

Consumer Focus news, work and energy price comparison update

Quarterly Energy Report

As part of our work to promote greater awareness of the cost of different energy tariffs, Consumer Focus Wales is putting together a draft quarterly energy report. Copies of the pilot report were shown to stakeholders at the Royal Welsh Show, with the intention to launch our first Quarterly Energy Report in October. The draft report outlined how the average cost of electricity and gas bills had changed over the past six years, showed the high levels of consumers in South Wales who had chosen to remain with their



Consumer Focus Wales is compiling a quarterly energy report

original supplier before switching was made possible (eg Swalec in South Wales) and illustrated the savings that could be made by switching between suppliers. In some cases, savings of £109 a year could be made, according to the latest figures. To obtain a copy of the draft report, please contact [Angharad Thomas](#)

Digital switchover Survey

A mystery shopper exercise conducted by Consumer Focus Wales has revealed that a quarter of installers said our caller would need a new aerial – despite Ofcom figures showing 90-95% of homes would not need one. There was good awareness of the switchover dates, particularly in the Swansea area, but installers in the North East and South East were much less impressive. Consumer Focus Wales will be sharing the data with Trading Standards officers across Wales and writing to installers. For more details [click here](#)

Forthcoming Events:

- **September 16 Consumer Focus Wales' Board meeting at Consumer Focus Wales, 3rd Floor, Capital Tower, Greyfriars Road, Cardiff CF10 3AG**

Members of the public are welcome to attend

Consumer Focus Wales's monthly newsletter now features monthly energy price comparison data. This month the data compares Economy 7 direct debit and standard credit tariffs for electricity-only customers in North and South Wales, for the six major suppliers (cost per annum). The purpose of this example is to show the differences between suppliers and the power of switching. For more details on how you could switch, [click here](#)

News from Consumer Focus Wales

- [Our love of gadgets defies the recession](#) Western Mail, July 31
- [Winter fuel saving drive launched](#) BBC, July 24
- [Plastic bag addiction curbed but Wales won't sack levy](#) (no link) Western Mail, July 17
- [Ignorance of digital switchover](#) (no link) South Wales Argus, July 17

Monthly energy price comparison data (cost per annum)*

£/annum	British Gas	EDF	Npower	E.On	Scottish Power	Swalec
Direct Debit—Economy 7 Electricity-only Tariffs						
North Wales	£624	£629	£719	£683	£630	£673
South Wales	£623	£632	£721	£706	£624	N/A
Standard Credit—Economy 7 Electricity-only Tariffs						
North Wales	£664	£638	£740	£727	£708	£709
South Wales	£663	£640	£742	£751	£664	N/A

* July 2009 data