

Money Buddies. Money Advice Centre, 93 Haslewood Drive, Leeds, LS9 7PS
Tel: 0113 2350276 Email: admin@egac.org
www.burmantoftscommunityprojects.org

# New: UK First - Fuel Poverty and Debt Reduction Scheme Launches in Leeds

We are pleased to announce as part of the Energy Industry Voluntary Redress Scheme managed by Energy Savings Trust, that Burmantofts Community Projects Charity have been awarded funding for a **New Project in Leeds- Money Buddies Energy PLUS**, which builds on our Centre for Social Justice award winning Money Buddies service; by supporting the people of Leeds and bordering postcodes, especially the vulnerable and those at risk of fuel poverty and problem debt. This is a FREE to access and use service.

#### A UK first?

We believe this is a first of its kind in the UK which provides integrated, specialist emergency legal debt advice, financial capability, well- being support and Energy Awareness Advice directly to households in their homes. The service will have a wide reach and ease of access which also includes weekly sessions at Trussell Trust Foodbanks throughout Leeds.

### Save Money and Be Energy Wise

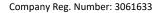
Clients will be supported with free energy advice sessions which includes advice and guidance on how to; save money on heating, improve the energy efficiency of their homes, set heating system controls, read meters, access warm homes discount, understand their energy bills, find a cheaper provider, switch energy providers and access energy efficiency schemes. In addition, our advisers will liaise with our partners, Green Doctors in Leeds, who can support clients for fitting of free energy savings measures and improvements as well as advance Ombudsman complaints.

## **Emergency Debt Advice That Keeps People Money Safe**

Money Buddy Energy PLUS advisers; will provide legal emergency debt advice, where clients are faced with eviction, home repossession, Bailiff and enforcement action, energy disconnection and court action for non- payment of debts. The Energy PLUS advisers will help clients; fill in forms, complete household budgets, complete financial statements for creditors, write letters to creditors, safely report loan sharks and as part of income maximisation support do a benefit entitlement check.

Burmantofts Community Projects: Money Buddies, Ebor Gardens Advice Centre and Benefit Buddies are free, confidential, impartial and independent.

Charity Reg. Number: 1051368















# **Access to Benefit Support**

The Money Buddy Energy PLUS advisers will work closely with our sister service Benefit Buddies which will support clients with Benefit applications, liaising with the DWP, attending assessments and appeals.

### **Launch Date**

The service is expected to start this December.

For more information on Money Buddies Energy PLUS please contact Saleem Shafi at <a href="mailto:admin@egac.org">admin@egac.org</a> or call 0113 2350276