

June 2018 The sun is out (sometimes), our heating is off, our energy use is down! Welcome to the first of several newsletters reporting on the outcomes of the IDEAL project!

Five years of IDEAL!

IDEAL began in April 2013, with a mission to understand energy use in homes better, and to design feedback that helps people find ways to save energy. We began by developing and testing our sensors and feedback system, and working out the details of our research.

The first home in the main phase of the project was installed in August 2016. To date we have had a total of 260 homes in the project, with a peak of 245 participating at once, from across Edinburgh, the Lothians and Fife. We've gathered data on energy use, temperature and humidity, plus your thoughts on the feedback and on saving energy, and much more.

A big thank you to all who have taken part in the project, and those of you who are carrying on with us. Without the participation of every one of you, IDEAL would not have been a success!

What's next?

New features

About 170 of you have chosen to carry on after June. We'll still be developing and releasing new features for you. We're also looking for more funding to increase the amount and range of things we can develop and provide.

Learning about energy use

With the original phase of the IDEAL study ending on the 30 June, we're going to be focusing more effort on analysing all the data we've generated with your help, and writing up results. We aim for those insights to help energy policymakers, industry and end users develop a greener, more affordable and more secure energy system.

Staying in touch

Over the coming months we'll be writing occasional newsletters containing some of the insights we're getting from the project. We'll send these to you if you've asked us to stay in touch.

If you've leaving the project and have asked us *not* to stay in touch, this is the last contact you'll receive from us. Thanks again so much for your participation!

If you're staying in the project, we'll also email you occasionally about your participation and the feedback system.

You can change your contact preferences at any time by emailing us at the address below.

New contact details

From 29 June 2018, the Changeworks email address and phone number will no longer be in use. We'll still run an email address through the University of Edinburgh for you to use:

ideal.energy.advice@ed.ac.uk

Feel free to contact us!