

# Fuel Poor Network Extension Scheme from 1 April 2016

## How to apply

### Supporting vulnerable and fuel poor households

Gas is one of the least expensive sources of energy, but not every household is connected to the gas network. Getting connected to the grid and having access to gas can make a real difference in the quality of living standards for those in fuel poverty. Using our price control mechanisms (GDPCR1 and RIIO-GD1) we have developed the Fuel Poor Network Extension Scheme, which helps households connect to the networks owned by the Gas Distribution Network Companies (GDNs) or Independent Gas Transporter (IGT) companies, where a gas connection is the best form of assistance for them.

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The Fuel Poor Network Extension Scheme is a scheme delivered by the GDNs and IGTs in partnership with other partner organisations. It aims to help vulnerable and fuel poor households switch to a natural gas or a heat network to heat their homes. The scheme provides funding to eligible households which helps cover the costs of connecting to the gas or heat network.

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This factsheet explains how the scheme works, what the eligibility criteria are and how you can apply.

### Find out if you're eligible

You may be eligible for support if you meet at least one of the scheme's eligibility criteria outlined on the next page.

We reviewed the scheme recently and made changes to the eligibility criteria to take account of changes in wider government support and fuel poverty policy. The new criteria will take effect from 1 April 2016.

Criteria for those who apply by 31 March 2016	Criteria for those who apply from 1st April 2016
You must live within the 20% most deprived areas in the UK measured by the Government's Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). The IMD is defined separately for England, Scotland and Wales	You must live within the 25% most deprived areas in the UK measured by the Government's Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). The IMD is defined separately for England, Scotland and Wales
You must be eligible for support under the Warm Front Scheme in England, Nest in Wales, or the Energy Assistance Package in Scotland	You must be eligible for support under Home Heating Cost Reduction Obligation in England, Wales or Scotland, Nest in Wales or the Home Energy Efficiency Programmes in Scotland
You must fall within the Priority Group (low income households and over 70 years of age) for measures under the Carbon Emissions Reduction Target	You must be in fuel poverty based on the latest government definition or indicator. This currently is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In England, the Low Income High Cost Indicator where a household is considered to be fuel poor if its income is below the poverty line (taking into account energy costs) and its energy costs are higher than is typical for its household type</li> <li>In Scotland and Wales, a household spends more than 10% of disposable income on all household fuel use</li> </ul>
You must be in fuel poverty based on the standard Government definition/indicator - that is spend more than 10% of your disposable income on all household fuel use	

## How does the scheme work?

The scheme can support households located on networks owned by the GDN and IGT companies. A partner organisation who works with your network company may also get in touch with you if they have identified you to be eligible for support. You can apply by contacting the company who owns the network in your area using the list of contacts below.

We approve these partner organisations that the network companies want to work with. The network companies must demonstrate to us that these partner organisations:

- have the ability to provide and/or facilitate funding for 'in-house works' required.
- have screening processes in place to identify eligible households under the scheme.
- have the ability to assess whether a gas connection is the best solution to meet the needs of an eligible household.

## How is the voucher value calculated?

Network companies and their partner organisations use our voucher calculator to assess the voucher value available to you, if you are eligible to receive support. In the majority of cases the voucher value will cover the cost of the connection.

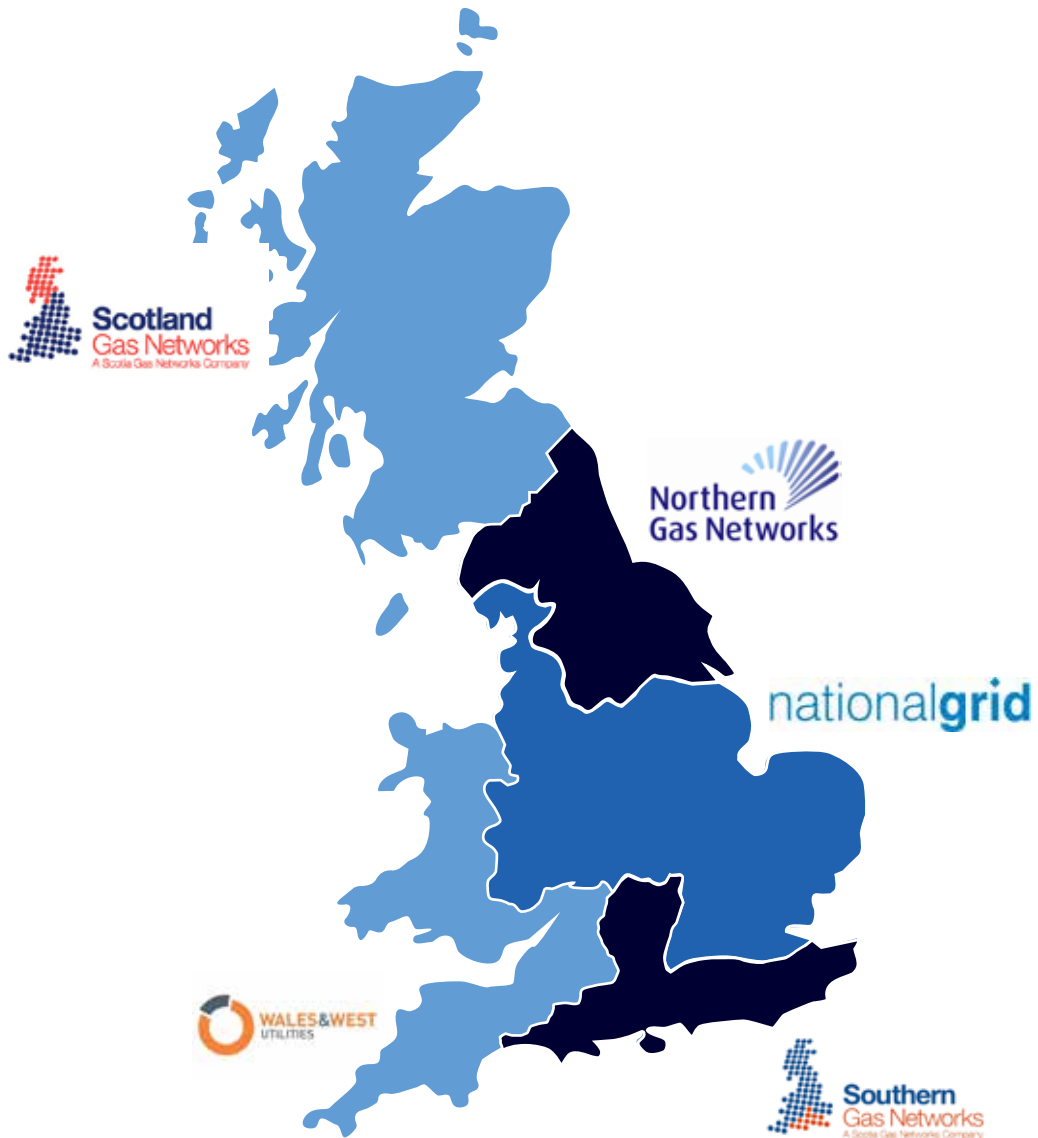
If the cost of the work involved to set up the connection is greater than the voucher value, you will be requested to make a contribution.

## How do I apply for the scheme?

If you think you may be eligible for funding, you will need to contact the company which owns the gas network in your area.

Your company could be one of the four licenced GDNs who own specific parts of the network in Great Britain or it could be one of the six licenced IGT companies which own smaller networks within each GDN area. The map below shows the areas covered by the different gas distribution networks companies in the country and contact details of each company you may wish to speak with if you think you are eligible for assistance.

## Gas Distributions Networks



## Independent Gas Transporters



Gas Distribution Network	Contact details
National Grid	National Grid Affordable Warmth Solutions <b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:admin@ngrid-aws.org.uk">admin@ngrid-aws.org.uk</a> <b>tel:</b> 0121 623 2052 <b>website:</b> <a href="http://www2.nationalgrid.com/UK/Services/Gas-distribution-connections/New-connections/">http://www2.nationalgrid.com/UK/Services/Gas-distribution-connections/New-connections/</a>
Wales and West Utilities	Stuart Neill <b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:Stuart.Neill@wwutilities.co.uk">Stuart.Neill@wwutilities.co.uk</a> <b>tel:</b> 02920 278713 Rachel Whitelock <b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:Rachel.whitelock@wwutilities.co.uk">Rachel.whitelock@wwutilities.co.uk</a> <b>tel:</b> 02920 278809 <b>website:</b> <a href="http://www.wwutilities.co.uk/services/gas-connections/warm-home-assistance/">http://www.wwutilities.co.uk/services/gas-connections/warm-home-assistance/</a>
Northern Gas Network	Community Energy Solutions <b>tel:</b> 0113 2727330 <b>website:</b> <a href="http://www.northerngasnetworks.co.uk/your-connections/domestic/free-connections/">http://www.northerngasnetworks.co.uk/your-connections/domestic/free-connections/</a>
Scotland Gas Networks and Southern Gas Network	Robbie Stevenson <b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:Robbie.stevenson@sgn.co.uk">Robbie.stevenson@sgn.co.uk</a> <b>tel:</b> 07814 303019 <b>website:</b> <a href="https://www.sgn.co.uk/Our-Services/01-SGN-Connections/03-SGN-Connections/">https://www.sgn.co.uk/Our-Services/01-SGN-Connections/03-SGN-Connections/</a>
Independent Gas Transporter	Contact details
Indigo pipelines	Cher Harris <b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:cher.harris@sse.com">cher.harris@sse.com</a> <b>tel:</b> 01635 272503 <b>website:</b> <a href="http://www.indigopipelines.co.uk">www.indigopipelines.co.uk</a>
Brookfield Utilities	Ann Crooks <b>tel:</b> 01359 245452 Helga Petersen <b>tel:</b> 01359 243339 <a href="mailto:1house1connection@gtc-uk.co.uk">1house1connection@gtc-uk.co.uk</a> <b>website:</b> <a href="http://www.gtc-uk.co.uk">www.gtc-uk.co.uk</a>
ESP Utilities Group	Infill Project Development <b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:customerservices@espipelines.com">customerservices@espipelines.com</a> <b>tel:</b> 01372 227560 <b>website:</b> <a href="http://www.esputilities.com">www.esputilities.com</a>
Fulcrum	Paul Leighton <b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:paul.leighton@fulcrum.co.uk">paul.leighton@fulcrum.co.uk</a> <b>tel:</b> 0114 280 4107 <b>website:</b> <a href="http://www.fulcrum.co.uk/services/gas-transporter">www.fulcrum.co.uk/services/gas-transporter</a>
Energy Assets Pipelines	John McLuskey <b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:siteworks@energyassets.co.uk">siteworks@energyassets.co.uk</a> <b>tel:</b> 01506 405 405 <b>website:</b> <a href="http://www.energyassets.co.uk">www.energyassets.co.uk</a>
Energetics	Mark Stewart <b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:mark.stewart@energetics-uk.com">mark.stewart@energetics-uk.com</a> <b>tel:</b> 01698 404931 Carine Russell <b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:carine.russell@energetics-uk.com">carine.russell@energetics-uk.com</a> <b>tel:</b> 01698 404973 Kym Whitehall <b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:kimberley.whitehall@energetics-uk.com">kimberley.whitehall@energetics-uk.com</a> <b>tel:</b> 01698 404932 <b>website:</b> <a href="http://www.energetics-uk.com/gas">www.energetics-uk.com/gas</a>