

7 April, 2009

MEDIA RELEASE COUNCIL CONTINUES TO CURB CARBON

Manningham City Council has followed up the release last week of its Climate 2020 Draft Action Plan by launching a program to provide Manningham residents with free energy efficient light bulbs and low flow shower heads.

Under the Live Green with LESS program, Manningham residents can receive free high quality, energy-saving light bulbs and water-saving showerheads and have them installed at no cost.

The project is being offered by Low Energy Supplies and Services, an Australian environmental services company. The Live Green with LESS program is in its second phase after being successfully run in the cities of Glen Eira, Kingston, Stonnington and Yarra last year.

Manningham Mayor, Cr Charles Pick, said the Live Green with LESS program was a great opportunity and a simple way for residents to make a significant contribution towards protecting our environment.

“Council is keen to not only reduce our own impact on the environment as an organisation, but also help residents to do the same in any way we can, in cost-effective ways, given the current economic climate,” Cr Pick said.

“This is a great offer that Council is excited to support because it will help the environment and at the same time, help residents save money on power and water bills – and best of all it’s completely free.”

Cr Pick said the target is to get 6,000 Manningham households involved, with each household involved potentially saving \$120 per annum on average in energy bills.

“As a community, we can save up to 4,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions per year just through this program, which is close to 1 percent of the total greenhouse gas emissions by the local residential sector.”

LESS project manager, Andy Paine explained: “Phase 1 of the project resulted in just over 500,000 energy-saving bulbs being installed into more than 28,000 homes. That’s equivalent to taking over 6,600 cars off the road for good and energy bill reductions over \$51 million (over the life of the bills).”

The project operates under the Victorian Government’s Energy Saver Incentive scheme which aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. To take up the offer residents are required to sign a form assigning the right to create carbon credits to LESS in exchange for the free

Media Release

products and service. This allows LESS to cover the costs of the bulbs and provide this service.

To participate, a household will need to have at least four incandescent lights that can be changed over. There is no maximum to the number of lights that can be changed; however, the fittings do have to be compatible. For example, halogen down lights, touch lamps and lights with dimmers or sensors cannot be changed.

Manningham residents will soon receive fliers from LESS in their letterboxes outlining the free offer.

To take part in the program, contact LESS on 1300 855 362, or register online at www.livegreen.com.au

Media enquiries contact Jessica Craike on 9840 9411.