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Dear Sir/Madam

With the huge rises in fuel costs recently announced, I am writing to tell your members about our **FREE affordable warmth advice line, and our exhibition trailer** both of which offer advice about energy efficiency and renewable technologies, grants and incentives, fuel switching and fuel debt, problems with heating and hot water, and signposting to other organisations for benefits advice, emergency repairs and health issues.

Marches Energy Agency (MEA), is a registered charity and not for profit social enterprise working across the Midlands which offers practical, effective and creative ways of promoting energy reduction and renewable energy solutions. We have recently won several awards for our work including the Ashden Award, the Social Enterprise Mark, our Director Richard Davies has been named one of the top 50 Green Leaders in the West Midlands and has been awarded an MBE for Services to Sustainable Energy.

### **Affordable Warmth Advice Line**

*Keep Shropshire Warm (KSW)* is Shropshire Council's Affordable Warmth project and is managed by Marches Energy Agency. Since its launch in January 2008, we have helped over **6000** households who have benefitted from over **£800,000** worth of energy bill savings and at the same time reduced their combined carbon emissions by more than **6800t/CO2/year**. During the same period KSW has enabled households to access over **£3million** worth of grant funding.

KSW also offers homeowners and private tenants, who don't qualify for free insulation, heavily discounted prices. We can arrange for both loft and cavity wall insulation each starting from only £139. Together these measures alone could save you over £250 a year – these savings will increase as energy prices rise.

Householders can contact the *Keep Shropshire Warm* on 01743 277123 / email [info@keepshropshirewarm.org](mailto:info@keepshropshirewarm.org) or visit [www.keepshropshirewarm.org](http://www.keepshropshirewarm.org)

## Affordable Warmth Exhibition Trailer

Our interactive and educational exhibition trailer (*Fantastic Home*) reaches vast numbers of people, particularly young families.

*Fantastic Home* gives every visitor a number of money saving devices including powerdowns, savaflushes, and low energy light bulbs.

We have a large number of factsheets and our knowledgeable staff are engaging and entertaining.

We also bring along our energy bike, on which people can power a variety of low energy bulbs building up to powering a whole bar of bulbs equivalent to 100W. Through this method, people can start to 'feel' what energy use is like. For younger visitors we have a carbon footprint snakes and ladders game.



*Fantastic Home* directly addresses the issues of energy efficiency and affordable warmth and in the first 3 months of this project we reached an average of 134 people at each event and identified savings of £350 per person as well as 2,613,612 kg. CO2 and 87,931,815 litres of water

Because we are not funded for *Fantastic Home* there is a small charge of £400 plus VAT, for hiring this for one of your community events – this is to cover our staff time, insurance, petrol, storage costs etc. If you would like to book the trailer but cannot pay this, please let us know as occasionally we get funding to deliver a few events free to the end user.

If you would like to book the trailer please contact Kris McGowan on 01743 277112 / email [kris@mea.org.uk](mailto:kris@mea.org.uk)

I would be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of all of your members and would be pleased to answer any queries you have.

Yours sincerely

Ms Wendy Tozer  
**Assistant Director**