MSP encourages applications to the Home Heat Helpline



MSP URGES PEOPLE TO CALL HOME HEAT HELPLINE

20,500 households in Edinburgh entitled to help with their fuel bills

New research reveals that around 20,500 households in Edinburgh are entitled to help with their energy costs and local MSP Gordon Macdonald is encouraging people to call a free helpline to find out about the assistance available. Across Scotland, more than one in ten households are eligible for help.

The Home Heat Helpline **0800 33 66 99** is a free, impartial and confidential service that connects people and families on low incomes and those in poor health with support which is worth an average of £160. The help available includes grants for insulation, new boilers, discount and rebate schemes.

Gordon Macdonald MSP said:

"Many people don't realise what support is available. Anyone in Edinburgh who is concerned about staying warm should call the Home Heat Helpline and seek advice. I would also ask people to look out for neighbours, friends or relatives who may be in difficulty and make sure that they are aware of the Home Heat Helpline."

People can call the Home Heat Helpline and speak to one of the friendly advisers who will provide advice on reducing energy bills. You can also access the service online by visiting www.homeheathelpline.org.uk where a new Energy Checker will help to show if you are entitled to help.

Christine McGourty from the Home Heat Helpline also advises people to think about what they can do around the home to reduce their energy consumption:

"As the weather gets colder and households turn on their heating, now is the ideal time to remind people that lots of help is available to keep warm, and that the Home Heat Helpline is there to assist them. We're urging anyone on a low income, older people, families with young children and those with long-term health conditions to call the Home Heat Helpline to claim the free help they are entitled to in reducing their bills."

Home Heat Helpline: 0800 33 66 99 or www.homeheathelpline.org.uk