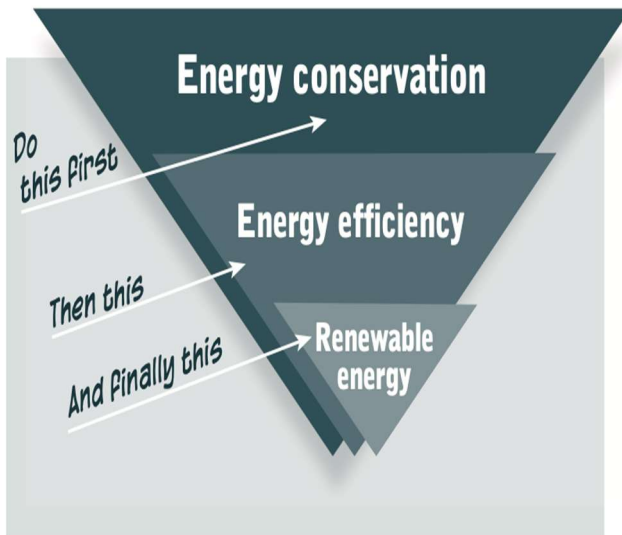


Improving Energy – Conserve First

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

Experts recommend lower cost energy conservation *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 and energy cost crises, but you can take immediate steps to conserve energy and save money, regardless of your budget.

Sources of Impartial, Independent Energy Advice

1. UK Government Improve Energy Efficiency

UK Government website that helps generate recommendations for home improvements that could make your property cheaper to heat and keep warm.

<https://www.gov.uk/improve-energy-efficiency>

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. 0800 107 0044

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 Action
Information correct at May 2025

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

A wide range of options are available to help you reduce your CO2 emissions and energy costs.

Global temperatures have risen to 1.3°C above the 20th century average. The scientific community overwhelmingly attribute this increase to higher greenhouse gas (CO2) emissions. The energy we use to heat, light and power our homes generates 27% of the UK's CO2 emissions.

This 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 'Quick Tips to Save Energy' guide offers simple, low-cost steps that will save you money and make your home more comfortable.

If you're on a low income or benefits you can find information about getting financial help to stay warm and reduce both your energy bills and your CO2 emissions via Better Housing Better Health.

Your own energy supplier must also assist customers experiencing financial difficulties to meet their energy bills. This can be revised payment schedules, advice on more appropriate tariffs, ways to conserve energy or joining the priority services register.

For detailed recommendations go to the UK Government website: 'Improve Energy Efficiency'. You can create a downloadable energy efficiency plan with example costs, savings and Government-endorsed suppliers.



Lower cost steps include:

- Switch to LED lighting
- Add Smart Energy and lighting controls
- Draughtproof external doors and windows
- Use a dehumidifier to counter reduced ventilation and assist clothes drying
- Chimney balloons to seal off unused flues
- Insulate the roof and attic
- Insulate under floors
- Wear warmer clothes, or buy an electric blanket / jacket.
- Conserve water

More expensive steps can include:

- Cavity, solid wall & flat-roof insulation
- Fit double or secondary glazing (often permitted in conservation areas)
- Buy an EV/PHEV with home charger
- Install home storage batteries
- Install solar panels, optionally with batteries
- Replace gas or oil boilers with ground or air source heat pumps if possible, else use electric heating with heat storage.

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.

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>

If you want to calculate your Carbon Footprint the Dacorum Climate Action Network has released the Climate Hero Carbon Calculator for a Dacorum specific carbon footprint view. To work out your emissions enter information about your energy consumption, travel habits, and other activities in the calculator.

<https://climatehero.typeform.com/dacorum-borough>

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

enquiries@berkhamsted-tc.gov.uk

Average Household Energy Consumption

