



Making homes in Cornwall better for the environment

Cornwall Housing
Decarbonisation Strategy



Easy Read



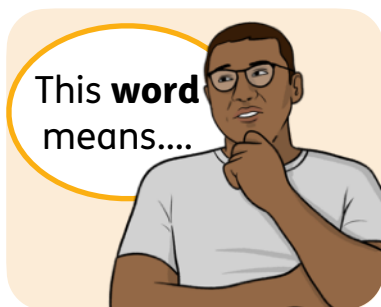
This is an Easy Read version of some information. It may not include all of the information but it will tell you about the important parts.



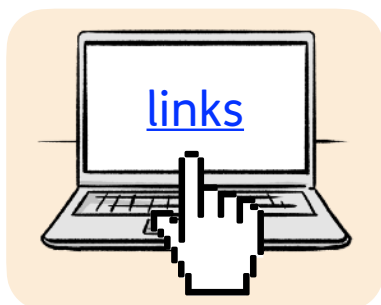
This Easy Read booklet uses easier words and pictures. Some people may still want help to read it.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker. These are important words in the booklet.



Sometimes if a bold word is hard to understand, we will explain what it means.



[Blue and underlined](#) words show links to websites and email addresses. You can click on these links on a computer.

What is in this booklet

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About this booklet



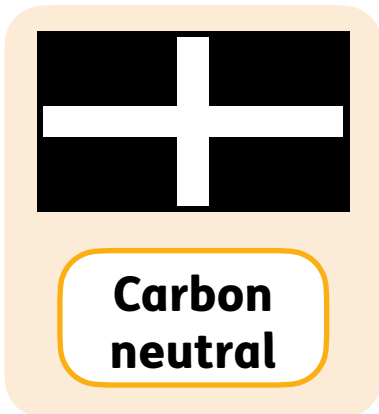
Cornwall Council have written a **strategy** about how we need to change homes in Cornwall.

A **strategy** is a plan of things to do over a period of time.



Our strategy will help homes make less **carbon dioxide**. This is called **housing decarbonisation**.

Carbon dioxide is a gas that is bad for the air.



The strategy is part of our plan to make Cornwall a **carbon neutral** county.

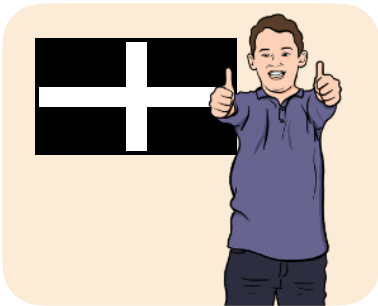
Carbon neutral means lowering the amount of carbon dioxide that goes into the air.



This booklet will tell you about the strategy.

What we want to do

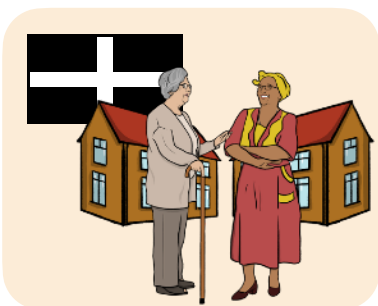
We want to create a carbon neutral Cornwall, where everyone can:



- **Start well.** This means we want Cornwall to be a brilliant place for a child to grow up.



- **Live well.** This means we want Cornwall to be a place that offers a home, a good wage and a great place to live for everyone.

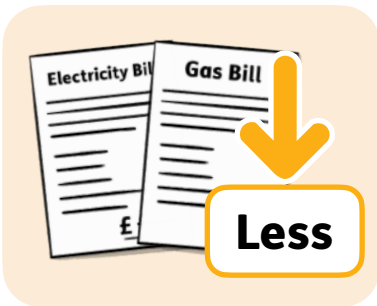


- **Age well.** This means we want Cornwall to be a caring and safe place where people help each other.



Homes make about one fifth of the carbon dioxide made in the whole of Cornwall.

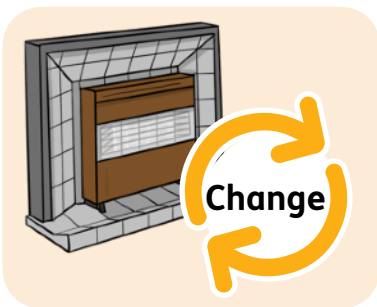
We want to:



- Help people spend less on energy bills, like gas and electricity.



- Make the homes in Cornwall more healthy places to live.

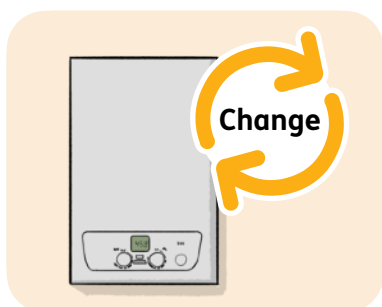


To do this, we need to change how people heat their homes.

What we already know



All countries in the world need to make less carbon dioxide.



The best way to make less carbon dioxide is to change how we heat homes.

There are 3 ways to do this:

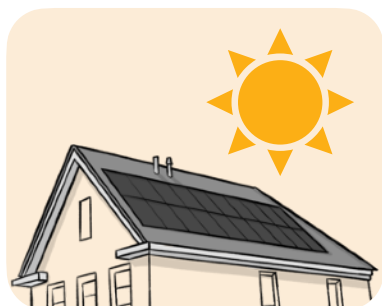
1. Stop using **fossil fuels** to heat homes.

Fossil fuels are oil and gas from the earth or the sea. Burning them for heating is bad for the earth.



2. Put **solar panels** on homes.

Solar panels use the sun to make electricity.



3. Keep more heat inside homes.



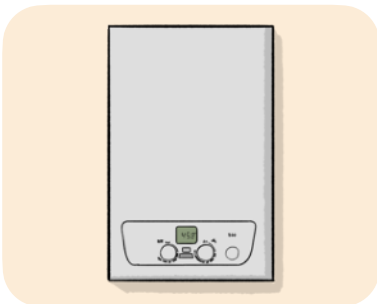
We know that:



- A lot of homes in Cornwall are older than in the rest of the country.



- In the future, new homes in Cornwall will not make much carbon dioxide.



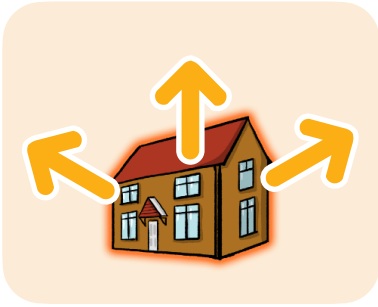
- Nearly half of the homes in Cornwall are heated by gas.



- More roofs in Cornwall need **insulation** than in the rest of the country.

Insulation is material that stops warm air from getting out of buildings.

We also know that:



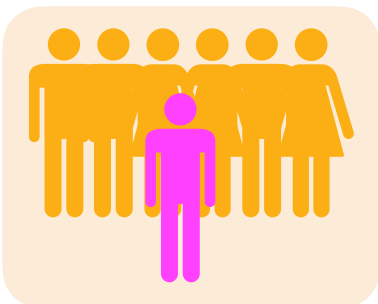
- The glass in a lot of homes in Cornwall does not keep warm air in very well.



- It will cost more than £2 billion to move all homes to heating that costs less.



- It will cost more than £8 billion to give all homes good insulation.



- About 1 in 7 people in Cornwall cannot afford to heat their homes properly.

Our principles



We have 4 **principles**.

Principles are ways of doing things.

1. Stop using fossil fuels

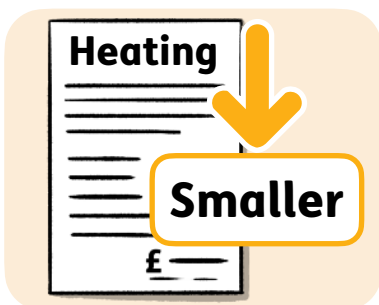


We want to stop using fossil fuels for heating in more than half of the homes in Cornwall by 2030.

2. Reduce fuel poverty



Fuel poverty is when people do not have enough money to heat their homes properly.



We want to make their heating bills smaller.

3. Improve health and wellbeing



Wellbeing means feeling happy and healthy in your body and mind.



Homes should be more comfortable to live in as we change how they are heated.

4. Bring jobs and skills to Cornwall



There will be more jobs for people to work on decarbonising homes.



We will help train people to do these jobs.

The challenges



We will only be able to make our plans happen if we can solve the main **challenges**.

Challenges are problems that we have to find answers for.

The biggest challenges are:



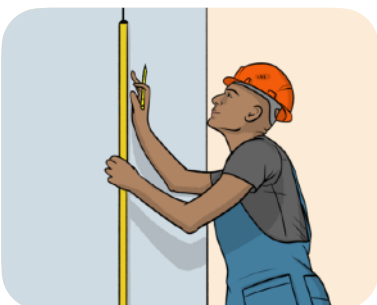
- Getting people to understand what they need to do to their homes.



- Making sure the work on people's homes is done well.



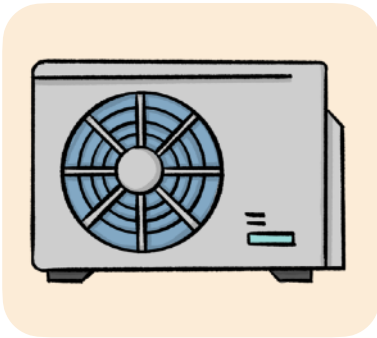
- Finding the money to pay for the work.



- Having enough people with the skills to do the work.

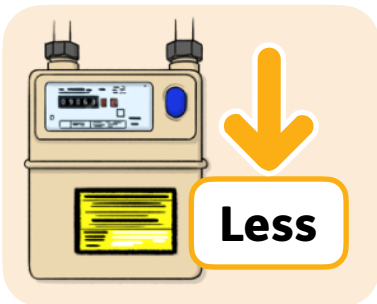
Our targets

We want to:



- Move nearly all homes to heat pump heating by 2050.

Heat pumps take warmth from outside the home and use it for heating and hot water.



- Get all homes to use less energy.

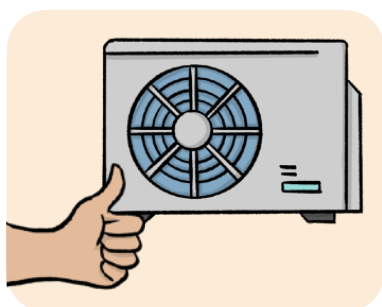


- Give homes better insulation so that it takes less energy to heat them.

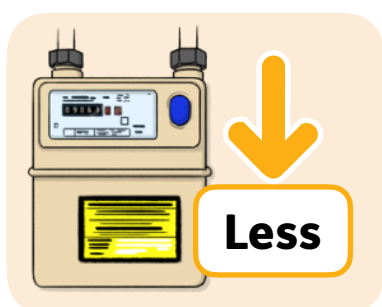


- Help at least a quarter of homes in Cornwall to make electricity.

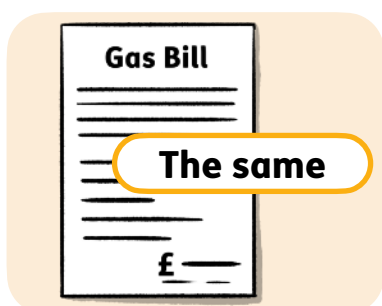
About heat pumps



Heat pumps are the best way to heat homes without making a lot of carbon dioxide gas.



They use a lot less electricity than electric heating.



They cost the same or less to use than gas or oil heating.

How to make homes better for the environment

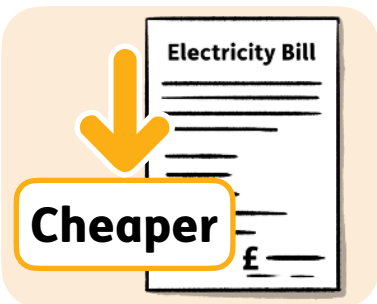


First we have to check the electricity supply to homes.



Then we need to make sure that the homes do not need too much energy to make them warm.

Then we can think about other ways to make bills cheaper, like:



- Helping people to use cheaper electricity.



- Installing solar panels.



We can also think about making other changes to the building, like new windows or insulation.



Each home will need different work to make them healthier.



It costs between £3,000 and £100,000 to do all the work on a home.

Next steps



We cannot reduce the amount of carbon dioxide that homes make on our own.

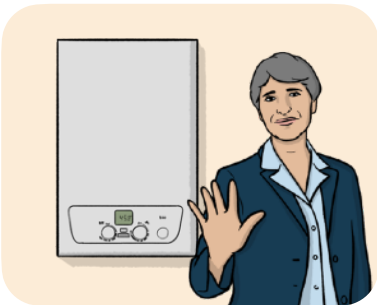
But we think there are 12 things we can do:



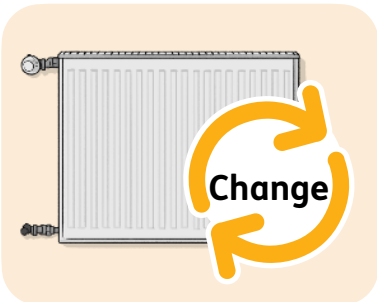
1. Make sure there is training for people to put heat pumps in homes.



2. Tell the public about heat pumps and other changes they can make.



3. Stop putting new oil or gas heating in council homes.



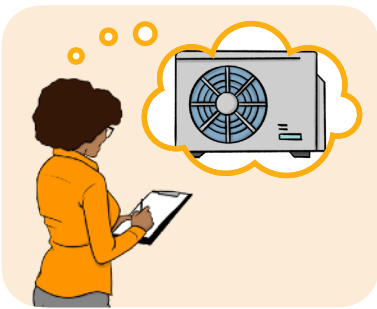
4. Change the heating in council homes so it makes less carbon dioxide.



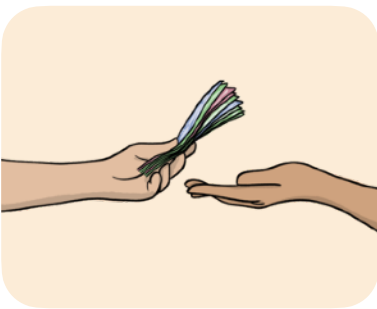
5. Work with people who own or rent homes.



6. Make sure there is training for other jobs to help keep homes warm.



7. Find out how well heat pumps and other changes are working, and use that information to make more changes.



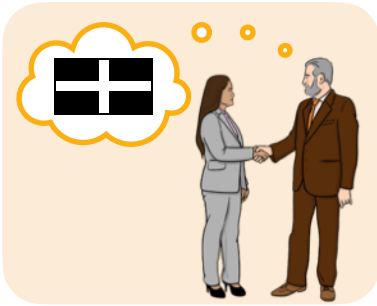
8. Help people get money to make changes to their homes.



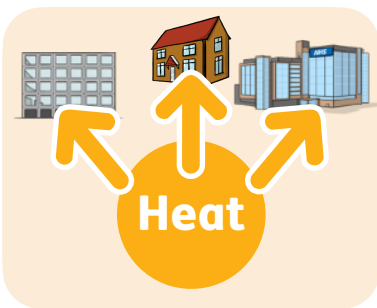
9. Work with electricity companies to help make the changes happen.



10. Make it easier to let people do the work on homes.

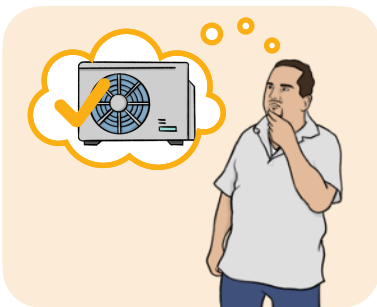


11. Work with companies who put heat pumps in homes in England to make sure Cornwall is not left out.

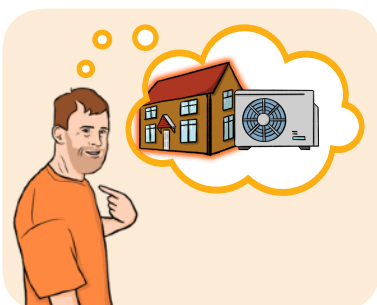


12. Find places for **heat networks**.

Heat networks get heat from a central place and use it to heat lots of different buildings.



If we do the first 4, we think that people will know more about heat pumps and decarbonisation.



This will mean that people will choose decarbonisation for themselves.

Find out more

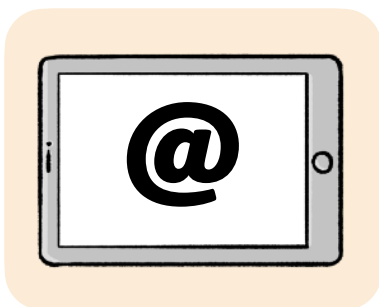


You can look at our website here:
<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/housing/private-housing/housing-decarbonisation-programme/>

You can contact us by:



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