

## **Reduce your home's carbon footprint**

Local charity Winchester Action on Climate Change has recently launched Winchester Area SuperHomes, a new non-profit project aimed at reducing home energy use.

The project puts homeowners in touch with qualified Retrofit Coordinators who can give detailed, tailored and completely independent advice.

Energy use in the home is responsible for around 20% of direct carbon emissions. In 2019, Winchester City Council declared a climate emergency - the impact of climate change is already being felt, and the City Council is aiming for a net zero carbon District by 2030.

Winchester Area SuperHomes supports homeowners to transform the energy performance of their properties by retrofitting and so reduce their carbon emissions.

Retrofitting means changing your property so that it uses less energy and has lower carbon heating. For example, by improving insulation and installing a heat pump. We will show you what you can do to retrofit your home.

Winchester Area SuperHomes will provide help with some costs for homeowners on low and middle incomes (but is open to homeowners on all income levels) - this will include some of the survey and design costs. But the real benefit is being linked into a project that provides:

- Access to qualified Retrofit Coordinators
- Technical back up from the National Energy Foundation
- Support to access grants

There are several subsidies available for home energy retrofit – and the Project Officer can help you apply for them. From April, the Boiler Upgrade Scheme will provide grants of £5,000 towards the cost of a heat pump - the grants are not means tested, so are available to all. For homeowners on low incomes, the Green Homes Local Authority Delivery scheme can provide grants of up to £10,000, or £25,000 for properties off the gas grid.

To find out more, and register your interest, go to <https://superhomes.org.uk/winchester/>