

Council Activity

Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2 (HUG2)

Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2 is live and details can be found on our webpage. [Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2 | North Herts Council \(north-herts.gov.uk\)](#) Residents can sign up via the HUG website or by calling the Energy Saving Trust. Following a policy review, the annual household income threshold for eligibility has now been raised to £36,000, increasing the number of eligible residents. **The deadline for applications is the end of September 2024.**

Solar Together

104 households in North Herts have had solar pv installed in the second round of Solar Together. The price achieved for the average 14-panel system within this scheme is 34% cheaper than the typical market price for an equivalent system. 537 installations have been completed in Hertfordshire. [Solar Together | North Herts Council \(north-herts.gov.uk\)](#)

Climate Hive Engagements

The [Climate Hive](#) now has 386 subscribers and we continue to update users with the latest climate activity and awareness initiatives such as LNRS engagement, hot weather advice, clothes recycling, the North Herts Prosperity Fund and HUG2.

Local Nature Recovery Strategy

The newly-formed Hertfordshire Nature Recovery Partnership ([HNRP](#)) has launched an engagement project to influence the County's first-ever Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS). A series of LNRS Engagement Events were held across the county throughout July for people to engage and learn more. This included an event at Hitchin Town Hall. The events proved successful, with good attendance and engagement. Two webinars were also held in August for further engagement, more information on further opportunities will be provided shortly.

Hertfordshire resident's survey

Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) are running their annual resident survey aiming to receive as many thoughts as possible to help best shape how they do things in the future. HCC is responsible for over 500 services, including the delivery of a cleaner and greener county. **Have your say and [complete the survey](#) by the 15th September.**

Cabinet Panel for the Environment

Meeting held on the 17th July set out the current climate work ongoing at the council with a background to key partners and projects. The next meeting will be held on the 9th October. More information and previous meetings can be found [here](#).

HCCSP Retrofit Guide

The Hertfordshire Climate Change and Sustainability Partnership (HCCSP) has launched its retrofit guide for Hertfordshire. The guide provides advice on how to make your home warmer and cheaper to run on the types of improvements and energy efficiency measures carried out on different archetypes across the county. Available at [Building Retrofit \(hccsp.org.uk\)](#)

Solar for Business

The pilot scheme has now launched and businesses across the district have sent their expressions of interest for the scheme. Work is now underway to shortlist businesses. Project oversight meetings are ongoing as the scheme progresses. [Solar for Business](#)

Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme

The additional capital and revenue for the decarbonisation project of the Council's three leisure centres was approved at Full Council on 11th July. Report available [here](#). The project continues to progress through the detailed design stage.

Local Events

Baldock EcoFest

Baldock Beats Waste are hosting the fifth EcoFest on **Saturday 7th September, 10:00 am- 4:00 pm. High Street, Baldock.**

Royston Sustain-Ability Event

Royston Environmental Group are organising this year's Sustain-Ability event as part of Creative Royston - Royston Arts Festival. **Saturday 28th September, 12:00pm- 5:00pm.**

For queries or comments, please contact the Policy & Strategy Team at environmentpanel@north-herts.gov.uk

Sustainability Tips

Plastic Free & Sustainable Products

Disposable nappies, incontinence products and period products all create a lot of waste, so switching to reusables make sense, for your wallet and the planet!

There are lots of options to choose from when it comes to reusable products, and Hertfordshire Residents can apply for a 15% discount on a selected range of nappy, incontinence and period products, catering for the whole family.

For more information and to apply for discounts:

[Herts Sustainable Periods](#)
[Herts Confident Continence](#)
[Herts Reusable Nappies](#)



HEAT Energy App

The HEAT Herts Energy Advice Tool, an energy saving app continues to be available for residents to download and use. The app is designed to take residents through their home and fill in a survey to identify how they can reduce their energy usage in order to save money on bills and help the environment.

The app is available for both Android and iOS users:

[Download the HEAT app for Apple devices](#)

[Download the HEAT app for Android devices](#)



Headlines

Advice for school energy

Hertfordshire County Council have updated their advice page for schools who wish to sell their energy back to the National Grid through Smart Export Guarantee (SEG) agreements. For more information, head to [Energy: payments for excess renewable power produce - Hertfordshire Grid for Learning \(thegrid.org.uk\)](https://thegrid.org.uk)

New Minister for Energy Consumers

A new Minister for Energy Consumers, [Miatta Fahbulleh MP](#) has been appointed, she will have responsibility for heat networks across the UK.

Partnership between Great British energy and The Crown Estate

Prime Minister Keir Starmer and Energy Secretary Ed Miliband announce first major partnership between Great British Energy and The Crown Estate to unleash billions of investment in clean power. The company will be owned by the British people, for the British people, backed with £8.3 billion to own and invest in clean power projects in regions across the UK. [New Great British Energy partnership launched to turbocharge energy independence - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

250,000 heat pump installation milestone

From January to July 2024, more than 30,000 certified heat pumps were installed in homes and small businesses across the UK, which is a [45%](#) increase compared to the same period in 2023.