

Keep the Heat – Thermal Imaging Project

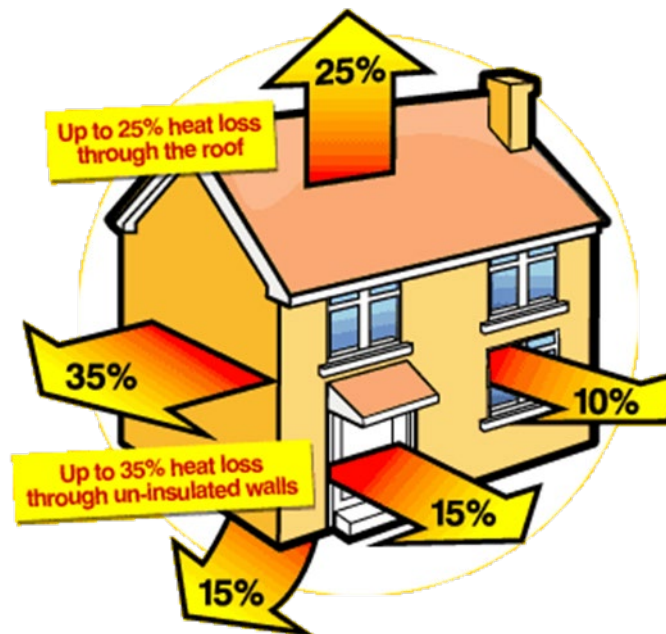
For the third year in a row, the [Suffolk Climate Action Team](#) is running [Keep the Heat](#), a project which enables community groups and parish/town councils across Suffolk to use thermal imaging cameras and equipment for free to carry out heat loss surveys for residents in their local community.

A thermal image is a photo of a house that shows you the hot and cold spots of the building. It can be used to detect areas where heat might be 'leaking out'.

Suffolk Climate Action Team runs a scheme called Keep the Heat where community groups can borrow one of their thermal cameras for free and residents can request an image of their homes so that they can then take measures to keep their heat inside, warming their homes and in many cases reducing their heating bills.

The project is one of many working towards creating a net zero Suffolk and is supported by access to a wide range of information, support and grants for local residents. Since winter 2022, more than 1,660 homes have been surveyed over 355 weeks.

Between November and April (when the weather is cold enough), the teams of volunteers use the cameras to scan homes from the roadside to identify potential areas of heat loss. This can show where additional insulation is needed (wall, lofts, draught proofing etc.), and help residents to identify ways to save money on their energy bills and reduce their carbon footprint.



Excitingly, last year's project saw 50% of residents improve the energy efficiency of their home as a result of Keep the Heat.

Wickhambrook Parish Council has signed up to participate in this years project, and has two Thermal Imaging Cameras booked between 12th – 25th March.

Hilary Workman
Clerk & RFO
January 2025

WPC.25.01.08: Keep the Heat

Our lead councillors, Andrea and Kevin Grimes have participated in the Thermal Imaging Training and we are now preparing for the surveying. As part of this we need to promote the project widely across the parish. The plan is to promote the project through:

- Posters on noticeboards (Parish, Shop, MSC, Doctor's Surgery)
- A dedicated page on the website
- News items on the website
- Items in the Parish Pump and Wickhambrook Scene and
- Postcards for residents to take home from locations and events across the parish (e.g Warm Winter Wednesdays)
- Flyers to properties with low EPC ratings (D-G)

And from this, we would hope to sign up at least twenty-five homes to survey.

Powers:

Local Government Act 1972, s.142 - Power for councils to publish information about the council, its services and the services provided in the area by other local authorities, government departments, charities or other voluntary organisations.

Local Government Act 1972, s.111 - Power to do anything that will facilitate, be conducive to or incidental to the discharge of its powers and functions.

Funding:

Community Engagement (£400)

Recommendation:

The parish council authorise the cost of printing A5 postcards to promote "Keep the Heat" at a cost of not more than £100 plus VAT.