

SUMMER 2014

# Cambridge Matters



Cambridge City Council's magazine for residents  
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## Do you qualify?

Help to make your home more energy efficient



## Summer hots up

Free events, sports and fun

## New in the city this summer

Lights on Parker's Piece, cycle parking and skate parks

# Insulate your home with Action On Energy

Cambridge homeowners could qualify for up to £6000 worth of government funding to be spent on making their homes more energy-efficient – with no upfront payment.

If your property was built before 1930 it may well have solid external walls with no cavity, which means more heat can escape. Solid wall insulation can be fitted through the council led Action On Energy Cambridgeshire scheme, helping you reduce heat loss and energy bills, making your home more comfortable, and even increasing its value.



Action On Energy are working with Climate Energy - a provider of the government's Green Deal which helps subsidise schemes to make homes more energy efficient - to install internal or external solid wall insulation in older homes across Cambridgeshire. If you are interested, the process is extremely simple. All you have to do is call 0800 093 33

03 to speak to an Action On Energy advisor.

- If your home has solid walls, a Green Deal Assessment will be carried out to identify which energy-efficiency measures could be considered for your home, to calculate savings and provide access to subsidy.

This costs £29, but is refunded if you go ahead with insulation

- After a technical survey is carried out, you will receive a quote explaining the cost of installing the recommended energy efficiency measures, and details of subsidies available along with financing options for the balance. In many cases the savings will pay for your contribution to the overall cost via a Green Deal plan – meaning no upfront cost
- The installation of solid wall insulation typically takes about a week
- On completion you'll receive a 25 year insurance-backed guarantee.



**Email:** [info@actiononenergy.net](mailto:info@actiononenergy.net)  
**Phone:** 0800 093 33 03 and quote AOE\_  
**CamCity**  
 Visit [actiononenergy.net](http://actiononenergy.net) for details of when the team are holding information events in Cambridge neighbourhoods in the coming months.

## Town Hall Lettings – letting with a difference

Do you know anyone who could do with some help finding somewhere to live? Do you own a good-quality property that you are looking to rent out? If either of those apply to you, you might be interested to know about Town Hall Lettings – a new lettings agency that offers something different for landlords and tenants alike.

Town Hall Lettings is a not-for-profit agency managed by Cambridge City Council, in partnership with other local councils, which simply aims to match families and single people in need of housing, with good properties to live in - while guaranteeing income and reducing the risk for potential landlords.

Through its unique approach to managing tenancies, Town Hall Lettings can offer landlords:

- A guaranteed regular monthly payment throughout the contract, even during any void periods
- A comprehensive housing management service
- No hidden costs (ie

management fees, property fees, inventory fees, tenancy renewal fees or unspecified 'administration' fees)

In this part of the country some people on low incomes, or people without an established credit or tenancy history, can find it tough to get a privately-rented home. Town Hall Lettings reduces the risk to landlords by thoroughly vetting potential tenants and helping ensure everything run smoothly in the early days of the tenancy, with active support and practical help if needed. There is also the additional security of knowing that the city council has decades of experience managing its own properties, and has been working with private landlords since 2003.

If you have a good quality property in Cambridge or beyond that you are looking to let, or are interested in finding out more about this unique new service, please get in touch.

**Town Hall Lettings**  
**Email:** [townhall.lettings@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:townhall.lettings@cambridge.gov.uk)  
**Phone:** 01223 457920  
**Website:** [townhalllettings.com](http://townhalllettings.com)  
**Twitter:** @THLettings

## Open Eco Homes

If you're interested in finding out about innovative ways to make your home more energy efficient – don't miss this year's Open Eco Homes days on Sunday 14 and Saturday 20 September.

This council-supported event gives people the chance to meet householders in their own homes, both new-build and older properties, and find out about projects that have saved them money on energy bills and made their carbon footprint smaller.

For more details visit [openecohomes.org](http://openecohomes.org)

