

Energy Saving Advice

*“Energy efficiency
could help you save
up to 20% on your
energy bills”*

**SmartestEnergy
Business Customer
Help Guide**

Get switched on to switching off

We'll begin with the most obvious one, but probably the easiest to introduce. Make sure that, where possible, all PCs, machines, equipment, lighting and air-conditioning units are switched off overnight.

*In a large office assign a member of staff as your **'energy champion'** and make them responsible for changing peoples behaviours. For shared equipment such as photocopiers and water coolers, consider fitting timers to ensure they are switched off out-of-hours.*



Shed some light on the situation

Where possible, change standard light bulbs for low energy light bulbs. They provide the same amount of light, but use only 20% of the electricity and last up to 15 times longer. Install movement sensors to lighting where appropriate, especially rooms that are not often used as people can forget to switch lights off after use.

Label equipment and control switches so that it's clear how to switch something on/off when it's needed. Some people need reminding, so a little nudge will get staff heading in the right direction.



Be a bright spark and others will follow

If you see a load of people wearing t-shirts you could probably get away with turning the heating down slightly. Notice a light on in a rarely used meeting room? Think about installing a sensor (or, as a short-term solution, simply switch it off).

Look around and you might also spot machinery that is left on when not being used and other areas of waste. Equally important, this behaviour might start to wear off on your colleagues if you do this regularly - and you'll need to inspire others if change is going to happen.



Turn down heat to turn up savings

Heating the workplace can account for between 20-40% of a business' energy costs. It's recommended that the office temperature is set to 19C because equipment, lighting and heat from bodies adds to the indoor temperature.

It sounds a little prehistoric, but encourage your employees to wear warmer clothing if they are feeling the cold. Ensure a heating or cooling system is set to come on and go off during working hours. Make sure the system cools, heats and ventilates at the correct times of the day.



Keep eyes on the road ahead

Taking regular meter readings and comparing consumption over time is a good idea. Our Web Analyser Service is the ideal tool for this and makes it easy to keep a close eye on electricity usage. That way you can understand what and when you are using the most and potentially highlight areas to cut wastage.

If your business manufactures tangible products try to breakdown the energy used per item. This could allow you to spot heavy usage patterns and identify areas where savings could be made.



Watt more incentive do you need

Look into the possibility of investing in energy saving technologies and products. The Enhanced Capital Allowance scheme (ECA) enables you to claim 100% first year capital allowances on investments of qualifying equipment.

You could potentially cover the cost of your investment from taxable profits for the period in which you make an investment. That sort of talk will go a long way in convincing the decision-makers.



Ignite the senses and learn more

*The **Carbon Trust** helps UK businesses to improve energy efficiency and reduce energy costs. They have a number of resources available to your business that are completely free of charge.*

Their guides provide advice on energy efficient technology and renewable energy, as well as sector-based advice covering retail, hospitality, manufacturing, and many more. Visit the Carbon Trust website here for further help & advice:

<https://www.carbontrust.com/our-projects/green-business-fund>



Get In Touch

SmartestEnergy Business will keep you informed of any new products or services to help you improve energy efficiency.

If you have any questions regarding energy saving advice, please get in touch with our dedicated Customer Services, they'll be happy to help.



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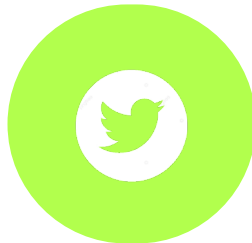
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