

Energy and Benefits Advice

Shopping around for the best deal

You may be paying more for your gas and electricity supply than you need to. You could make savings of between £150-220 per year with the right tariff and supplier for your needs.

You may be able to do this in the following ways:

- Switch suppliers
- Pay by direct debit
- Insulate your home
- Buy energy efficient appliances including lightbulbs
- Switch off appliances at the switch and don't leave on standby

Can you switch?

Yes, unless you owe more than £100 to your current supplier

Is it easy?

Yes, but it can seem daunting to start off with but the whole process is really easy.

How do you choose a supplier?

You need to compare prices by looking at how much you currently pay. Look at your two last bills and divide into monthly amounts.

Next Steps

1. Phone around different suppliers to see what they would be able to offer you
2. Use internet comparison sites like www.uswitch.com
3. Call Consumer Direct for a pricing fact-sheet
4. Contact supplier you want to change to and take a meter reading for them
5. They will contact your current supplier and take care of the changeover
6. You don't need to talk to your old supplier.

Priority Service register

Are you:

- Disabled?
- Elderly?
- Chronically sick?

Contact your supplier to check if you are on their Priority Service Register to benefit from additional services like quarterly meter readings. Call them and find out.

Home Heat helpline-0800 33 66 99

If you're worried about paying your heating bills or need some easy to understand advice on how to save energy then the Home Heat Helpline can help you. They can advise you on benefits, grants for free home insulation, reduced tariffs and special

payment options your energy supplier provides to help those struggling with their fuel bills

The Home Heat Helpline is open 9am-8pm Monday to Friday and 10am-2pm on Saturdays — and it's free.

List of EcoFriendly Suppliers¹

WarmFront-0800 316 2805

Warm Front makes homes warmer, healthier and more energy-efficient. The Warm Front Grant provides a package of insulation and heating improvements up to the value of £2,700 (or £4,000 if oil central heating is recommended). It is a Government-funded initiative and the scheme is managed by eaga.

If you own your own home or rent it from a private landlord, you may be eligible for a grant under the Warm Front Scheme.

Benefit entitlement check

To find out if you qualify for additional benefits please contact the Benefit Entitlement Check team on telephone: **0800 072 9006** or email: bec@eaga.com

Winter Fuel Payment

A Winter Fuel Payment is an annual payment to help people aged 60 and over with the costs of keeping warm this winter.

Cold weather Payment

You may be eligible for a Cold Weather Payment for each week of very cold weather in your area if you get Pension Credit or income-related Employment and Support Allowance with a support or work related activity component in the main phase. You don't need to apply; you'll get a Cold Weather Payment automatically as long as you qualify.

Tell your pension centre or Jobcentre Plus if you think you should have received a Cold Weather Payment but you have not had one.

Energy Saving Trust Advice Centre

Your local centre can advise you on energy efficiency
Call 0800 512 012 to find your local centre

- E.ON
- EBICO
- EDF Energy
- ECOTricity
- First Utility
- Good Energy
- London Energy
- Green Energy
- Union Energy
- Npower
- Spark Energy

Website	Telephone
www.theenergyshop.com	0845 330 7247
www.moneysupermarket.com	0845 345 5708
www.uswitch.com	0800 404 7908
www.ukpower.co.uk	0845 009 1780
www.saveonyourbills.co.uk	0870 005 2095
www.unravelit.com	0800 279 4091
www.energyhelpline.com	0800 074 0745
www.moneyexpert.com/energy	0194 2710 910
www.homeadvisoryservice.com	0845 1800 300
www.energylinx.co.uk	0845 2252 840
www.switchwithwhich.co.uk	0800 533 031
www.confused.com	N/A