

Energy Prices 2021/2022

Energy is rarely out of the headlines and never more so than in the past few months. UK wholesale gas prices have rocketed and this means that electricity prices have to – which means that the vast majority of us will be paying considerably more in the next year. It is also the reason that over 20 energy retailers have gone bust since the start of September – affecting over 2 million households.

The reality is that many of us will be facing prices rises of 30% or more. So, what can be done?

At the moment, shopping around isn't the best idea. Once your current fixed price deal comes to an end, the cheapest tariff will be the Standard Variable Tariff (otherwise known as the default tariff) offered by your existing Supplier. This is the tariff that is protected by the Ofgem price cap, although that doesn't mean to say that it is cheaper than your existing deal – one member's costs went up by 30% after their fixed price deal ended in September.

It a good opportunity to look at appliances that used everyday, particularly those that are used extensively over the winter months. Lighting is a great example – a humble standard lamp with 300W bulb could use around £80 of electricity over a year, replacing the bulb with an LED one got the costs down to around £3.50! The Addingham Environment Group has a number of plug-in energy monitors that any householder in the village may borrow.

The following links offer advice and support:

[What to do if my energy supplier goes bust? \(BBC\)](#)

There are some quick tips to save energy from the Energy Savings Trust

[Quick tips to save energy \(EST\)](#)

There is some excellent advice from Citizens Advice:

[Citizens Advice \(Energy\)](#)

If you receive winter fuel payments, there is some important advice from money expert, Martin Lewis.

[Government wrongly tells millions to switch \(MSE\)](#)

Finally, if you don't really need it, consider donating your winter fuel payment to support some of the most vulnerable.

[Donate your winter fuel payment \(NEA\)](#)

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