

£5 BILLION WASTED IN ENERGY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM EVERY YEAR

Ulidia Housing Association is launching an Environmental Initiative aimed at making your homes more energy efficient and saving you money. This initiative results from a commitment by the Association to reduce fuel consumption and use energy produced by sustainable methods. We have teamed up with Energy First, an authority on Energy Efficiency activities to advise you and us on how best to carry out these measures.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

As part of this commitment to energy efficiency and sustainability all new Ulidia properties are built to environmentally specific standards with regard to features such as insulation and heating systems.

Furthermore, the ongoing Planned Maintenance Programme follows sustainable practices in our existing properties such as replacing windows, doors, insulation and heating where required.

The Association has signed up to the Cosy Homes Scheme whereby we plan to install oil and gas central heating in place of existing E7 systems.

We also encourage tenants to take up the opportunity to register for NIE's Eco Energy programme. Registering for this service will ensure your electricity comes from renewable sources at no additional cost. A registration form for this tariff is enclosed.

In the future we hope to further develop this initiative with the adoption of renewable forms of energy such as solar heating as well as improving recycling facilities and initiating a tree-planting scheme.

If you have any comments or queries on these plans, please contact the Association.



Energy

LIGHTING:

- Low energy light bulbs use around a 1/4 of the electricity of a normal light bulb saving you up to £10.00 per light bulb per year.
- Turn off lights when leaving a room (Lighting accounts for 10-15% of the electricity bill).



HEATING:

- Close your curtains at dusk to stop heat escaping through the windows.
- Too Warm? Turning your thermostat down by 1°C could cut your heating bills by up to 10%.
- In just one day a dripping hot water tap can waste energy and enough water to fill a bath. Make sure they are turned off.
- Draught proof letterboxes and gaps at floorboards.
- Take a shower instead of a bath. An ordinary shower uses only 15% of hot water needed for a bath.

COOKING:

- Match saucepans to the size of the ring and cover with a lid to reduce cooking time.
- Electric toasters are quicker and more efficient than grills for toast.
- Only use the amount of water you need when boiling the kettle.



Efficiency Tips

LAUNDRY:

- Use a 40°C wash cycle rather than a 60°C wash cycle. A 40°C wash cycle uses 1/3 less electricity.
- Always try to wash a full load – if you can't, use an economy load if your machine has one.
- Don't put very wet clothes into a tumble drier; wring them out or spin-dry them first. This is much faster and will save you money.



APPLIANCES:

- Don't leave the fridge freezer door open longer than necessary. For every minute that the fridge door is open, it will take 3 minutes for it to regain its temperature.
- Defrost your fridge regularly to keep it running cheaply and efficiently.
- Never leave appliances on standby – turn them off.
- De-scale electric kettles regularly – the build up of scale means it takes more energy to boil the same amount of water.
- Don't put hot food in the fridge; energy is wasted cooling it down.

