

# Energy Support & Ways to Save

Giles Read – Thinking Works

Thinking  Works  
for a brighter tomorrow

# Energy Price Cap

The energy price cap sets the maximum amount that energy suppliers can charge for each unit of energy and standing charge IF YOU HAVE A STANDARD VARIABLE TARIFF! The rates below are the Energy Price Cap rates from the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024:

Average unit rates and standing charges under the Energy Price Guarantee (yours may be higher or lower):

- **ELECTRCITY:** 24.50p per Unit / 60.99p per day [Averages in winter 2021 = 16p / 25p]
- **GAS:** 6.24p per Unit / 31.66p per day [Averages in winter 2021 = 5p / 25p]

**The average combined energy bill in 2021 was £1200 a year. This has now increased to 1,717 a year so the same household needs an extra £500 for energy compared to 2021.**

# What help is available?

## Warm Home Discount

The Warm Home Discount is a £150 credit paid against electricity bills for households where the bill payer receives a means tested benefit AND the home has a poor energy rating (known as the Energy Performance Certificate or EPC rating A-G). The credit is paid automatically to households thought to be eligible. There is no application form.

We are aware that some households that previously received this £150 credit did not receive it last year. This can be because their home does not have an EPC rating, or where other information the government has made the decision on is wrong.

Decisions can be challenged by contacting the Warm Home Discount helpline on **0800 030 9322**

# What help is available?

## Thames Water – 50% Water Help discount

Thames Water offer a 50% discount to water charges (these can be metered or non-metered) for those that spend 5% or more of their net income on water. This is a new change to previous criteria that simply had an income threshold, and the calculation is done by a team directly at Thames Water.

You can apply by calling Thames Water on: **0800 009 3652**

**\*\*If your water costs are in with your rent and you don't receive a water bill, you can't apply for this discount\*\***

# What help is available?

## Wandsworth - Crisis Assistance for food and fuel

Households will be eligible to apply for one award in the three-month period between 1 April 2024 and 30 June 2024. In addition, households can apply for a further two awards in the nine-month period between 1 July 2024 and 31 March 2025. Any awards made will be at least eight weeks apart and subject to a maximum of three awards in the 12-month period from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

### Level of awards

Household type	Award
Single person	£35
Lone parent	£55
Couple	£70
Dependant child	£40

Up to a maximum award of £230.

### Fuel allowance

An additional allowance is payable where an applicant has a prepaid meter or is the named bill payer:

- Couple without Children/Single People: £30 (£15 Gas + £15 Electricity)
- Households with children: £50 (£25 Gas + £25 Electricity)

The awards will either be paid:

- Prepaid meter - Paypoint E-vouchers (except British Gas Customers), or
- Direct payment or British Gas Pre pay meter - Additional Supermarket vouchers to the value of your Fuel allowance.

The scheme is administered to a fixed budget and the terms of the scheme could change during the year.

# What help is available?

## WRAP Extra Fuel Poverty Support Service

- ✓ **FREE** LED bulb x4
- ✓ **FREE** radiator reflector panels for up to 3 external walls
- ✓ **FREE** CO detector
- ✓ Assessment for £49 fuel voucher for those on a prepay meter\*
- ✓ Sign-up for the Priority Services Register\*
- ✓ Energy bill explanations to help you understand tariff costs and rises
- ✓ Specialist advice on lowering energy consumption
- ✓ Advice on heating controls and hot water settings
- ✓ Advice and referrals for debt and financial assistance
- ✓ Advice on health and wellbeing services in the borough

\*For those that meet certain eligibility criteria

# What help is available?

## WRAP Fuel Poverty Support Service

**Who's eligible?** Anyone in the boroughs of Kingston, Merton, Sutton, Richmond, and Wandsworth who:

- Is 65 years old or over OR
- Has a long-term condition or disability OR
- Has a low income (this varies depending on occupancy but use £15,000 per occupant as a rule of thumb)
- Is getting support from a frontline council or third-party service such as Occupational Therapy, Social Services, Age UK, and CAB

# What help is available?

## WRAP Fuel Poverty Support Service

**How do I access the service?** To make a booking or referral, please call, text, or email details using the contacts below. Email is preferable. Please include:

- i. Full name
- ii. Address and postcode
- iii. Contact telephone number
- iv. Brief outline of the reason for the booking or referral (e.g. “high gas bill” or “home very cold” etc.)

**Freephone: 0800 118 23 27**

**Text: 07928 394 482**

**Email: [enquiries@thinkingworks.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@thinkingworks.co.uk)**



# No-cost ways to save – Behaviour change

**GOLDEN RULE = IF IT GETS HOT, IT COSTS £££!**



**VS**



**Fan = 50w**

**Fan Heater**

**= 2000w**

# No-cost ways to save – Behaviour change

- **Audit your energy and water use – what uses the most energy? What changes could you make to make savings?**



[www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk](http://www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk)

## Low-cost ways to save – under £100

- **Heating** – wearing extra layers means you can turn the thermostat down. I use a heated gilet with a battery pack = 10w
- **Washing** – extra spin cycles with half-loads. Dry using drying racks / electric drying racks (approx. 200w)
- **Cooking** – air fryers, microwaves and slow cookers use a fraction of the energy on an oven



# Energy Eaters?



<b>Radio:</b>	<b>50w</b>	<b>Tumble Drier:</b>	<b>1800w</b>
<b>Fridge:</b>	<b>600w</b>	<b>Portable blow</b>	
<b>Freezer:</b>	<b>800w</b>	<b>heater:</b>	<b>2000w</b>
<b>Fridge Freezer:</b>	<b>1000w</b>	<b>Games console:</b>	<b>100w</b>
<b>Toaster:</b>	<b>1200w</b>	<b>CFL Bulb:</b>	<b>10w</b>
<b>Computer:</b>	<b>300w</b>	<b>Halogen Bulb:</b>	<b>50w</b>
<b>Kettle:</b>	<b>3000w</b>	<b>LED Bulb:</b>	<b>5w</b>
<b>Halogen Heater:</b>	<b>1200w</b>	<b>Fan:</b>	<b>50w</b>
<b>Hoover:</b>	<b>600w</b>		

**\*\*At 24.5p per KWH 1000w = 24.5p an hour\*\***

# Questions!