

## District Councillor Report November 2020

### Some of the home improvement grants & loans available from MDC

- **Free Energy Performance Certificates (EPC):** £100 available towards getting an EPC. This shows residents their current and potential energy rating as well as listing works to improve the property.
- **EPC of D or lower:** £500 available towards energy improvement works to improve the EPC rating. Up to £1000 for landlords where the tenant is on qualifying benefits.
- **Safer Homes Grant:** homeowners can access grants of up to £10,000 towards essential works to their homes including energy efficiency improvements. Available to home owners on a means tested benefit or low income and considered vulnerable.
- **Lendology Loans:** up to £25K available towards works including renewable energy solutions.
- **Green Homes Grant:** a national scheme whereby any homeowner or landlord can apply for vouchers for green home improvements where the government will fund two-thirds of the cost of eligible works, up to £5,000. Low income households will be eligible for up to 100% government funding up to £10,000. Residents must redeem the voucher and ensure improvements are completed by **31 March 2021**. Residents can check to see if they are eligible for a voucher by using Simple Energy Advice's checker here: [www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk/pages/green-homes-grant](http://www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk/pages/green-homes-grant)

For information on grants and loans visit: [www.mendip.gov.uk/financialassistance](http://www.mendip.gov.uk/financialassistance)

### Somerset Climate Emergency Strategy

The draft Somerset Climate Emergency Strategy is making its way through the governance processes of the 4 Somerset District Councils and Somerset County Council. Mendip's Cabinet meeting on 2 November recommended it to Full Council for approval – the Strategy will go to Mendip's Full Council meeting on 9 November.

The 9 key themes are energy, transport, built environment, business and industry, natural environment, farming and food, water, waste and communications. The full strategy and summary strategy with the details of all the plans for each key theme can be reviewed at [www.somerset.gov.uk/climate-emergency](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/climate-emergency).

### Local Plan Part 2 Inspector's Hearings 24 November – 4 December 2020

In my role as ward councillor for Rode and Norton St Philip I will be taking part in the above hearings. I hope residents will understand if there is some delay in my response to emails during this period.