



Struggling with your energy bills?

Act on Energy can help

Free Energy Advice and Home Visits on a one-to-one basis

Tailored energy support and impartial advice for everyone, including benefits advice through Warwickshire Welfare Rights Advice Services.

Free small energy saving measures for those in Fuel Poverty

For the vulnerable, energy efficient light bulbs, reflective radiator panels, draught excluders.

Free boiler grants

For households that own their home and are on benefits or have a low income & have poor health.

Access to Government's Green Homes Grants

For energy efficiency measures for the home.

Help with £100's off your energy bills from your energy company

- Winter Fuel Payments of £100-£300.
- Warm Homes Discount £140.
- Priority Service Register extra help such as meter reading, priority in an emergency/power cut, locking cooker valve, Free annual gas safety check.
- Energy Company Hardship Funds for debt.
- Smart Meters enable you to track your energy use.

****Eligibility criteria applies for some measures****

Call Free: 0800 988 2881

Email: advice@actonenergy.org.uk

www.actonenergy.org.uk

Facebook: [actonenergy](https://www.facebook.com/actonenergy)

With the underlying cost of energy, it is not possible to save large sums by switching suppliers at the moment. However, you can still take actions to reduce your energy usage and make savings on your energy bills. This can be over £350 per year*

- ✓ Contact your supplier to have a Smart meter installed to monitor usage
- ✓ Cover draughts to stop the cold getting in
- ✓ Thick curtains can help keep the heat in
- ✓ Wear lots of thin layers to keep you warmer
- ✓ Plan events and activities to keep you moving
- ✓ Turn the thermostat down 1C, ideal temperature is between 18 to 21C
- ✓ Only boil the water you need
- ✓ Put lids on saucepans while cooking
- ✓ Have shorter showers and fewer baths
- ✓ Do at least one less machine wash a week, and wash at 30 degrees
- ✓ Turn the heating off even if you are popping to the shops
- ✓ Turn off appliances when not in use, instead of leaving on standby
- ✓ Turn off the lights
- ✓ Avoid using a tumble dryer
- ✓ Reduce your dishwasher use by one less a week
- ✓ Insulate your hot water cylinder

Visit **www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-at-home** for more tips and information on switching your energy supplier

**According to the Energy Saving Trust based on a typical 3 bed gas heated property*

SDC/2007/FEB22

Energy Price **RISES**



Help Advice Grants Support

With spiralling household energy costs and the price cap increase rising by £700 from April, many households in our district will be struggling.

Stratford-on-Avon District Council would like to signpost you to the government and local support packages available to households as well as professional organisations who are able to offer advice and support during these difficult times.

Government Energy Bill Discount Scheme

All domestic electricity customers in Great Britain will receive "an upfront discount on their bills worth £200" this autumn.

The £200 will be recovered from bills in £40 instalments each year for five years, starting in the financial year 2023/2024. It is expected to be added to the standing charge on bills. We will provide more information as soon as it's available.

Council Tax Rebate

The Government has asked all Councils to administer a scheme to help with rising fuel costs. This £150 non-repayable council tax rebate is to be paid to all households that are liable for council tax in bands A to D in England. The rebates will start to be issued by Stratford-on-Avon District Council between April and September 2022.

The quickest way to receive your payment is to sign up by direct debit to pay your Council Tax. Visit www.stratford.gov.uk for details

Support from Stratford-on-Avon District Council

Council Tax Reduction Scheme

Households on a low income including the self employed may be entitled to a reduction in their Council Tax.

To find out if you are eligible visit www.stratford.gov.uk for details

Discretionary Housing Payments

This can be awarded in addition to a housing benefit award or a Universal Credit housing element, in unavoidable exceptional circumstances, eg. health issues, urgent debt. Visit www.stratford.gov.uk to find out more.

Housing Benefit

Housing benefit was replaced by Universal Credit in 2018, however you may still get Housing Benefit if you are state pension age or living in temporary accommodation or accommodation where care and support is being provided.

Visit www.stratford.gov.uk to find out more.



Other support

Citizens Advice South Warwickshire offer a range of advice and information including benefits, debt & housing advice.

tel. **0300 330 1183**

www.casouthwarwickshire.org.uk

Check you benefit entitlement visit www.gov.uk/benefits-calculators to maximise your income

Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme for vulnerable residents at times of unavoidable crisis when they have no other means of help.

tel. **0800 408 1448** or **01926 359182**

Monday to Thursday 9am-5pm

Friday 9am-4.30pm

Contact **your energy supplier** as soon as you can if you are worried about paying your energy bills. Suppliers must work with you to agree on a payment plan you can afford under Ofgem rules. This includes reviewing a plan you have agreed before.

Contact **your energy supplier** to check to see if you are eligible for extra help with the Priority Services Register - a free support service to help people in vulnerable situations.