



**Media Release
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One small step for you A giant leap for our planet

Residents of Darebin are now eligible to receive free high quality, energy-saving light bulbs and water-saving showerheads and have them installed also at no cost as part the 'Live Green with LESS' project.

'Live Green with LESS is giving our residents a really easy way to make a significant contribution towards protecting our environment,' said Darebin Mayor, Cr Diana Asmar.

'As we're all aware, climate change is one of the top issues we need to address as a community, but the current financial crisis means people may be thinking more about saving their dollars, rather than saving the planet.

'But the Live Green with LESS project means residents can reduce their carbon emissions and their power and water bills - and it's completely free of charge.'

The project is being offered by Low Energy Supplies and Services (LESS), an Australian environmental services company. It is in its second phase, after being run successfully in Glen Eira, Kingston, Stonnington and Yarra last year.

'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 of approximately \$50 million over the life of the bulbs,' said Andy Paine, LESS project manager.

'Each time you replace a standard incandescent bulb with an energy-saving one, you use 80% less energy, which is going to lower your electricity bill. An average household replacing 18 bulbs would save the equivalent of taking a car off the road for more than two years.

'The project operates under the Victorian Government's Energy Saver Incentive scheme which aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. To take up the offer, householders will need to sign a form to assign the carbon credits to LESS in exchange for the installation of products. This allows LESS to cover the cost of the products and service,' Mr Paine said.

'We anticipate that the project will result in preventing over 50,000 tonnes of CO₂ entering our atmosphere and collective financial savings in the millions for households over the lifetime of the bulbs.'

Residents will soon receive a flyer in their letterbox outlining the free offer, and simply need to dial 1300 855 362 to arrange an installation.

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□With Earth Hour coming up on 28 March, we're hoping that Darebin residents will be reminded to think about combating climate change and start living green with LESS, as the offer is probably one of the easiest ways for householders to get involved, □Cr Asmar said.

Booking details for installation: 1300 855 362 or www.livegreen.com.au