



**POWERING
Positive
Change**

Choosing Your Energy Suppliers

If you are moving into your new home it is a good time to consider who supplies your electricity, heating oil or natural gas!

Electricity

At present you should be able to choose between five different electricity suppliers, with contact details for each provided below.

A quick way to identify savings would be to use the Consumer Council energy comparison tool www.consumerCouncil.org.uk/energy/energy-price-comparison/ However, we would recommend checking any prices quoted directly with suppliers, just in case there have been any recent changes.

If you've changed supplier in the last year or two then it would be best to check your existing contract terms in case you are tied in for a period of time, but normally if that's not the case and you don't have outstanding debt then switching is easy.

Just contact your chosen supplier and provide them with your details and a meter reading from your home and your new supplier will look after the rest!

You could also consider changing the way in which you pay for electricity by changing to either a keypad meter (where you top up electricity using a card) or a Credit meter (where you receive bills). If you're choosing to receive bills you can sometimes receive cheaper rates by choosing to pay via direct debit and also consider paperless billing.



Supplier		
PowerNI	03457 455 455	home@powerni.co.uk
SSE Airtricity	0345 864 3546	customerservice@sseairtricity.com
Budget Energy	0800 012 1177	Info@budgetenergy.co.uk
Electric Ireland	0345 600 5335	customerservice@electricireland.com
Click Energy	0800 107 0732	chat@clickenergyni.com



Natural Gas

If your home is heated with natural gas then you may be able to choose between different suppliers, depending on where you live. If you live within the Greater Belfast area (which includes areas such as Belfast, Lisburn, Larne, Carrickfergus, Newtownabbey, Bangor, Holywood, Newtownards and Comber) then you can choose between one of the two suppliers below.

You may also be able to choose between using a keypad meter and receiving bills.

Within other parts of Northern Ireland there may only be one supplier, although this is likely to change in the future. There are also plans at present to bring natural gas to other parts of Northern Ireland, including parts of Co. Down, Co. Tyrone and Co. Fermanagh.



Supplier		
SSE Airtricity Gas	0345 900 5253	info@airtricitygasni.com
Firmus Energy	0800 032 4567	furtherinfo@firmusenergy.co.uk

Heating Oil

If your home is heated with heating oil then you will usually be able to choose between a large number of suppliers. Prices vary and so we would advise our customers to obtain a number of prices.

There are also websites which you can use to either provide you with up to date oil prices or even compare suppliers online and purchase heating oil, such as www.consumerCouncil.org.uk/energy/home-heating-oil/ or www.boilerjuice.com

You could also consider joining an oil buying club where oil deliveries are grouped together to achieve savings.

You can check if there is an existing oil buying club in your area by contacting Bryson Energy on **0800 1422 867** or visiting their website at www.brysonenergy.org/projects-and-partnerships/140-oil-buying-club-scheme.html

Communal Heating

At some of our schemes the heating to individual properties is provided through a communal heating system, where Choice is responsible for purchasing heating oil or natural gas.

Whilst you are not able to change your heating supplier in these instances, the Energy Team at Choice review available options every one to two years and enter into contracts to try to deliver the lowest possible costs. This also applies to other housing schemes where there is heating in common areas such as corridors, stairwells or communal spaces.

For more information on switching suppliers please contact a member of our Energy Team on:

0300 111 2211

or email:

energy@choice-housing.org