

The Energy Bills Support Scheme Alternative Funding and The Alternative Fuel Payments Alternative Fund

There are various Government schemes designed to help with energy bills including:

1. the [Energy Bills Support Scheme](#), which gave most households £400 towards the cost of their energy bills (automatically paid by the electricity supplier); and
2. the [Alternative Fuels Payment](#), which gives households off the mains gas grid and which use alternative fuel as the main way to heat the home (e.g. heating oil) a payment of £200. This is *on top of* the £400 payment from the electricity supplier (under scheme 1 above) and is also automatically paid by the electricity supplier.

The Government is mindful that there are households who may not receive the automatic payments under the above schemes because:

- (a) Either they don't have a direct contract with an electricity supplier (e.g. some tenants); or
- (b) they are off grid.

For households falling into categories (a) or (b) the Government has therefore introduced the following help which must be applied for:

- the [Energy Bills Support Scheme Alternative Funding](#). This is the same one-off payment of £400 towards energy bills under scheme 1 above save eligible households must apply for it (because they didn't qualify for the payment automatically).

How to apply: via the Government's [online portal](#) or search "Apply for *energy bill support* if you do not get it automatically" or call the helpline on 0808 175 3287. If eligible, your council will arrange a one-off payment. **Deadline: 31 May 2023.**

- the [Alternative Fuels Payment Alternative Fund](#). This is the same one-off payment of £200 as under scheme 2 above where alternative fuels are used as the main form of heating save eligible households must apply for it (because they didn't qualify for the payment automatically).

How to apply: via the Government's [online portal](#) or search "Apply for *alternative fuel bill support* if you do not get it automatically" or call the helpline on 0808 175 3943. If eligible, your council will arrange a one-off payment. **Deadline: 31 May 2023.**

Use the links in this summary document to check eligibility including categories of eligible homes, for example, residents of residential park homes and houseboat dwellers.