

Welcome to the first newsletter for residents of Oxgangs House. In this edition we update you on our plans to improve the condition of all three blocks of flats at Oxgangs House, where to get support if you're struggling with energy bills and top tips for preventing damp and mould.

## Keep up to date online

We've created a web page to keep you up to date with the planned improvements at Oxgangs House. Please check it regularly as it has important information about what's happening and how it affects you. You can also find frequently asked questions there [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/improvingneighbourhoods](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/improvingneighbourhoods)



## Proposed improvements to the blocks

A renovation programme is being planned to make improvements to the three blocks that make up Oxgangs House.

The proposed improvements include roof and wall repairs, installing external wall insulation, replacing common windows and doors, repairing cracks and painting common stair areas. These repairs will make your home safer, warmer and more energy efficient. They'll also improve the overall look of the buildings and the quality of life for everyone living there.

We're waiting for the final results of a survey to confirm the full scope of works that need to be done and will update you when we have more detail.

If you own a flat in Oxgangs House we'll write to you soon to explain how this work will affect you, what you need to do and to provide a cost estimate for your share of the repairs.

## Keep cosy and save money

With home energy costs rising, many of us are worrying about our gas and electricity bills. We're working in partnership with Changeworks and Home Energy Scotland to help keep you and your home warm for less.



Their friendly advisors are on hand to give you:

- free energy saving advice to help save money on your bills
- support with fuel debt
- help to find out if you're eligible for any grants or funding for energy efficiency home improvements.

If you're a Council tenant you can contact the Energy Advice Service for free by phoning 0800 870 8800, emailing [warmth@changeworks.org.uk](mailto:warmth@changeworks.org.uk) or visiting [www.changeworks.org.uk](http://www.changeworks.org.uk)

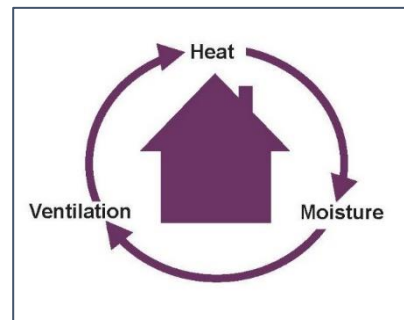
If you're a home owner or private renter you can contact Home Energy Scotland for free advice on 0808 808 2282 or visit [www.homeenergyscotland.org](http://www.homeenergyscotland.org)

## Help your home breathe

Avoid condensation, dampness and mould by ventilating your home and letting moisture out. Day to day activities such as drying clothes, cooking and taking a shower add moisture to the air inside your home. It's important to let this moisture out.

Follow these tips to help stale air escape and let fresh air in.

- Air rooms regularly by opening windows – aim for at least ten minutes a day.
- Open windows when drying clothes indoors.
- Keep rooms above 15 degrees Celsius if you can.
- Use extractor fans when cooking or bathing or open a window.
- Keep trickle vents in windows open.



If you're a Council tenant and think there's damp, mould or condensation in your home then contact our repairs team online [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/repairsdirect](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/repairsdirect) or by phone 0131 200 2345.

## Get in touch

If you're a Council tenant and have any questions or issues about your tenancy please contact your local housing officer, Carol Robertson, by emailing [carol.robertson2@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:carol.robertson2@edinburgh.gov.uk), or phoning 0131 527 3895 or 07720 062 908.

If you're an owner and have any questions about the proposed improvement works, please contact your Case Officer, Christine Bone, by emailing [Christine.bone@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:Christine.bone@edinburgh.gov.uk) or phoning 0131 529 6778.



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