

## Wiltshire & Swindon Schemes cont.

### 'Surviving Winter Fund' grants

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

### Green Homes Grant vouchers

Government vouchers for homeowners to use towards the cost of **energy efficient improvements**. The scheme opens Sept. 2020 for applications. The aim is to help homeowners, promote energy efficiency and boost the economy. For more information contact the government energy helpline 'Simple Energy Advice': 0800 444202

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

### 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)

### 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.

### Swindon Borough Council—specialist staff

**Affordable Warmth Co-ordinator:** David Miles

Tel: **01793 463679** Email: [dmiles3@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:dmiles3@swindon.gov.uk)

**SPREAD  
THE  
WARMTH**



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



**Help for you to keep warm  
this winter throughout  
Wiltshire & Swindon**

**In this booklet you will find some schemes to help you heat your home and prevent the cold affecting your wellbeing.**

For further information on these schemes or if you are concerned about keeping warm 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**

## 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 from them to help with your fuel bills.

**Contact your electricity supplier to ask if you qualify.**

There is also a scheme for Park Homes

[www.parkhomeswhd.com](http://www.parkhomeswhd.com)

### Winter Fuel Payment

If you were born on or before 5 October 1954 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 sometimes also applies to houses that are not energy efficient. Contact **your energy supplier** for details.

### 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.

### 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 Scottish & Southern (power distributors in Wiltshire) on **0800 294 3259** for theirs and also your own energy company to register.

### Free energy efficiency advice online

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

## Wiltshire & Swindon Schemes

### Wiltshire Warm & Safe

Local service provided by local councils and Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service, in partnership with Centre for Sustainable Energy, to deliver a comprehensive energy advice service for Wiltshire and Swindon residents:

Tel **0800 038 5722** . The service offers:

- Advice on eligibility for the Affordable Warmth scheme and other grants available
- Advice on insulation, heating and draft proofing
- Guidance on heating systems and controls
- Help resolving issues with damp and condensation
- Advice on understanding your fuel bills
- Help with switching energy suppliers and fuel tariffs
- Fuel debt advice