



Water & Energy Cost Saving Guide

How We Can All Play Our Part

These days, news headlines are full of cost-of-living increases and environmental impact stories, meaning it can be difficult to see how you can help to make a difference.

This guide gives practical tips for social landlords, care home operators and residents alike, on how small changes can lead to big savings, both environmentally and financially, over time.

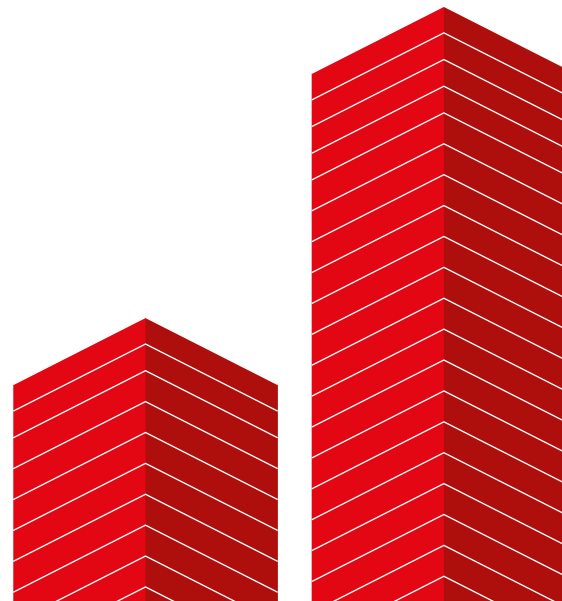
Why Should We Care?

Wider global events have triggered spiralling gas and electric bills for businesses and homes, and with global warming now about damage limitation rather than avoidance, many are wondering what are the facts, and what part can each of us play to make life easier for our tenants and residents?

Let's take a look at what the statistics are telling us.

Increased Energy Cap

Higher wholesale prices have led to significant rises in the price cap for the average household and UK energy bills.



2019

Set below
£1,200

2022

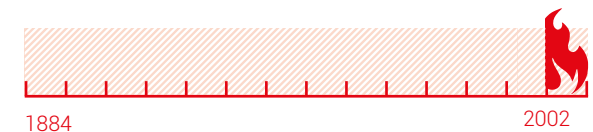
New price cap of
£2,500 announced¹
(for an average usage household)

Global Warming

Climate change is a global problem that affects us all. This means homes have an important part to play in meeting 2030 emissions targets.



85% of people are concerned to some degree about climate change²



The **10 hottest years** since 1884 have all happened since 2002³



40% of UK emissions come from households⁴

Reducing Gas/Electricity Bills

The QUICK Wins

- + **Turn off electrical appliances when not in use** – UK households could save an average of £147 per year if appliances were turned off rather than on standby, according to British Gas⁵.
- + **Turn thermostats down by one degree** – Even before the cost of energy escalated, energy experts at uSwitch advised that turning down the thermostat by one degree could save approximately £80 on heating bills.
- + **Only boil the kettle with the amount of water needed** – This small change could save at least £36 a year according to the Energy Saving Trust.
- + **Wash clothes at lower temperatures** – Washing at 30 degrees rather than 40 degrees can help reduce energy usage and bills.

The BIG Wins

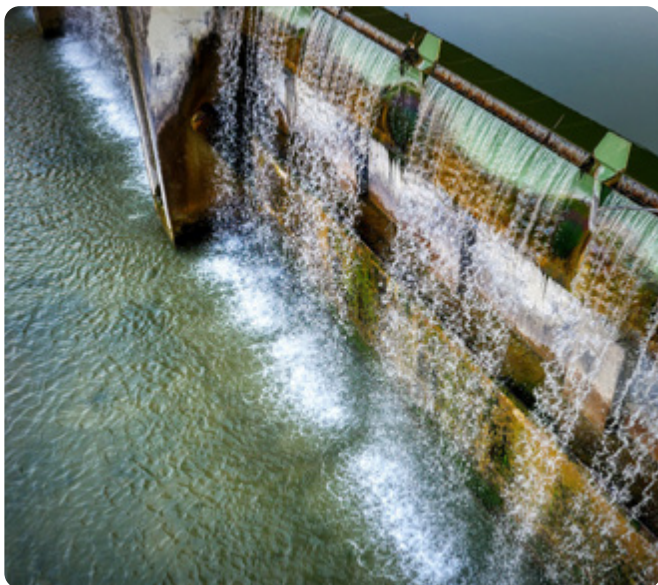
- + **Buy efficient appliances** – When it's time to buy a new appliance, look for an A+++ appliance. An A+++ fridge freezer will save around £320 in energy bills over its lifetime compared to an A+ model⁶.
- + **Install a new boiler** – Energy and money can be saved by upgrading the boiler, if an older one is still in operation. In fact, based on energy prices in March 2019, a detached house upgrading from a G-rated boiler could save around £300 a year⁷.
- + **Invest in double glazing** – An entirely single-glazed, semi-detached home costs at least £110 more a year to keep warm, compared to one with A-rated double glazing⁸.



What About Water?

A large majority of the UK's greenhouse gas emissions are produced because of energy consumption⁹. As well as heating our homes, a significant amount of energy is required to collect, treat, and supply clean water to them.

Water conservation not only makes financial sense in terms of bills reduction, but it also helps reduce each household and care home's carbon footprint and its broader environmental impact.



UK Residential Water Facts

Each person uses approximately

142
L I T R E S
of water per day¹⁰

46% of people believe
their household uses under

20
L I T R E S
Roughly equivalent to taking
a 2-minute shower¹¹

68%

68% of people are willing to reduce the
amount of water they use at home to
help protect the environment¹²



How Can We Play Our Part?

It might feel like the problems of rising energy bills and climate change are too big to handle, and yes, a lot is dictated by government policy, however, there are things we can all do to help us play our part, whether we're a resident, social landlord, or care home owner. Some take more financial investment, and some are about changing our habits, but every small change has an incremental benefit on helping us all use less energy and save money.

Water Wasters

Latest data from the Energy Saving Trust shows that in the UK we are big wasters of water:

- + 840 billion litres each year is used in showers across Britain
- + Around £2.3 billion is spent on heating water for showers
- + More than 740 billion litres is flushed down the toilet – enough to fill 300,000 Olympic-sized swimming pools
- + Our dishwashers and washing machines use 360 billion litres each year, costing households £1.6 billion in electricity bills

Reducing Water Consumption

The QUICK Wins

- + **Turn off the taps when washing up or brushing your teeth** – Running a tap uses 6 litres of water per minute. Brushing your teeth for 2 minutes twice a day uses 24 litres of water, making this small change means a family of four could save nearly 100 litres per day = approximately £31 per year if they're on a water meter¹³.
- + **Put a full load in the dishwasher or washing machine** – This is widely acknowledged to help save water and reduce bills.
- + **Fix leaking toilets or dripping taps** – A leaking toilet can waste an average of around 400 litres of water a day = five full bathtubs or around £350 a year¹⁴.
- + **Install a cistern displacement device** – This is placed in the cistern to displace around 1 litre of water every time the toilet is flushed. This can achieve savings of up to 5000 litres per year and is usually available free from most water companies¹⁵.
- + **Take shorter showers** – According to Waterwise, the average shower head uses 12 litres of water per minute (with power showers using around 15 litres). The average shower is 10 minutes long – that's up to 150 litres of water with every shower!¹⁶ If a family of four reduced their shower time by just one minute, they could save up to £45 on metered water bills and a further £52 on energy bills every year¹⁷.
- + **Use a timer to reduce time spent in the shower** – This can help to make you more aware of how much water you are using. For those who are physically and mentally able to have shorter showers, 5 minutes is advised as this can help to reduce showering time and save water.

The BIG Wins

- + **Invest in a shower that allows you to decrease your water/energy usage** – Choose a reduced-flow mixer shower or consider an electric shower that can monitor water usage, frequency, and energy consumption.
- + **Ensure new dishwasher and washing machine purchases are energy efficient** – Look out for both the energy consumption and water efficiency labels when shopping around.
- + **Choose a water-saving toilet** – AKW Livenza and Navlin close-coupled WCs have been designed with this in mind.



AKW Shower Timer Offer

If you'd like a **FREE** 5-minute hourglass timer with suction cup for use in the shower, please email marketing@akw-ltd.co.uk

AKW Cares

AKW has created a range of water-saving products that help social landlords, care homes, and tenants reduce water/energy usage and save money on bills.

Electric Showers Can Save Energy & Water

Electric showers take water from the mains cold water supply and pass it through an element inside the shower unit which heats the water. This is more economic as it only heats water when it is needed, saving both energy and water.

As well as the economic impact, electric showers offer benefits for the environment, as they reduce the electricity used and water required, compared to conventional showering systems.



AKW SmartCare Plus® Electric Shower®

All AKW showers and sanitaryware are WRAS approved, however the AKW SmartCare Plus shower is available with a remote for ultimate water usage management:

- + Ideal for individual or assisted showering, the AKW SmartCare Plus shower comes with a remote control that can adjust power, temperature, and flow to maximise water saving potential for the user
- + The shower is RNIB and BEAB Care approved



Intertek



Livenza Plus & Navlin Sanitaryware

We've developed our most recent sanitaryware collections with functionality and water efficiency in mind.

- + Fully compliant with UK water and British Standard regulations
- + Full and reduced flush options increase performance and water efficiency
- + BS EN 997 approval ensures improved flush performance, with an overflow pipe that has been increased to 300mm to meet current water regulation requirements, making it an efficient sanitaryware option
- + Our close-coupled cisterns have bottom water entry inlets with a one-piece, visible top-fill water inlet valve and an all-round air gap, ensuring they are some of the only fully compliant products on the market today

AKW Bidet Collection & Geberit AquaClean Mera Care

As well as promoting toileting independence, bidets and wash and dry toilets can contribute to environmental and cost savings:

- + Ironically, cleaning with water consumes less water than cleaning with toilet paper, because the production of toilet paper requires 2,350 litres of water per year for one household, whereas the average bidet uses only 1500 litres¹⁸
- + The average person uses 127 rolls of toilet paper a year; for a family of four, this can work out to approximately £275 a year¹⁹



AKW's bidet range meets tenants' clinical needs, whilst helping them reduce water consumption and save money. The range includes:

- + The Close-Coupled Bidet which feels at home in any 21st century bathroom and comes with an accessible price point
- + The Back-to-Wall Bidet which is suitable for a variety of users and can be installed with a concealed cistern, with AKW fitted bathroom furniture, or as a low-level WC
- + The Wall-Hung Bidet which is an ultra-modern and discreet solution that can be installed at a user-specific height
- + The Rise & Fall Bidet which addresses a variety of clinical needs while promoting the retention or increase of independence and dignity



Talk to the Experts

There are big and small ways that we can all help save water and cut some of the costs of daily living.

Request a visit from your regional Sales representative at:
www.akw-ltd.co.uk/contact-us or alternatively contact us
using the details below:

Email: **marketing@akw-ltd.co.uk**

AKW, Pointon Way, Hampton Lovett, Droitwich Spa, WR9 0LR
www.akw-ltd.co.uk



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