

Ring Beth today on

07872 108992

Dear <insert named technician>,

### Secure new customers by registering with local domestic oil heating grant

As you are a local OFTEC technician, I am inviting you to take part in a grant-based trial in Hampshire and West Sussex to inspect and replace heating oil systems that risk polluting the local environment.

It’s very simple to take part. It’s run by Portsmouth Water, in association with OFTEC and the Environment Agency. You may have read about it in the OFTEC newsletter, and Oil Installer magazine.

**Only OFTEC registered engineers can join, and Hampshire/West Sussex is the only part of the country running the trial.**

There’s no additional training involved – you just need to express an interest, sign a simple contract with us, and we pay you a 50% grant for eligible works (up to £2,500), always within 30 days of your invoice for the works. The enclosed leaflet provides further information.

I’d strongly encourage you to get involved in this scheme which, as well as protecting local rivers and water supplies being polluted by old, faulty heating oil systems, helps generate more business for you.

We have 10 technicians on the scheme so far. 56 homes have taken advantage of the free inspections, and 45 of those now have safer, more reliable replacement heating systems as a result. However, we estimate there are more than 500 homes in the trial area with domestic heating oil so we need more engineers to meet the anticipated demand.

**3 easy steps**

It’s easy to take part:

1. Contact me, Beth Fairley, Portsmouth Water Catchment Officer, on 07872 108992 or [catchment.management@portsmouthwater.co.uk](mailto:catchment.management@portsmouthwater.co.uk) to express an interest in taking part. I will provide you with a contract to undertake inspections or replacement works funded/part funded by Portsmouth Water, and a stack of Oil Care leaflets to give to customers.
2. From then on, as part of your day-to-day domestic boiler visits, if you know a customer runs off domestic heating oil, please:

* Give them a copy of the oil care leaflet and draw their attention to the scheme.
* If they’re interested, take their details and contact me to check their eligibility.
* The customer can ask any local OFTEC registered engineer on the scheme to do the inspection and any resultant replacement works, but you are at a distinct advantage having had first contact with them.

1. If you’re the chosen technician, I will send you some additional questions to note during your inspection. We will cover the full of cost of the inspection on receipt of the completed forms. If you’re recommending replacement works following inspection, please forward your quote to me for approval - once approved by us, and the customer, you can proceed with the work. Once you’ve completed the work, you invoice Portsmouth Water for 50% of the cost of approved works (capped at £2,500) and the remaining 50% will be paid directly by the customer. **Portsmouth Water always release the 50% funding to the technician within 30 days of receiving their invoice.**

Please do contact me if you want to find out more. You can email or phone me on 07872 108992 or [catchment.management@portsmouthwater.co.uk](mailto:catchment.management@portsmouthwater.co.uk).

Kind regards

Beth Fairley

Catchment Management Officer, Portsmouth Water

Direct dial: 07872 108992

Email: [catchment.management@portsmouthwater.co.uk](mailto:catchment.management@portsmouthwater.co.uk)

**List of eligible villages for the scheme**

There are 13 zones covered in all. The map shows the estimated number of domestic heating oil (DHO) households. This may help you decide where you are most likely to get a good uptake on replacement works. Zones with a high number of DHOs but still low uptake of the scheme are Havant and Bedhampton Springs, Fishbourne, Maindell, Northbrook, Walderton, and Westergate.

To be eligible, householders need to be in one of these high-risk groundwater protection zones, and in your professional opinion, their heating oil system must be posing a risk to groundwater due to leakage/failure.