

# NEED HELP

WITH REPAIRS &  
ASSISTANCE?



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**HOME**  
OXFORD CITY  
IMPROVEMENT AGENCY



Facing a home improvement or repair can be a daunting task; Oxford City Council Home Improvement Agency is here to help. In today's uncertain world it is good to get help you can really trust. One of our aims as your local authority is to help improve the warmth, comfort, safety and security of housing in our area.

Loans or grants are available for homeowners to improve the warmth, comfort, safety or security of their homes.

## FLEXIBLE HOME IMPROVEMENT LOAN

We have created a loan that will help you remain in a well maintained home during your retirement and you can repay as little or as much of the loan as you like each month. All this is backed up with the peace of mind that the loan is provided by your local authority on a not-for-profit basis.









### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Any homeowners who are aged 60 years or over, in the case of joint owners, each must be at least 60 years of age.

### WHAT IMPROVEMENTS CAN BE CONSIDERED?

We will consider improvements that will make the home safer, warmer, healthier or more comfortable for the occupants.

Examples of work that may be acceptable include:

-  Essential repairs and maintenance, rewiring
-  Central heating or improvements to heating and hot water systems
-  Insulation and energy saving measures
-  Replacement doors and windows, replacement guttering, soffits and cladding
-  Roof and structural repairs
-  Replacement bathroom suites and kitchens, plumbing and repairs
-  Installation of level-access showers, stairlift or other adaptations
-  Works associated with eradicating dampness, wet rot, dry rot and woodworm

## ESSENTIAL REPAIR GRANT

An Essential Repair Grant (ERG) is a means tested grant, to help owner-occupiers on low-incomes carry out essential repairs to their homes to the maximum value of £5,000. Ensuring health and safety standards are met and ensuring that fuel poverty, health, and environmental issues are properly addressed.

Where repair work is necessary, an ERG can help with the costs of providing these repairs, to make it easier for the owner-occupier to continue living in their own homes. An ERG covers essential repairs including:

- ④ Internal repairs or upgrading unsafe electrical wiring
- ④ Renewing defective or leaking roof and guttering. Damp proofing and repointing external walls
- ④ Replacing broken and rotted windows with upvc double glazing
- ④ Loft and cavity wall insulation. Boiler replacements or repairs
- ④ Providing kitchen & bathroom facilities. Plumbing Repairs

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Essential Repair Grants are available to owner occupiers within Oxford City who are:

- ④ Aged over 18 years old
- ④ Have been in residence for three years or more
- ④ Are on a low income, a means tested benefit or receiving working tax credit
- ④ Other conditions may be applicable

### HOW DO I APPLY?

Call us on 01865 252788 and we will take details of the work you require and contact you to arrange the best way to arrange the works for you. If we are not able to help we may be able to give you advice on contacts to help get the job done.

### OTHER HELP WE CAN OFFER

We also offer grants & assistance with repairs, and adaptations to help you remain safe and independent in your own home. We also offer a small repairs service that can carry out works to your home at a subsidised rate if you are eligible.

**Our Home improvement agency is dedicated to helping older, disabled and vulnerable people to live safely and independently in their own home. HIA trained advisers are on hand to help you with all sorts of problems that might affect your home.**

## HOW TO CONTACT US

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