1,500 Dorset residents have received help to keep their homes warm through a scheme funded by Public Health Dorset in partnership with Dorset Council.

Having a cold home can have a big impact on health and wellbeing, so <u>Healthy Homes Dorset</u> offers a range of free services to help Dorset residents keep their homes warm.

Over 1,100 of the people who have received support have a health condition which is made worse by living in a cold or damp home.

Cllr Graham Carr-Jones, Portfolio Holder for Housing at Dorset Council, said "There is plenty of evidence to show that insulating your home and keeping warm can not only improve existing problems, it can also minimise your risk of contracting illnesses. We're really pleased to have been able to help so many local people with the Healthy Homes Dorset scheme and hope to continue to provide support for many more in the future."

The scheme offers free, impartial energy advice to all Dorset residents. This includes practical advice about setting heating controls efficiently, switching energy tariffs and reducing condensation, damp and mould.

For those who have health conditions, have young children or are aged 65 and over, <u>Healthy</u> <u>Homes Dorset</u> can also install loft and cavity wall insulation and improve existing boilers or heating systems free of charge.

Jon Bird, Healthy Homes Dorset Project Manager, said "We're delighted that 1,500 people have now benefited from the scheme, the majority of which had health conditions which could have been worsened by living in a cold home. We'd encourage anyone with concerns to get in touch with our advice line to find out more about how Healthy Homes Dorset may be able to help them."

For more information and to find out if you are eligible, visit <u>healthyhomesdorset.gov.uk</u> or call 0300 003 7023.

Healthy Homes Dorset is funded by Public Health Dorset, managed by Dorset Council and delivered by Centre for Sustainable Energy and Evolve Home Energy Solutions.

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