Green Doctor Service

Groundwork East offers the Green Doctor Service throughout the Essex area, focusing on Colchester, Braintree and Harlow. The service works with residents living in fuel poverty that may be struggling to pay their utility bills or to keep their homes warm to better get control of their energy usage, get on top of utility bills including utility debts, in order to live in warmer homes and have a better quality of life.

Services offered:

- Look at funding to improve home energy efficiency i.e. insulation, new boilers
- Switching energy companies
- Energy awareness advice for residents themselves
- Help to pay off debts by applying to grants or setting up payment plans
- Onward referrals i.e. Anglian Water Priority Services Team
- Free energy saving measures
    - LED light bulbs
    - Draught proofing
    - Radiator panels
    - Letter flap and door brushes
    - Hot water bottles
    - Water saving shower heads

Although the service is free there are qualifying criteria:

- Anyone aged over 65
- Anyone living on a low income or with debt
- Anyone with mental or physical medical conditions, especially ones exacerbated by the cold i.e. arthritis, asthma, cardiovascular conditions
- Young families who have children under the age of 5
- Anyone living in emergency housing or poor housing conditions
- Pregnant women

Initially a first consultation is had, with the option of a second if needed as well as a follow up call to see how the suggested actions and recommendations are going.

Residents can get in touch directly through greendoctoreast@groundwork.org.uk or by calling 077 0294 1440. Referrals can be made through the following webpage https://www.groundwork.org.uk/cadent-foundation-green-doctor

If you would like to know more about the service contact David, one of the Green Doctors at david.ashby@groundwork.org.uk

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