

DO YOU WANT A MORE COMFORTABLE HOME AND LOWER ENERGY BILLS? DO YOU KNOW THAT ALL HOMEOWNERS WHOSE HOMES WERE BUILT BEFORE 2006 ARE ENTITLED TO GRANTS FOR THIS?

Your home can lose up to 30% of its heat through poorly insulated walls or roof. The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) have grants available to homeowners to help them make their homes warmer, more comfortable and more energy efficient. Grants are available for wall and attic insulation, heat pumps, solar panels and heating controls and if you are in receipt of certain social welfare payments you may even be entitled to some of these measures for free!

Irish Rural Link (IRL), a national organisation based in the Midlands, are holding public information events in Offaly in the coming weeks to help people determine which grant may be suitable to their needs and to advise them on how to apply for these grants. Local contractors and suppliers will be in attendance at these events also to provide information and to showcase their work.

Assistant CEO of IRL, Sinead Dooley has said that by hosting these information events they are hoping “to demystify the whole process for people and to make them aware of the energy efficiency measures which are available to them.” According to Ms. Dooley, “not enough people are aware of their entitlement to grants for measures which will enhance and improve their homes. Properly insulated walls make such a difference to the comfort and warmth of your home with heat being retained as opposed to being lost through the walls and roof. Personally I have found the installation of solar panels a few years ago a great saving, with hot water literally on tap 24/7, as opposed to switching on the immersion or oil continuously during summer months just for showers! It was only in speaking with neighbours and colleagues that I realised that most people are unaware of the availability of these grants, so we are hoping that by bring these information events, with SEAI, into communities that people will join us to hear for themselves just how simple the whole process is, how they will benefit them by making their homes more comfortable and energy efficient and that they too will apply for either a Better Energy Homes or Warmer Homes grants.”

IRL and SEAI are inviting everybody to join them in **The Town Hall Edenderry on Wednesday 14th November or in The County Arms Hotel, Birr on Thursday 22nd November from 7-8.30pm** to find out more.

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