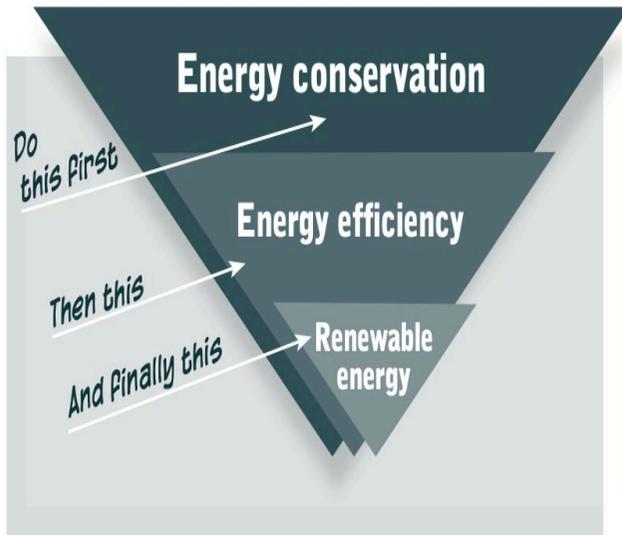


Improving Energy – Conserve First

Whilst you can take several simple, affordable steps to be more energy efficient, many will require time and money, whether you're a resident, landlord or business.

The better you insulate your house, the less warmth you'll lose. That means less need for heating, which saves you money and reduces CO2 emissions.

Experts recommend conserving energy *before* investing in more expensive energy efficiency or renewable technology



Source: 'Low Carbon Retrofitting' published by Centre for Sustainable Energy 2019

You can lose approximately 35% of your heat through walls, 25% through roofs and 40% through windows, doors and floors.

Most homes in the UK will need upgrading over the next few years in response to the climate crisis, but you can take immediate steps to conserve energy and save money regardless of your budget.

Sources of Impartial, Independent Energy Advice

1. Simple Energy Advice

UK Government-endorsed website, with comprehensive energy efficiency and renewable's advice. Try downloading their personalised energy efficiency calculator and get estimated costs and savings from TrustMark registered suppliers.

<https://www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk>

2. Energy Savings Trust

Leading independent, impartial website that provides advice and information on renewable energy (solar/home storage batteries/wind/ biomass/heat pumps), home insulation, home energy efficiency and transport.

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk>

3. Better Housing Better Health

Charity working in conjunction with Hertfordshire to provide advice and financial support in order to help improve the energy efficiency of your home. Eligibility criteria apply for certain funding help.

www.bhbh.org.uk

4. National Energy Advice

The national fuel poverty charity that provides free 'Warm and Safe Homes' advice to householders in England & Wales on their energy bills and keeping warm.

<https://www.nea.org.uk/get-help/>

5. Citizens Advice

Free, impartial advice across wide range of issues, including energy supply and fuel poverty. Learn more about cutting your fuel bills and getting any financial support you're entitled to.

www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Produced by Berkhamsted Town Council Energy Project
Information correct at June 2022

Berkhamsted Town Council does not recommend any advice specific to your home or recommend specific suppliers. Residents and businesses seeking energy advice are recommended to use UK Government endorsed organisations and seek advice before undertaking specific actions.



BERKHAMSTED TOWN COUNCIL

Where to Find Advice on Making Your Home or Business More Energy Efficient

and

Helping with the Climate Crisis



Climate Action
BERKHAMSTED

Berkhamsted is a vibrant residential and cultural centre, and your Town Council wants to make it a better place to live, work and visit in the future. The global climate crisis affects us all, which means we all need to do our bit to reduce CO2. However small your actions, they all count.

A wide range of options are available to help you reduce your CO2 emissions. You can always do something to make your home or business more comfortable and cheaper to run, while also reducing CO2.

Experts now overwhelmingly agree that climate change is happening. Temperatures have risen over the last 30 years, largely due to higher greenhouse gas (CO2) emissions. The energy we use to heat, light and power our homes produces 27% of the UK's CO2 emissions.



This brief guide will help you to identify what you can do, and where to get more detailed advice about reducing CO2 emissions.

To get started, the Energy Savings Trust's 'Energy Saving Quick Wins' guide offers simple, low-cost steps that will save you money and make your home more comfortable.

If you're on a lower income or benefits you'll also find information about getting financial help to stay warm and reduce both your energy bills and your CO2 emissions via Better Housing Better Health - call 0800 107 0044 weekdays between 9.00 am and 5.00pm to find out if you're eligible.

For more complete, customised recommendations, we recommend The Simple Energy Advice website's 'Energy Efficiency Calculator'. This helps you to create a downloadable energy efficiency plan with example costs, savings and Government-endorsed suppliers. (Although we still recommend getting local references and at least two quotes.)



Example steps to take include:

- Switching to LED lighting
- Draughtproofing doors and windows
- Insulating the roof and attic, adding loft height extenders to allow re boarding
- Insulating under floors
- Fitting new external doors
- Turning down the thermostat
- Taking steps to conserve water
- Adding smart energy and lighting controls

More expensive steps to take can include:

- Insulating cavities and solid walls
- Fitting double glazing
- Adding solar water heating
- Installing solar electric panels
- Installing home storage batteries
- Installing biomass boilers
- Replacing gas boilers with either electric heating or air or ground source heat pumps
- In suitable locations, installing small wind turbines

The Energy Saving Trust, The Simple Energy Advice and Better Housing Better Health websites offer more detailed, impartial guidance for residents, landlords and businesses.

You can find the details for these websites on the back of this leaflet.

At the time of writing further grants were available to businesses under the Low Carbon Workspaces initiative.

www.lowcarbonworkspaces.co.uk

Water conservation is also key to climate action. Affinity Water offers advice and guidance on water conservation at

www.affinitywater.co.uk/save-water

Dacorum Council also offers home energy efficiency advice on its website.

<http://dacorum.gov.uk/home/housing/private-housing/home-energy-efficiency>



Climate Action
BERKHAMSTED

If you'd like to get involved in helping improve energy efficiency in Berkhamsted and surrounding areas, contact the Town Council via 01442 800146

If you have examples of improvements to your own home or business energy efficiency, whether retrofit or otherwise, and you are happy to share in future case studies please get in touch via

berkhamstedclimateaction@gmail.com