



Newsletter

14 December 2023

Guide to a greener Christmas (less waste, more magic)

Making your own party hats, recycling your tree and giving time and magic vouchers. These are some of the lovely, creative ideas for traditions, gifts and fun, for a greener Christmas.

With thoughtfulness for both the planet and people, Greener Footprints Herefordshire have put together a [Guide to a Greener Christmas](#), which is full of festive magic.

[Download the guide](#) and get inspired, for ways to make your Christmas special, without it costing the earth.



Homelessness winter provision – a safe, warm space

There's a safe, warm space to sleep this winter, for people who would otherwise be sleeping rough through the winter.

The [emergency accommodation](#) in Hereford is available daily between 8pm and 8am, from 11 December until the end of March. There's a mix of dormitory style accommodation for men and self-contained pods for women.

The accommodation opens at 8pm each day, and spaces are allocated on a first-come, first served basis. People who are making their way to the shelter can attend Union Street Café in Hereford before accessing the shelter, between 6-8pm, where The Living Hope Hub will be offering a warm space with hot drinks and food.

For more information about the Winter Shelter, call 01432 261600 and ask to speak to a member of the Rough Sleeper Outreach Team (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm). Details are available on the [Herefordshire Council](#) website.



The homelessness winter provision is being delivered by Herefordshire Council and Caring for Communities and People. The project is being funded by Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities through the Rough Sleeping Initiative funding framework, and is kindly supported by business and public donations and the work of a range of charitable groups.

The VCSE Energy Efficiency Scheme is now open

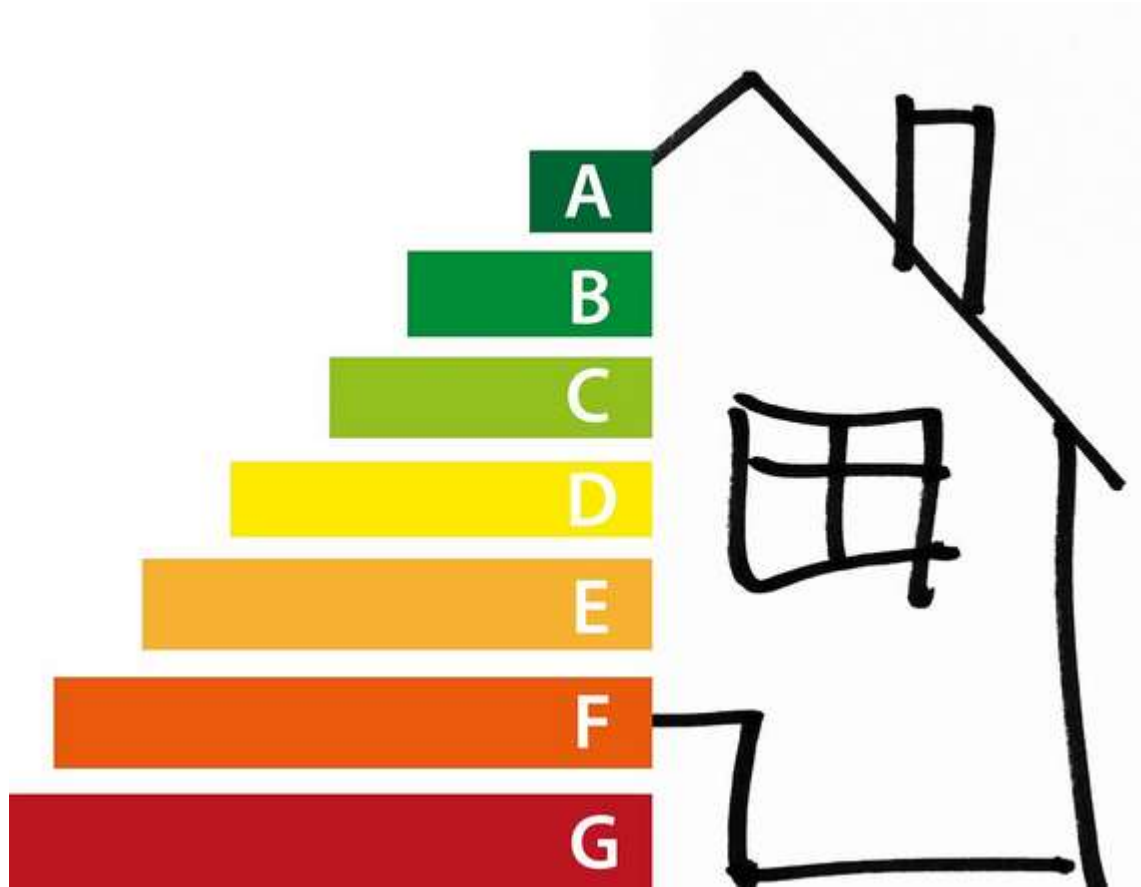
This scheme aims to help voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations (VCSEs) deliver more efficient services for people and communities by saving money on their energy bills. It's part of a package of support being delivered by the Government to help frontline delivery organisations with the increased cost of living.

Eligible VCSE organisations, delivering frontline services, can apply for a free Independent Energy Assessment (IEA). Successful applicants will receive the support of an independent energy assessor to identify energy-saving opportunities in their community buildings.

Organisations may then be eligible to apply for a capital grant to install

recommended energy efficiency measures, to reduce their building's energy costs and support the delivery of their services.

For full details and to apply, visit the [Groundwork website](#).



Keeping well this winter

With tips to stay well this winter, and a quick reference list for contacts that might be useful over the Christmas period, take a look at our [handy page on the Talk Community Directory](#).

From ways to beat winter tiredness to keeping warm, giving ourselves and others a little festive kindness.



What's new on the Directory?

Now the festive lights are starting to twinkle, and it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, we've brought together a little list of all things cosy and fun for families across Herefordshire!

There are a whole host of lovely events and activities happening in the run up to and over Christmas, which bring people together, whilst considering people's purses.

- There's a LoyalFree Christmas quizmail trail in Ross, with a pottery throwdown session as a prize (watch those pots).
- [Don't forget the free family activity day in Hereford](#) - a fun-filled day for kids at the Here for Herefordshire Holidays fully funded activity day! Enjoy sports, a free meal and meet special guests at **Whitecross School in Hereford on Saturday 23 December from 9.30am to 1.30pm.**
- If you're looking for ideas to help you and your family stay active and entertained during the Christmas and New Year holidays, we've curated a [handy list full of lots of different activities and events](#) taking place across Herefordshire.



Herefordshire Cares

Do you want to make a difference to people's lives every day? Working in social care is a rewarding career – to find out more about a career in adult social care, visit the [Herefordshire Cares website](#).

Our socials are a great way to keep in touch with what's on too, whether you're

- a [Facebook](#) fan
 - tuned in to [Twitter](#)
 - or instantly on [Instagram](#).
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TALK COMMUNITY



**BRINGING
HEREFORDSHIRE
TOGETHER**

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