

### **Support for Dartford & Sevenoaks Residents to keep homes warm and lower energy bills**

Dartford Borough Council, in partnership with Sevenoaks District Council and Kent County Council, supported by the E3 consultancy, is to receive £4m to help deliver the Government's Green Deal home energy efficiency improvement programme.

The scheme will be rolled out on a street-by-street basis and help to install improvements like solid wall insulation and new heating systems so that residents and businesses can benefit from warmer, more energy efficient homes & offices and have better control of their energy bills.

The ECO and Green Deal Communities funding will help improve over 1,350 residential and non-residential properties in Dartford and Sevenoaks.

Dartford's portfolio holder for housing, Councillor Pat Coleman, said, "We welcome this funding to support energy efficient measures in our Borough. Our bid is based firmly on the principle of community engagement, using a "bottom up" approach. Alongside the direct benefits of energy efficiency and helping to alleviate fuel poverty, the funding will also help to stimulate local economic growth, create local jobs and provide training for young local people."

Minister for Energy, Greg Barker said, "Properties across the country are leaking hundreds of pounds every year through faulty boilers, draughty windows and insufficient insulation.

"By installing energy saving improvements we can help thousands of hard pressed consumers save energy and lower their bills.

"This is why we've quadrupled the Green Deal Communities funding, so that Local Authorities can help many more people benefit from these improvements."

Dartford Borough Council (in partnership with Sevenoaks District Council) is one of 24 Local Authorities to be offered a share of £88 million from the Government under the Green Deal Communities scheme. This figure includes additional support for installer training to help build supply chain readiness.

ENDS

### **Notes to editors**

The Green Deal is an ambitious and long-term Government initiative designed to upgrade the energy efficiency of our homes in Great Britain. It can help people understand the energy saving improvements they can make to their home and decide how to pay for them.

Local Authorities will roll the scheme out on a street-by-street basis. They know their areas best and which streets and properties could most benefit from Green Deal to upgrade their energy efficiency.

To find out more about the scheme please call Dartford Borough Council's environmental improvements officer on 01322 343056.