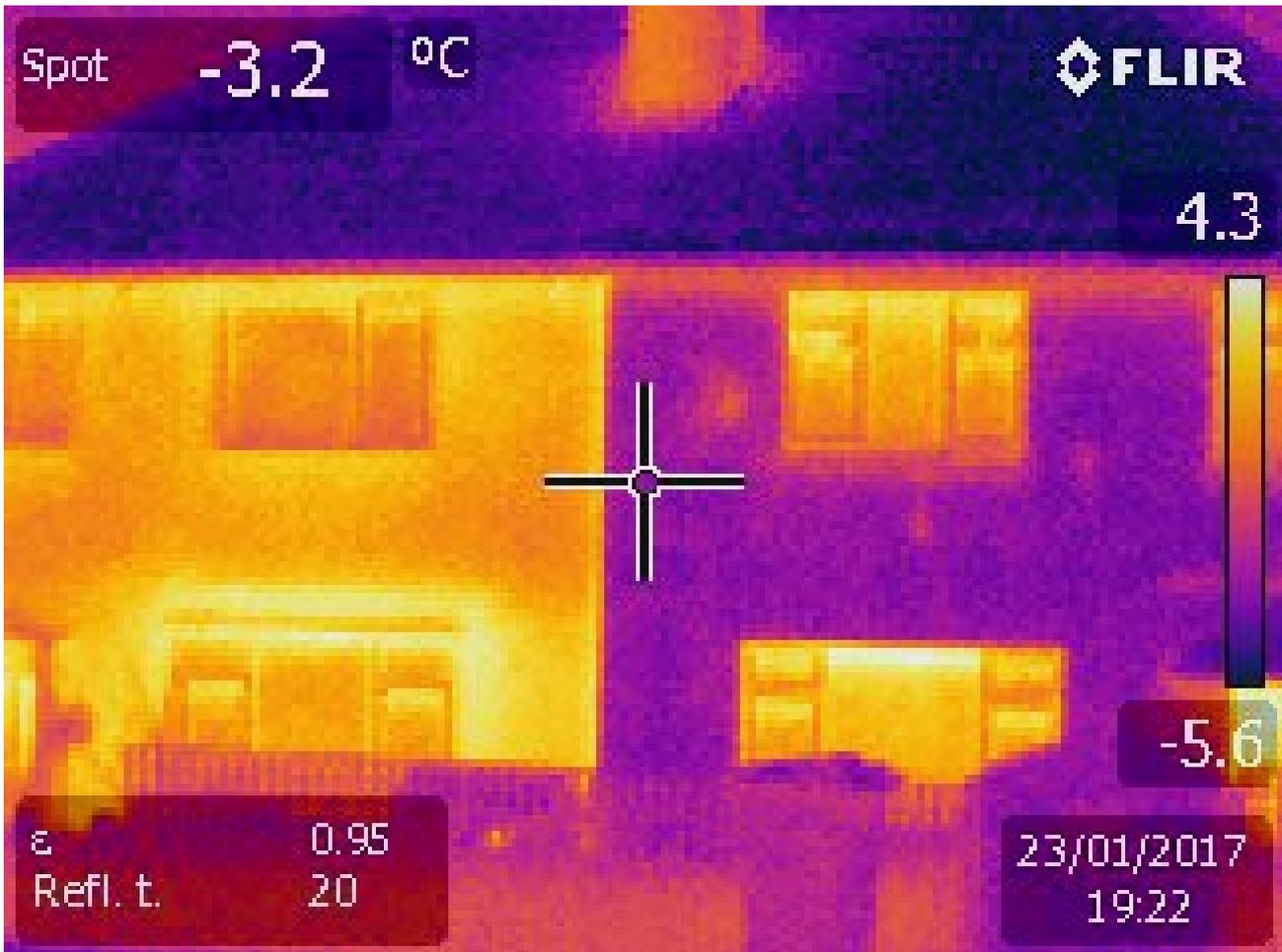


HOME ENERGY SURVEY VOLUNTEER TRAINING - WHAT'S INVOLVED?



No Exterior wall insulation

With Exterior Wall Insulation



HOME ENERGY CHECK VOLUNTEER TRAINING - WHAT'S INVOLVED?

Transition Buxton recognises the value and importance of reducing domestic energy demand as part of increasing our local energy and environmental resilience. To support householders to identify and undertake energy saving measures we propose providing trained volunteers to undertake free Home Energy Surveys. This document outlines the essential details of the course content, how the skills learnt might be best put to use afterwards, and how our efforts will be evaluated to make sure we're achieving our aims.

TRAINING COURSE DETAILS

Want to help Buxton to become more energy efficient? Want to help your neighbour stay warm (for less £) in winter? Could you become a volunteer Home Energy Check Surveyor? **Free** training and support available from Transition Buxton:

We're looking for local residents willing to invest time to undertake the 1 day training course and conduct surveys of domestic properties in and around Buxton. Each Surveyor will be encouraged and supported to undertake a minimum of 12 complete surveys within 12 months of the training. Surveyors need to have good communication skills, and a commitment to supporting householders to reducing their bills and carbon footprint.

Date: 11th March 2017

Time: 9.15 for 9.30am start, til 5pm

Venue: Poole's Cavern Visitor Centre, Buxton, SK17 9DH

Contact: Peter Burgess-Allen

p.burgess-allen@virgin.net

07876 150207 / 01298 436093

THE NEED

Improving the thermal efficiency of a house has three clear benefits - it become more comfortable to live in, it saves money on heating bills, and it reduces the impact on the climate of staying warm. So why doesn't everyone already invest in such improvements? Often it's a case of not quite knowing where to start - what to prioritise? What measures work? What are the costs? Who to trust?

Domestic energy prices are again set to rise though 2017. Homes in Derbyshire are frequently solid wall properties - often hard to treat, draughty, sometimes off the gas grid & dependent on even more expensive and polluting fuels (i.e. oil or propane). Fuel poverty¹ in the High Peak affects 10.5% of households. Cold homes have major health impacts - increasing risk of heart attack, stroke, mental illness, asthma, trips and falls, exacerbating arthritis and rheumatism. The annual cost to the NHS of excessively cold homes is estimated at over £21million². Child development and attainment are also negatively affected. The fuel poverty charity National Energy Action (NEA) considers energy efficiency is the only rational solution to fuel poverty.

AIMS

- Raise awareness and knowledge of the energy reduction measures available to householders.
- To reduce the overall carbon footprint of our growing town.
- Permanently reduce bills (especially for fuel-poor households) where energy saving measures are undertaken.
- Permanently improved comfort in households that undertake energy saving measures as a result of surveys.
- To improve wellbeing by reducing anxiety and incidence of health hazards of cold homes.
- To support an increase in the retrofitting skills amongst local trades people through increased demand.
- To train up to 10 volunteer Home Energy Surveyors.
- To reduce the energy demands & costs of at least 50 households, making them more resilient in the face of volatile fossil fuel prices.
- To fully evaluate the effectiveness of the training and Home Energy Checks through follow-up work, and energy usage assessment.

1 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fuel_poverty

2 'The Real Cost of Poor Housing' (2010) M. Roys, M.Davidson, S.Nicol,, D.Ormandy, & P.Ambrose

COURSE CONTENT

121 Home Energy Check (HEC) Volunteer Training is a 1 day training course which provides community groups with the knowledge and skills they need to help households in their community cut their domestic energy use. Once training is complete, up to 10 trained volunteers are able to visit people in their homes to offer tailored advice on energy efficiency and domestic renewables.



Topics covered by the training include:

- Insulation
- Draught-proofing
- Heating systems
- Appliances and consumer electronics
- Renewables.
- Behavioural change
- Local and national grant and other financial incentive schemes, including ECO.
- Health and safety considerations when carrying out 121 HECS

All participants receive a **comprehensive handout pack** with all the documents needed to begin carrying out 121 HECs, and a **Certificate of Attendance**.



HOW AND WHEN DOES THE TRAINING TAKE PLACE?

There are two elements to the training:

- **classroom-based sessions** which are interactive, informal but informative, and suitable for anyone with a desire to offer advice on energy efficiency and renewables. No prior experience is necessary and attendees are encouraged to learn from each other as well as the course leader.
 - This is followed by a **practical 121 HEC visit in a local home** of a volunteer, friend or family.
-



WHAT WILL BE ASKED OF YOU AFTER TRAINING?

By March 2018 we would like to think that each student will have surveyed 12 homes - just one per month. We will expect all volunteer surveyors to abide by the health and safety rules established at the training day, and to maintain sufficient record of their visits and recommendations to enable us to evaluate or impact. We hope to develop a motivated team of volunteers - you won't be alone! You will be able to support each other and promote the objectives of the programme, perhaps help out with organisation, administration and publicity. Of course no one will be expected to do anything they really don't want to do!

We're seeking additional funding for future support and development from MEA - watch this space!

Inspired to take part? I hope so! Book your place now for 11th March using the contact details on page 1, or complete and return the application form on the next page. I look forward to meeting you!

Warm regards,
Pete



Application Form : 'Home Energy Check' volunteer training course:

Essential course details:

Date: 11th March 2017

Time: 9.15 for 9.30am start, til 5pm

Venue: Poole's Cavern Visitor Centre, Buxton, SK17 9DH

| | | |
|---|--------------|--|
| Your name: | Ms/Mrs/Mr/Dr | |
| Address: | | |
| email: | | |
| Phone number(s) | | |
| Emergency contact name & number (optional): | | |
| Organisation (if applicable) : | | |

Please tick if you'd be interested in a car-share to attend the course

Please tick if you'd also be interested in receiving a Home Energy Check from trainees on completion of the course:

Please advise us of any health conditions or special requirements that you think we ought to know of. (Of course these will be treated in confidence, and will not affect your application to attend) _____

Refreshments will be provided, though lunch is not included - the cafe at Poole's cavern can be recommended!

Note on accessibility : The course will be taught in English, and include a practical session requiring moderate physical mobility. If you'd like to attend. but are unsure whether you could manage, please get in touch to discuss: contact@transitionbuxton.co.uk

In signing this you agree to abide by all Health and safety recommendations and instructions from the course trainer. Transition Buxton Members are covered under Public Liabilities Insurance in the event of an accident whilst involved in HEC activities.

SIGNATURE _____ date: _____



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



Training will be provided by Marches Energy Agency:

The Pump House, Coton Hill, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY1 2DP

<http://www.mea.org.uk/>

<http://www.everybodys-talking.org/>



The course is being organised by Transition Buxton:

www.transitionbuxton.co.uk



and kindly hosted by Buxton Civic Association:

<http://buxtoncivicassociation.org.uk/>



Funding is courtesy of the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Local Authority Energy Partnership (LAEP)