

## Winter is coming

As summer ends and the temperature drops, Copeland Council is helping residents keep warm and save money on their energy bills.

The authority's successful group buying scheme – the Copeland Big Switch – has so far saved some people hundreds of pounds, with most people who enquire being offered savings of some degree.

Copeland's portfolio holder for energy, David Moore, said: "Ten per cent of people in Copeland are in fuel poverty. We want people to look at whether they are actually getting the best deal they can. If they've been on the same tariff for years for example, joining the Big Switch could save them significant amounts."

The Copeland Big Switch, along with other schemes across the country, creates a large group of people interested in cheaper tariffs, then gives their custom to the energy firm offering the best deal.

Residents can express an interest in being part of the scheme, run in partnership with iChoosr, by visiting [www.copeland.gov.uk](http://www.copeland.gov.uk) [1].

Coun Moore added: "People, particularly those who might be vulnerable to the cold, should not have to approach the winter wondering whether they can afford to have the heating on. Even for those not particularly vulnerable, it makes no sense to pay more than necessary. Now that children are back at school and holidays are over, it's a good opportunity to take a few minutes to see what savings can be made."

Whilst savings can't be guaranteed, most people will be offered a saving. It is free to join and there is no obligation to switch tariffs once the offer has been calculated. The amount saved will vary depending on consumption, current deal and the winning bid. The process is designed to ensure the majority of participants are offered savings.

Residents can either visit [www.copeland.gov.uk](http://www.copeland.gov.uk) [2], or call 01946 598300 to join the scheme. They will need their latest energy bill to hand for the registration process.



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### Links

[1] <http://www.copeland.gov.uk/>



[2] <http://www.copeland.gov.uk>