

## Wiltshire & Swindon Schemes

### Wiltshire Warm & Safe

Local service provided by local councils and Dorset & Wiltshire Fire Service, in partnership with Centre for Sustainable Energy, to deliver a comprehensive free **energy advice service** for Wiltshire and Swindon residents. Tel 0800 038 5722 . The service offers:

- Advice on eligibility for various energy grants—including Green Homes Grants Local Authority scheme
- Advice on insulation, heating and draft proofing and guidance on resolving damp and condensation issues
- Guidance on heating systems and controls
- Advice on understanding your fuel bills, managing fuel debt and switching energy suppliers and fuel tariffs

### Wiltshire 'Surviving Winter' grants

During winter months these **local grants** are sometimes available to older people who are receiving a means-tested benefit or low income and in fuel poverty. Call Age UK Wiltshire or Wiltshire Warm & Safe for details.

### Other Grants and financial help

If you have fuel debt there may be grants or vouchers available through charities, or your council's Local Welfare Provision may be able to provide one-off assistance.

### Oil bulk buying scheme

If you use oil then joining a bulk buying scheme could result in lower costs. Community First run such a scheme in Wiltshire. Tel: **01380 732809** [www.communityfirst.org.uk](http://www.communityfirst.org.uk)

**SPREAD  
THE  
WARMTH**



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



**Help to keep you warm  
this winter**

**Wiltshire & Swindon**

**Schemes to help you heat your home and  
prevent the cold affecting your wellbeing**

For further information please call:

**Age UK Wiltshire Information & Advice service**

**0808 196 2424**

We can also offer other free help and advice such as:

- ♦ **Income maximisation checks**
- ♦ **Housing, benefits and social care advice**
- ♦ **Information on local services & organisations**

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## National Schemes

### Warm Home Discount

If you receive Guaranteed Pension Credit, or meet other 'broader group' criteria set by your electricity provider, then you may get **£140** credit to help with your fuel bills. **Contact your electricity supplier to ask if you qualify.** There is also a scheme for Park Homes, provided through Charis Grants: [www.parkhomeswhd.com](http://www.parkhomeswhd.com) tel: 0330 555 9424

### Winter Fuel Payment

If you were born on or before 26 September 1955 you should get an automatic payment of between **£100 and £300 from the government.** Payments are usually made Nov - Jan. Helpline: 0800 731 0160

### Cold Weather Payments

If you get certain means-tested benefits, including Pension Credit, then you get **£25 from the government** for every 7 day period that the temperature is 0°C or lower.

### Help from energy companies and 'Affordable Warmth'

If live in a household with a low income, older person, child or someone with a disability then you may be eligible for help with **energy saving improvements, boiler repairs or even a new boiler.** This may also apply to houses that are not energy efficient. Contact your energy supplier for info.

### Free energy efficiency advice

Energy Saving Trust - [www.energysavingtrust.org.uk](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk)

Simple Energy Advice [www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk](http://www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk) tel: 0800 444202

### Priority Service Register

Energy companies and power distributors must have a Priority Service Register. They offer a range of **free services and support, including help during a power cut.** Call your own energy company to register. You can also register with Scottish & Southern (power distributors in Wiltshire) on 0800 294 3259 for their regional scheme.

### Gas safety check

If you own your home, you may qualify for a free annual boiler safety check from your energy supplier. This isn't a substitute for regular servicing. If you live in rented property, ensure your landlord checks your boiler for safety each year. If you smell gas call National Gas Emergency Service on 0800 111 999.

### Smart meters for gas and electric

These could help you become more aware of your usage and prevent estimated bills to help save you money. Contact your energy supplier for details.

### Switching supplier or changing tariff

You may not be on the most cost-effective energy tariff for you, particularly if you haven't switched for a while. You can compare deals online or by telephone and your new energy supplier sorts out the switch for you. Use an Ofgem accredited comparison service such as:

[www.uswitch.com](http://www.uswitch.com) Tel: 0800 6888 557

[www.simplyswitch.com](http://www.simplyswitch.com) Tel: 0800 011 1395

[www.moneysupermarket.com](http://www.moneysupermarket.com) Tel: 0333 123 1983