

## Save Energy Cut Fuel Bills

Reduce Demand



Use Energy Efficiently

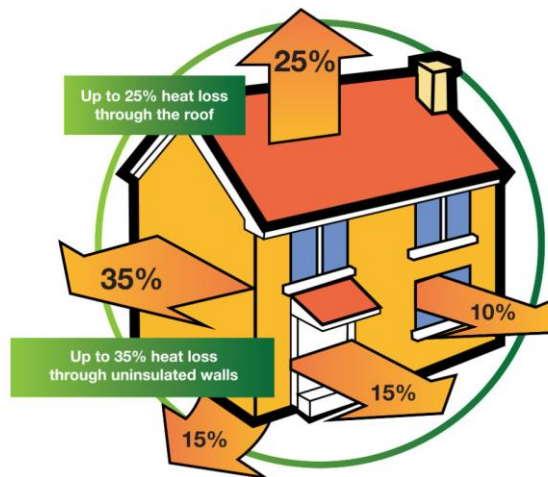


Renewable  
Generation

### Responding to the Cost of Living Crisis



## Did you know?




Homes in the UK are too often poorly insulated and don't retain heat well. Wasted energy leaks through walls, windows, roofs and doors, you end up paying for energy you didn't use. 25% of Bridport's homes fall in the lowest two energy rating levels – If your house or flat is uninsulated and draughty, and if your appliances are inefficient, **then you're wasting energy and money – and making yourself less snug and warm**

Bridport Town Council working with Sustainable Bridport, the Centre for Sustainable Energy and Bridport Community Shed are keen to support households to address the energy price crisis and in doing so help move our community toward a fair transition to a net zero carbon future.

We have recently started a network of volunteer Energy Champions who can drive sustainable energy initiatives for the Bridport Area. Our Energy Champions will be out and about in 2022/23 engaging people, communities and local businesses with saving energy, generating local renewables and tackling fuel poverty.

**INTERESTED** in joining the Bridport Energy Champions? Contact [caroline.pearce@bridport-tc.gov.uk](mailto:caroline.pearce@bridport-tc.gov.uk)

<b>I'm a homeowner</b>	<b>I'm a tenant</b>	<b>I'm a local builder</b>
<p><b>Start by understanding the energy solutions best suited to your home, your lifestyle and your budget.</b></p> <p>Making small behaviour changes, being conscious of the amount of energy you use, and installing energy-saving measures will all help.</p> <p>Here are some options depending on your specific budget.</p> <p>Think about how you can realistically cut down your energy use. Activities like washing clothes, dishwashing, showers (especially electric showers) and cooking contribute to how much energy you need. Taking steps to reduce the frequency or time spent doing these will help save money.</p> <p>Checking thermostat and heating and hot water timing control settings to suit when the home is occupied.</p> <p>Measures like <a href="#">draught-proofing</a> are relatively easy. Blocking gaps around windows, doors and letterboxes will stop warm air from escaping, so your home will require less energy to heat.</p>	<p><b>Renting? Can't make big changes to your house? There are still lots of simple things you can do to keep warm and save money at home.</b></p> <p><b>Home rented from a Housing Association:</b></p> <p>Explain the issue concerning you to the landlord, and make sure they understand and have taken note of your problem.</p> <p><b>Home rented from a private landlord:</b></p> <p>If your landlord is approachable, explain the issue concerning you to them and see whether they are willing to help sort it out.</p> <p>Contact Dorset Council's Housing Standards team (01305 251010, ask for that department). They have a dedicated team to deal with queries from occupants of privately rented homes, and can assist with issues relating to heating, ventilation, insulation and so on. Your landlord may not need to be involved, depending on the exact circumstances.</p>	<p><b>Bridport energy champions are interested in hearing from local builders and contractors who can help householders save energy and cut the costs of heating homes.</b></p> <p>From simple draught-proofing to full retrofit, having trusted local suppliers and installers will support Bridport households in responding to the fuel crisis.</p>  <p>We are looking at ways of supporting local businesses with training and accreditation in future proofing homes in Bridport.</p>
<p><b>Contact Ridgewater Energy (01202 612710), who are Dorset Council's "Healthy Homes" official partners and ask what help they can offer. Their advice is free and impartial, and they know what grants you might be eligible for (and the criteria for support is generous).</b></p>		<p><b>Contact Bridport Town Council 01308 456722</b></p>

