heating controls and insulation**, including appliance thermostats, hot water tank thermostats, hot water tank insulation, smart heating controls, zone controls, delayed-start thermostats and thermostatic radiator valves

To qualify for the secondary measures:

- You **must have one** of the primary measures carried out, and
- The cost of the secondary measures **must not exceed** that of the primary measure(s).

# What if you already have a primary measure installed?

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- You can use the vouchers to install "top-ups" e.g. additional loft insulation to reach the recommended level.
- However, you **cannot** use it to replace what you already have.
- Also, if you're installing low carbon heating, you'll also need to have adequate insulation in your home, though this can be installed at the same time as the heating.



# Who is eligible for the Green Homes Grant Scheme?

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- All owner-occupied homes (including long-leaseholders and shared ownership properties)
- Landlords of private rented and social domestic housing
- Park home owners.
- But, new-build domestic properties and all non-domestic properties (e.g. commercial premises) will not qualify. We don't know what the definition of a 'new-build home' under this scheme is yet.
- The means-tested £10,000 vouchers will be for households receiving at least one income-based or disability benefit. Only owner-occupied homes or park homes will be eligible for this.



The qualifying benefits are :

- jobseeker's allowance
- employment and support allowance
- income support
- pension 'guarantee' credit
- working tax credit
- child tax credit
- universal credit
- disability living allowance
- personal independence payment,
- attendance allowance
- carer's allowance
- severe disablement allowance
- industrial injuries disablement benefit, and
- housing benefit.

# How do you apply for a Green Homes Grant?

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- Applications will open in September via the [Simple Energy Advice](#) (SEA) website. You will need to obtain a quote from an approved installer.
- The SEA website will recommend some suitable home improvements to you.
- There is no requirement to use the measures it suggests, and home assessments will not be needed.
- Homeowners will be offered a list of approved registered tradespeople (TrustMark registered or MCS certified) in their area to carry out the work.
- To be part of the scheme, tradespeople must register for **TrustMark or Microgeneration Certification Scheme** (MCS) accreditation.
- If the works are approved, a voucher will be issued to you.
- No detail on how the approval process for individual improvements will work



# Some discussion points...

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- The scheme ends with the financial year 31 March 2021. Does this mean the money has to have been spent by then or just allocated?
- What about isolated vulnerable people who do not use/do not have access to the internet?
- If you have already placed an order with a supplier, will this be covered, or should you cancel?
- Will carbon and financial savings be tracked?
- How the voucher approval process will work?
- Can we envisage problems that may arise?
- Is the scheme a strong enough government response to the climate emergency?

