**Warm Home Discount Scheme**; If you get benefits, you might be able to get £150 off your electricity bill or £150 added to your prepayment meter. **You don't need to apply for the scheme** - payments are automatic. You only get the discount if your supplier is in the scheme and you were with them on 21st august 2022, so check that information.

### Other possible payments

**Fuel vouchers**; If you can't afford to top up your prepayment meter, you might be able to get a fuel voucher. You can use it to add credit to your gas card or electricity key. If you don't have one of these, contact your supplier to get one. To apply go onto the City Council website: **manchester.gov.uk/info/200008/benefits\_and\_support/6300/help\_with\_fuel** 

The Winter Fuel Payment is an annual one-off payment to help you pay for heating during the winter. You can usually get a Winter Fuel Payment if you were born on or before 25 September 1956. It should be paid automatically once you reach State Pension age, but sometimes you might need to apply: gov.uk/winter-fuel-payment/how-to-claim

If you're in debt to your energy supplier, **you might be able to get a grant to help pay it off**. Not all energy supplier offer grants. If you can't get a grant from your supplier, you might be able to get a grant from the British Gas Energy Trust. List of energy suppliers in the scheme and more information:

citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/energy-supply/get-help-paying-your-bills/ grants-and-benefits-to-help-you-pay-your-energy-bills/

manchestercommunitycentral.org/individual-hardship-funds advice about a range of individual hardship funds.

### Get help to insulate your home to reduce future bills even more

**For Tenants and those on benefits...Do you get one of these benefits?** Child Benefit, Pension Guarantee Credit, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA), Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA), Income Support, Tax Credits (Child Tax Credits and Working Tax Credits), Universal Credit, Housing benefit, Pension credit saving credit? **The ECO Scheme may be for you:** Energy companies have ECO targets and can sometimes support installation of insulation or more efficient heating systems (and many other options).

Ask your landlord for permission (including if your property is owned by a social housing provider or management company) you can then apply through the installers in your area. You will find information here: gov.uk/improve-energy-efficiency

For Home owners...Home energy Loan Plan: The Home Energy Loan Plan - HELP is interest-free, available to homeowners in Manchester to do work that increases energy efficiency, including heating system upgrades, double glazing, alternative energy like solar panels. There are some administration charges., contact: https://careandrepair-manchester.org.uk/ or 0161 872 5500

**The Boiler Upgrade Scheme (BUS) for homeowners** aims to reduce carbon emissions from heating. Upfront capital grants are available. Acting on behalf of property owners, MSC certified installers can apply for:

- £5000 off the cost and installation of an air source heat pump
- £5000 off the cost and installation of a biomass boiler
- £6000 off the cost and installation of a ground source heat pump, including water source heat pumps

Certain technical conditions apply. Apply here: mcscertified.com/find-an-installer/

# **ADVICE is available!**

## Unsure what to do? Need to speak to someone? Get advice!

#### **Groundwork's Green Doctors:**

help UK residents stay warm, stay well, and save money on household bills. groundwork.org.uk/greendoctor/, email greendoctor@groundwork.org.uk

The Citizen Advice Bureau offers specialised advice: citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/energy-supply/get-help-paying-your -bills/grants-and-benefits-to-help-you-pay-your-energy-bills/ or 0808 278 7800

Simple Energy Advice gives free independent advice: gov.uk/improve-energy-efficiency or 0800 444202

#### Local resources:

gatewaym40.org - advice about finance and grants for fuel in certain situations.

**manchestercommunitycentral.org/individual-hardship-funds** - advice about a range of individual hardship funds

## If you are struggling to stay warm there is going to be a Warm Bank at JNR8 on Cromwell Avenue M16 More information from Whalley Range Community Forum: https://www.whalleyrange.org/

**Did you know?** Manchester libraries offer free SIMs to people struggling to access the internet and sell cheap refurbished laptops (50 pounds). More info at: **letsgetdigitalmanchester.com** 

Get involved and join us to fight for warm homes! Get in touch with us at Whalley Range Climate Action WRCAG #RangeAction whalley\_range\_climate\_action\_group@lists.riseup.net

# https://unitedforwarmhomes.uk/