

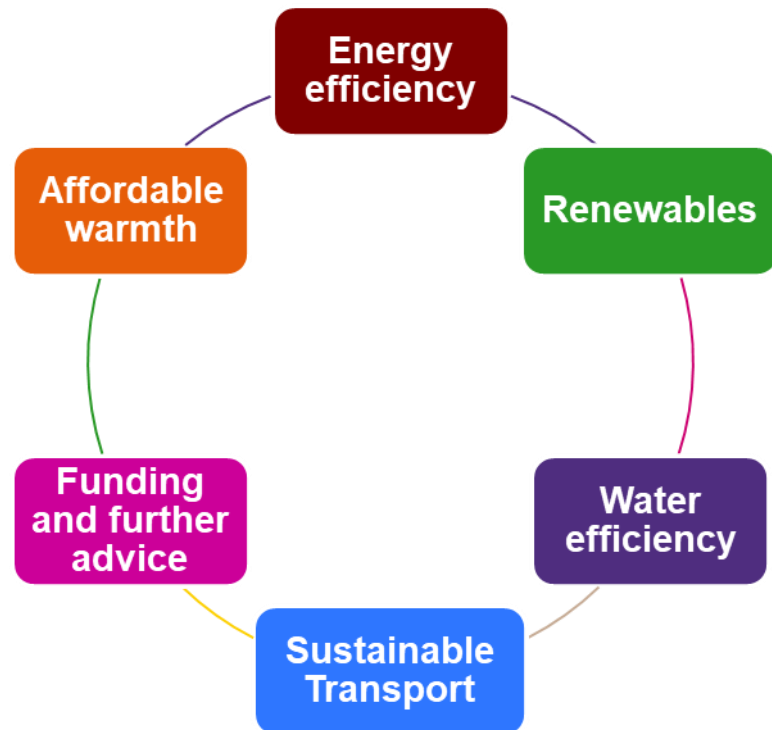
Home Energy Scotland

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Home Energy Scotland advice network



How we can help

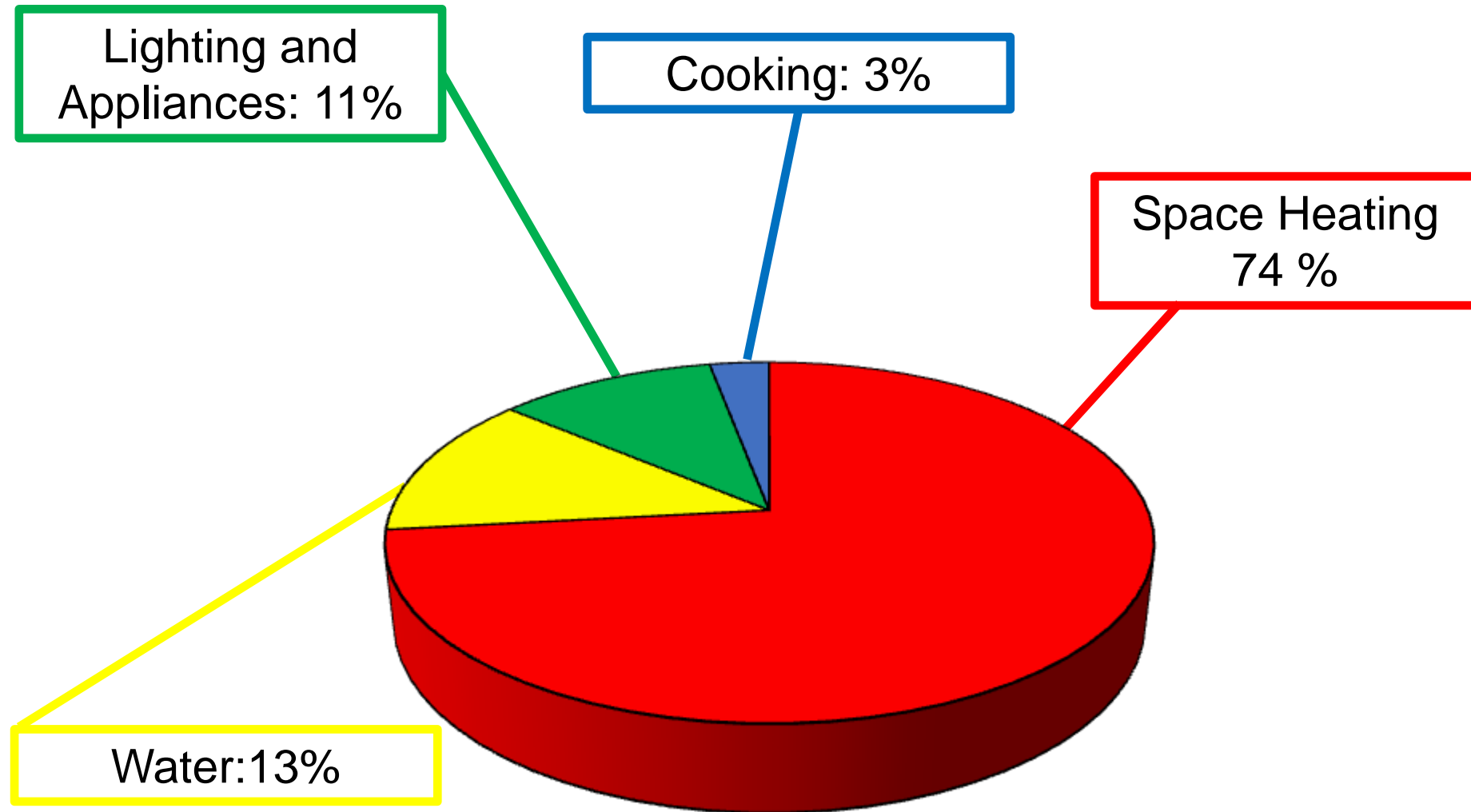
- Energy efficiency advice
- Tariff, payment and supplier switching support
- Energy carer practical advice by email or phone and home visits
- Energy efficiency measures through local and national schemes

Fuel Poverty

What influences Fuel Poverty?

- Low income / Low income growth
- High / rising fuel prices, including the use of relatively expensive fuel sources
- Poor energy efficiency of home
- Under-occupancy
- Changes in lifestyle during/post lockdown-COVID 19 new factor

Typical energy use in the home



Fuel price rises and available advice resources



You'll be well aware of the latest energy price news which is already beginning to have an impact on calls to our network. We're doing all we can to direct householders to other sources of billing, debt and money advice and we've produced some content which may be relevant not only to customers and clients you're advising but also for yourselves, your friends and your families. Please feel free to share these across all of your networks.

[Article for consumers on Home Energy Scotland website](#)

On Thursday 3 February Ofgem announced an increase to the energy price cap meaning that many Scottish households will see increases in energy bills from 1 April 2022.

Ofgem introduces the cap in 2019 to protect customers on standard energy tariffs. The energy price cap is the maximum amount that energy suppliers can charge for their electricity.

If you're on a default tariff paying by direct debit you see an increase of £693 – from £1,277 to £1,971 per year. If you use a prepayment meter you'll see an increase of £708 – from £1,309 to £2,107 per year.

Home Energy Scotland Website

www.homeenergyscotland.org

Make Simple Changes – for example switching appliances off at the wall instead of leaving them on standby could save you £55/year.

Give your home an energy upgrade – top up insulation, upgrade heating system, can be an investment but could be worth it in the long run.

Take control of your heating – visit Energy Saving Trust website to learn how to use your heating controls.

Understand your energy bill – Energy bills can look complicated but it's important to learn how to read them to ensure you're being charged correctly. [Watch our video](#) that breaks down how to read an energy bill.

Warmer Home Scotland – this is a Scottish Government programme that provides free heating, insulation and more to eligible households that are struggling to stay warm and keep up with energy costs. More than 24,000 households in Scotland have benefitted from the programme each saving an average of around £300 on their bill over a year.

Funding Sources

Warm Home Discount

The UK government is today (Monday, 9 May) launching a consultation on a proposed expansion of its Warm Home Discount Scheme. Proposals are for support in Scotland to grow by around £13 million, to £49 million per year.

The uplift would mean rebates are provided to an additional **50,000** families in Scotland each year on top of the 230,000 that already receive payments and boost cash paid out to help meet energy costs from **£140 to £150**.

The consultation would also see the scheme extended to **2025 to 2026**, providing much needed certainty to those most in need.

Proposals for supplier participation thresholds would also be lowered, enabling **more energy suppliers to participate**, particularly from 2023 to 2024 onwards, mirroring how the Warm Home Discount scheme operates in England and Wales.

The Warm Home Discount in Scotland will continue to focus support on those in receipt of means-tested benefits such as Universal Credit and Pension Credits, which ensures that rebates go to those on the lowest incomes.

Energy suppliers can use additional eligibility criteria, as long as the criteria identify households at risk of fuel poverty, subject to approval from Ofgem.

Funding Sources

Winter Fuel Payment

If you were born on or before 25 September 1956 you could get between £250 and £600 to help you pay your heating bills:

- You will get your Winter Fuel Payment automatically (you do not need to claim) [if you're eligible](#) and either:
- get the State Pension
- get another social security benefit (not Housing Benefit, Council Tax Reduction, Child Benefit or Universal Credit)
- If you do not get either of these, or if you live abroad, you may need to [make a claim](#). You will not be able to make a claim until autumn 2022.
- If you've got a Winter Fuel Payment before, you do not need to claim again unless you've deferred your State Pension or moved abroad.

Winter Fuel Payments are different to [Cold Weather Payments](#).

Funding Sources

Home Heating Support Fund extended to 31/03/2023, or until funds have been exhausted. The fund seeks to provide financial relief to energy consumers who are experiencing significant financial hardship and strives to provide this support to households regardless of the fuel or payment method used. That is, the project is inclusive of: users of prepayment meters, district heating networks and unregulated fuels.

Fuel Bank Foundation you can be with any energy supplier to get a fuel bank voucher, you just need to have a prepayment meter to meet the criteria set by the fuel bank partner.

- Contact Scarf HEAT Team on 0808 129 0888 or refer to Home Energy Scotland via the portal

GOV.UK

[Cost of living support factsheet: 26 May 2022 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Millions of households across the UK are struggling to make their incomes stretch to cover the rising cost of living. That is why the government is providing over £15 billion in further support, targeted particularly on those with the greatest need. This package is in addition to the over £22 billion announced previously, with government support for the cost of living now totalling over £37 billion this year. This means that almost all of the eight million most vulnerable households will get £1,200 of one-off support in total this year to help with the cost of living, with all domestic electricity customers receiving at least £400.

Home Energy Scotland Portal



The Home Energy Scotland Portal is a way for organisations to refer households to the advice for energy saving advice.

It is secure, online, and works in real time to put the householder's details directly into Home Energy Scotland's database for advisors to follow up.

Once advice has been given to the householder, and referrals made to any of our trusted schemes to help with energy saving or income maximisation, the Portal shows those outcomes in a report.



Any questions?

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