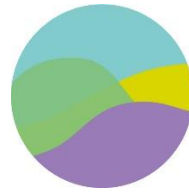


Energy Funds & Support

[Winter Fuel Payment - GOV.UK
\(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)



**Volunteer Centre
East Lothian**

If you were born on or before 26

September 1955 you could get between £100 and £300 to help you pay your heating bills. Most payments are made automatically in November or December and payments should have been made for winter 2021-2022. However, the deadline to make a claim for winter 2021-2022 is 31st March 2022. You usually do not need to claim Winter Fuel Payment – you will get it automatically if you're eligible. There are criteria under which you will not get it automatically, but can claim.

[Warm Home Discount Scheme - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

This is a one-off discount of £140 off your electricity bill between October and March. There are 2 ways to qualify for the Warm Home Discount Scheme

- You get the Guarantee Credit element of Pension Credit (core group)
- You are on a low income and meet your energy supplier's criteria for the scheme (broader group)

You can still qualify for the discount if you use a pre-pay or pay-as-you-go electricity meter. Your energy supplier needs to be part of the scheme to qualify. The scheme for the 'core group' usually opens in October every year. You will receive a letter between October and December telling you how to get the discount if you qualify. For the broader group, your electricity supplier decides who can get the discount and the number of discounts suppliers can give is limited. Check with your supplier as early as possible to see if you're eligible and how to apply. The discounts will be applied to your bill by your electricity supplier by the 31st March. There is a list published every year with participating energy suppliers. The scheme for winter 2021-2022 will run from October 2021-March 2022.

[Warmer Homes Scotland - Home Energy Scotland](#)

This programme offers funding and support to households struggling to stay warm and keep on top of energy bills. This programme is accessed by calling Home Energy Scotland who will check what support is available and put eligible households in touch with Warmworks, the managing agent. The programme is designed to help people make their homes warmer and more comfortable by installing a range of energy-saving improvements. The Scottish Government is offering assistance to homeowners and private sector tenants struggling to heat their home, who have lived in their property for at least 12 months and who meet the eligibility criteria.

* From April - Widening the eligibility criteria of the Scottish Government's flagship Warmer Homes Scotland fuel poverty programme to include more groups within the 60 – 75 years age range.

How to apply: Call on **0808 808 2282** or use the [contact form](#) to request a call or email back.

[Cold Weather Payment](#)

You will receive a payment if the average temperature in your area is recorded as, or forecast to be, 0 degrees Celsius or below over 7 consecutive days. You will receive £25 for each 7 day period of very cold weather between 1st November and 31st March. You do not need to apply. If you're eligible you'll be paid automatically.

Eligibility:

You may get Cold Weather Payments if you're getting:

- Pension Credit
- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Universal Credit
- Support for Mortgage Interest

[Energy Hardship Fund](#)

This fund provides vouchers that are distributed through local housing associations.

HACT Energy Redress is available to households in Scotland. This fund is exclusively for £28 and £49 fuel vouchers redeemable at PayPoint and Post Office locations.

HACT Winter Hardship Fund is available to households in Scotland. This fund is exclusively for £28 and £49 cash vouchers redeemable at PayPoint locations only.

Each household can only receive a maximum of 3 vouchers across all of the funds.

[British Gas Energy Trust](#) - **Individuals and Families Fund**

You do not have to be British Gas customer to apply, but note that the majority of the grant budget is set aside for customers. To be considered for the individuals and families fund you must be all the following criteria.

- You live in England, Scotland or Wales
- You have not received a grant from the British Gas Energy Trust within the last 2 years
- You must be seeking a grant to clear an outstanding debt on a current or open gas, electricity or dual fuel energy account in your name or be a member of that household. The energy account must relate to your main residence
- You have electric and / or gas debt
- You do not have savings above £1,000
- You have received help from a money advice agency

[British Gas Energy Trust](#) - **British Gas Winter Fund**

Eligible British Gas customers with energy debt of between £250-£750 will be able to apply for a grant to help pay what they owe

To be considered for this grant, you need to be a British Gas customer and meet the following criteria:

- You live in England, Scotland or Wales
- You must be seeking a grant to clear an outstanding debt on a current or open gas, electricity or dual fuel energy account in your name or be a member of that household. The energy account must relate to your main residence
- You have electric and / or gas debt between £250 – £750
- You do not have savings above £1,000

Support

1. Musselburgh CAB
 - [Big Energy Saving Winter 2021/2022 | \(cas.org.uk\)](https://cas.org.uk)
2. Changeworks
 - [Affordable Warmth Advocacy | Changeworks](#)
 - [Fuel poverty services | Changeworks](#)
3. Home Energy Scotland
 - [Warmer Winter - Home Energy Scotland](#)
4. Local Energy Scotland
 - [We are Local Energy Scotland - Local Energy Scotland](#)
5. Citizens Advice
 - [Grants and benefits to help you pay your energy bills - Citizens Advice](#)

Latest Scottish Government Update

In response to the cost of living crisis, three key Scottish Government energy efficiency and heat programmes will be boosted from April.

These include:

- Expanding the Home Energy Scotland (HES) advice service, which provides free, impartial advice available to all households in Scotland on making homes warmer, greener and easier to heat. Capacity will be increased by 20% to support an extra 12,000 households a year, whilst a service offering bespoke advice to the most vulnerable households will be doubled.
- Widening the eligibility criteria of the Scottish Government's flagship Warmer Homes Scotland fuel poverty programme to include more groups within the 60 – 75 years age range.
- Increasing the level of funding individual fuel poor households could benefit from through the local authority-led Area Based Schemes.