

- **Manage your heating.**
- **Check you are in receipt of the correct benefits and welfare.**
- **Switch providers to be on the best fuel deal.**
- **Tackle condensation.**
- **Learn about grants and financial support for energy**

[For further help and advice please ask to speak to our support worker Cath or contact her on 01484 515086](#)

Compiled by
The Welcome Centre
01484 340034



**Help with
fuel bills**

Using heating and hot water efficiently

- Use timer controls to set your heating and hot water to come on and go off.
- Turn your thermostat down by 1°C.
- Set your room thermostat to between 18°C and 21°C.
- Save energy and water - have a shower instead of a bath.
- Keep your radiators clear. This will enable you to spread warmth around the house.

Change how you use your electricity

- Don't leave electrical appliances on standby.
- Only boil the amount of water that you need to use.
- Turn off lights when not using them and use energy saving light bulbs.
- Set your washing machine to 30°C.
- If you've got Economy 7 heating, use your washing machine between 11pm and 7am.

Help from energy company trusts

Many energy suppliers offer a range of grants to their most vulnerable households. Contact your energy provider for details.

Understand how to pay for your gas and electricity

- Remember to take meter readings when you move in or out of a property and contact the gas and electricity supplier to register with them.
- Budget and set aside money to pay for your gas and electricity. Arrange with your energy supplier the best way for you to pay.
- If possible, have your gas and electricity with the same energy supplier. This can often save you money.
- You can also qualify for the discount if you use a pre-pay or pay-as-you-go meter.

Deal with damp & condensation in your home

- Open windows and use an extractor fan in the bathroom when bathing.
- Use an extractor fan or open a window if you are cooking in the kitchen, and close the door.
- Don't block airbricks or air vents, and leave a gap between a wall and your furniture.
- Try to avoid drying your clothes inside or on radiators.
- Report condensation, dampness or mould that is caused by disrepair to your landlord.

Are you getting the best deal?

- Switching your gas and electricity supplier can save you on average £225 a year. Visit an accredited fuel switching website to see whether you can save money.

Landlord Responsibilities

- Landlords have a legal duty to make sure all gas appliances are in a safe condition. Make sure your landlord carries out a gas safety check by a Gas Safe-registered engineer every 12 months.

Grants and financial support

Winter Fuel Payment - You could get between £100 and £300 tax-free to help pay your heating bills if you were born before 5/5/53.

Warm Home Discount Scheme. - A one-off discount of £140.00 on your electricity bill between October and April.

HELP AND FREE ADVICE:

**Local welfare provision – Kirklees.
01484 414782
(If you get housing benefit or council tax.)**

**Kirklees Citizens Advice & Law Centre
0344 848 7970
1&3 Brook Street, Huddersfield, HD1 1EB**