

How to Retrofit My House

Please find below some answers to a few general questions we are often asked. We hope they are useful when you are thinking about how to retrofit your house to make it more energy efficient and to fit a new renewable heating source.

- **What are renewable heating systems ?**

The Energy Saving Trust is a good source of general information on renewables – find the information here;

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-at-home/generating-renewable-energy/>

There is no “one size fits all” so do lots of research and reading.

If you want to reduce your energy use the EST also has more general tips on how to do this

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/>

- **Are there grants available for the installation of renewable heating systems ?**

Yes, there is currently the Renewable Heat Incentive available (more information here <https://www.gov.uk/domestic-renewable-heat-incentive>). This will pay you a sum of money over 7 years after you have installed your renewable heating system based on the size of your new system. This scheme will close to new applications in March of 2022.

- **How do I find out how to fit a renewable heating system?**

You will need to obtain quotes from renewable heating companies and they must be MCS registered for you to be able to claim the Renewable Heat Incentive (above). We know of some local installers you may wish to approach although there are others, both locally and nationally. Please see our Local Installer Sheet.

- **How do I insulate my house? Are there grants available?**

There are grants available of about £10,000 through your local council if you qualify under the following;



2 Station Street, Lewes, BN7 2DA

- A gross (before tax) household income of under £30,000 p.a. OR a net household income of less than £20,000 after tax, NI, mortgage or rent and council tax. (Please note that disability benefits aren't counted as income.)
- A current EPC (Energy Performance Certificate) rating of D, E, F or G.

There will be grants available of about £25,000 in January of 2022 if you are off the gas grid – again with the above criteria.

Please use this link to get more information www.heatsussex.co.uk. The grants can cover loft insulation, cavity wall insulation, solid wall insulation, renewable heating eg heat pumps.

If you are in receipt of benefits, you may be able to get free cavity wall insulation and loft insulation. Please talk to your utility company and ask about ECO grants or look at this link

<https://www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk/>

- **If I don't qualify for the above grants, are there any other grants available?**

Unfortunately, at the moment there are no other grants available but we will let you know if there are.

- **I want to go ahead anyway and fit some insulation for my house. How do I go about this?**

You should use a reputable company for loft or cavity wall insulation – we know of a local company called Cavity Tech <https://www.cavitytech.co.uk/> who is able to fit loft and cavity wall insulation but there are other companies.

Solid wall insulation (either external or internal) is a larger project and should be planned so that the correct material is used for your house construction and the insulation is installed correctly to avoid cold bridging for example.

Your first step would be to find a consultant who could design the system and then to get quotes from a reputable builder to install it.

Please let us know if you have any questions;

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