

# Green Home Grants Scheme (Vouchers) - Traders

September 2020

Sector, Lord Callanan, BEIS and  
TrustMark round-tables

# The Scheme

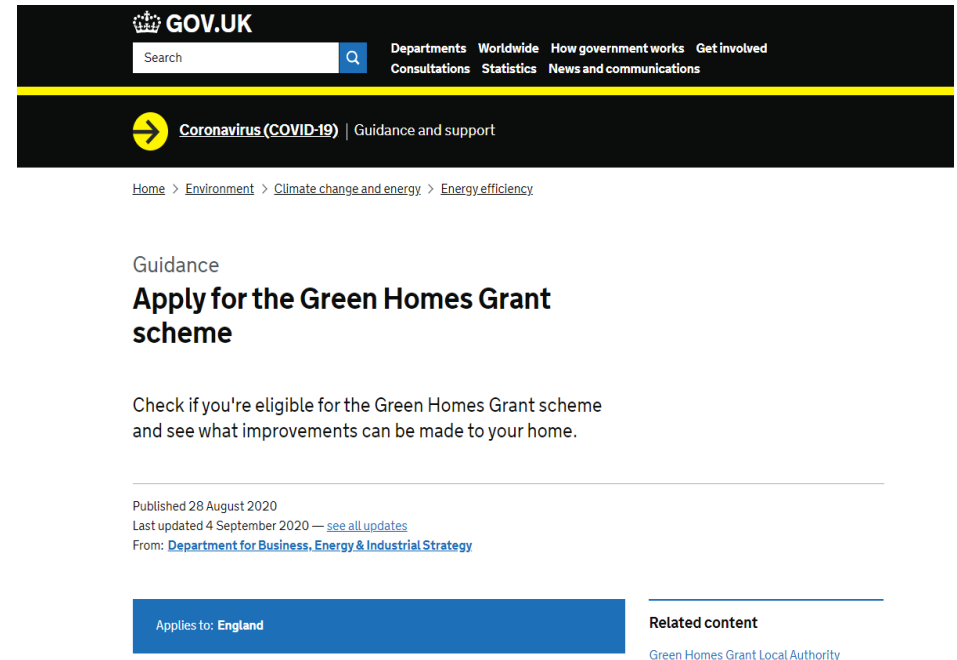
# Background

- ❖ On 8 July 2020, the Chancellor announced a £2 billion **Green Home Grants Scheme** to upgrade homes across England, of which £1.5 billion is to be available through **vouchers**
- ❖ Part of a package to kick-start the economy following the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ❖ Part of the UK's commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net-zero by 2050.
- ❖ Designed to boost the green economy by supporting 80,000 jobs in the building trade.
- ❖ Will support energy efficiency and low carbon heat improvements in 600,000 homes.



# How the Green Home Grants Scheme (Vouchers) works

- ❖ Homeowners including landlords in England can apply for a voucher towards the cost of installing energy efficient and low-carbon heating improvements to their homes.
- ❖ Vouchers will cover:
  - ❖ Up to two thirds (67%) of the cost of qualifying improvements up to **£5,000**.
  - ❖ 100% of the cost of improvements up to **£10,000** for those on low incomes and who receive certain benefits.



The screenshot shows the GOV.UK website interface. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links for Departments, Worldwide, How government works, Get involved, Consultations, Statistics, and News and communications. Below this is a yellow banner for 'Coronavirus (COVID-19) | Guidance and support'. The main content area shows a breadcrumb trail: Home > Environment > Climate change and energy > Energy efficiency. The title of the page is 'Apply for the Green Homes Grant scheme' under the heading 'Guidance'. Below the title, it says 'Check if you're eligible for the Green Homes Grant scheme and see what improvements can be made to your home.' There is a 'Published 28 August 2020' and 'Last updated 4 September 2020' notice, with a link to 'see all updates'. The page is attributed to the 'Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy'. At the bottom, there is a blue box stating 'Applies to: England' and a 'Related content' section with a link to 'Green Homes Grant Local Authority'.

The installer will request and receive payment from the government for the costs covered by the voucher.

# Primary (essential) work covered under the scheme

- ❖ Customers **must** use vouchers to install at least one **primary** home insulation or low carbon heating measure.

## Insulation:

- ❖ Solid wall, cavity wall, under-floor, loft/roof, room in roof, insulating a park home.
- ❖ “Top ups” are allowed (e.g. additional loft insulation up to the recommended level), but replacements are not included.

## Low carbon heat:

- ❖ Air source heat pump, ground source heat pump, solar thermal, biomass boiler and hybrid installations



## Secondary (optional) work covered

- ❖ If customers install a **primary** measure, vouchers can also be used to help cover the cost of **secondary** measures. The subsidy for the secondary measure is capped – it must not exceed the value of the subsidy provided for the primary measures.
- ❖ **Secondary measures:**
  - ❖ **Windows and doors:** draught-proofing, double/triple glazing (replacing single glazing), secondary glazing, energy efficient external doors (replacing single glazed or solid doors installed before 2002) .
  - ❖ **Heating controls and hot water tank thermostats / insulation:** hot water tank thermostats, hot water tank insulation, heating controls (e.g. smart heating controls, zone controls, intelligent delayed start thermostat and thermostatic radiator valves).

## Items not covered by the Scheme

Building a new extension or conversion

Insulating a conservatory with no fixed heating

Installing a new fossil fuel heating system (such as gas, oil or LPG boilers)

Non-insulation related energy efficiency measures

Replacing existing double/triple glazing

Installing solar PV and storage

Works carried out prior to the voucher being issued

Works in a new-build property not previously occupied

Replacing already installed insulation or low carbon heating measures

# How to get involved



# Who can take part in the scheme?

- ❖ For Energy Efficiency and Insulation works:
  - ❑ Traders must be **TrustMark** registered and **PAS2030:2017** or **PAS 2030:2019** certified.
- ❖ For Clean Heat works:
  - ❑ Traders must be **TrustMark** registered and **Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS)** certified.
- ❖ All certification agencies must be **UKAS** accredited.



# Route to accreditation – Trustmark Registration

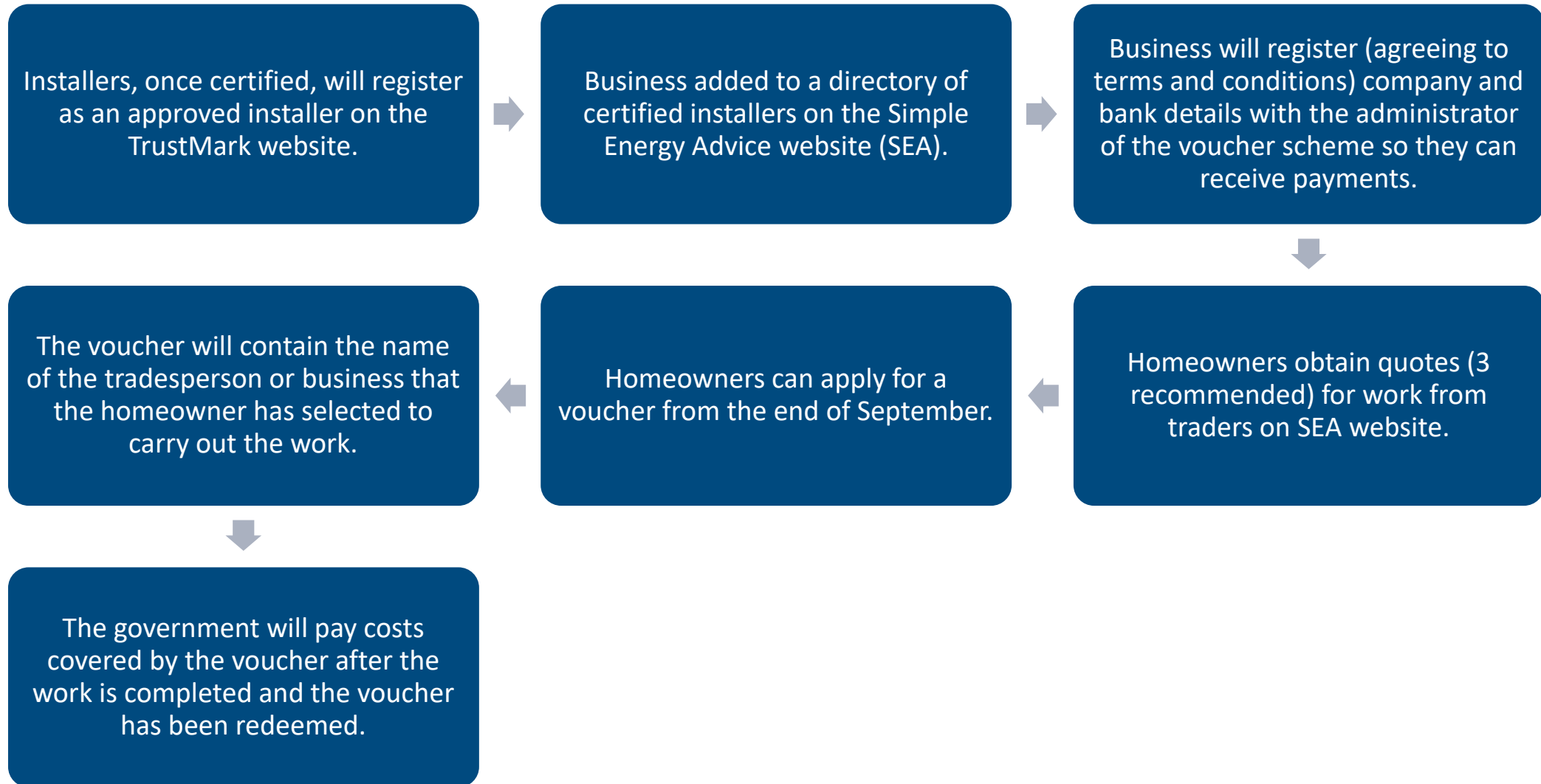
## Existing members of a certification body

- Can apply either directly to TrustMark, or through their certification body;
- Where the business meets the TrustMark criteria, registration will take place within five working days.

## New applicant to certification body

- Identify a suitable scheme via the TrustMark website, the scheme will onboard and register;
- Where an experienced business is signing up, this can be completed within 12 working days (subject to the scheme provider), followed by TrustMark registration within five working days;
- Where a business needs to gain PAS or MCS Certification, the timescales are typically 6-12 weeks, followed by TrustMark registration within five working days.

# Installer Journey



# Why get involved

# The scheme will drive increased levels of home improvement

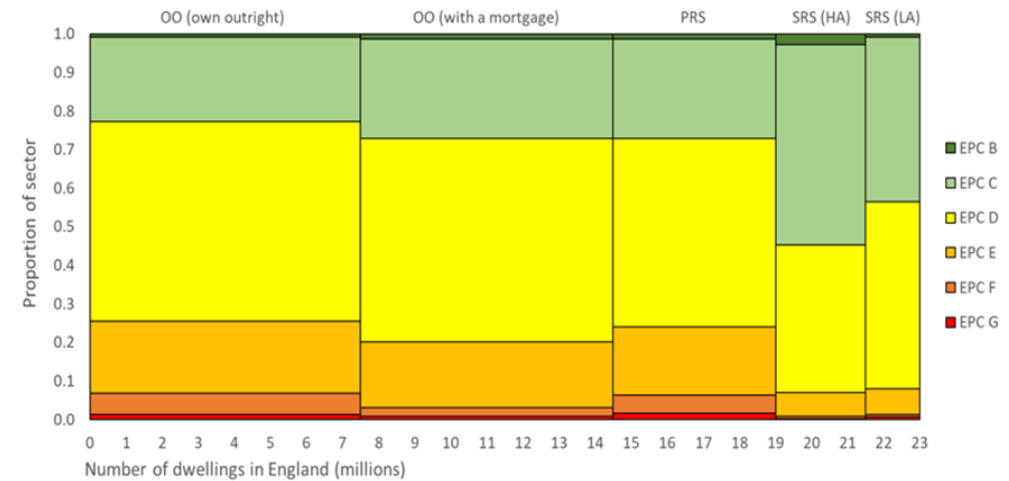
- ❖ Homeowners will get significant contributions (in some cases 100%) for home improvements.
- ❖ The Scheme has been designed to support improvements in 600,000 homes in England.
- ❖ National advertising / marketing for the Scheme will increase opportunities.
- ❖ Scheme websites (e.g. Simple Energy Advice) will feature your business name.

“...I am currently engaging with businesses across the country on the opportunities that arise from our net zero commitment and how they can support a green recovery”.

**Alok Sharma (Business Secretary) –  
17 June 2020.**

# In the longer term more measures will be needed

- ❖ **Government commitment:** as many homes as possible to EPC C by 2035
- ❖ 70% of homes are below EPC B and C<sup>1</sup>
- ❖ Up to £65bn investment needed<sup>2</sup>



English homes by EPC, Based on English Housing Survey, 2018

- ❖ By 2030 80,000 jobs could be supported by the domestic buildings sector (not including heat), with a domestic GVA of £5.7bn<sup>3</sup>
- ❖ The Green Homes Grant alone could support up to 100k jobs, with installers contributing a large portion of this. Other policy levers in development will drive further action.

**References:** 1 and 2 – BEIS analysis, based on the English Housing Survey, 2018, 3 – BEIS, Energy Innovation Needs Assessment, 2019

# The scheme is part of a comprehensive policy approach to achieving net zero which will continue beyond the life of the scheme

## Minimum Standards

- Privately owned homes:
  - Consulting on requirements for mortgage lenders
  - Considering options around further trigger points
- PRS: Consulting on increased ambition for current standards
- Social Housing: Will publish a White Paper for implementing social housing reform
- Product standards: Seeking views on greater ambition around product replacement

## Targeted funding

- Continued funding at level of Energy Company Obligation to 2028
- Home Upgrade Grant for fuel poor homes off the gas grid
- Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund
- Green Homes Grant Schemes

## Market Enablers

- Supporting development of green home finance market
- Consumer engagement strategy: Boosting awareness and desirability
- Action plan for improving EPCs
- Developing the skills and standards of supply chain



## For further information

- ❖ To get more information on the Scheme, visit the government website: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-green-homes-grant-scheme>
- ❖ Or the Simple Energy Advice (SEA) website: <https://www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk/pages/green-homes-grant>
- ❖ For more information on TrustMark visit: <https://www.trustmark.org.uk/>
- ❖ For more information on MCS certification visit: <https://mcscertified.com/>