

# SHOCKED BY THE SIZE OF YOUR UTILITY BILLS!!!

FXU Advisers see a number of students who are having problems paying utility bills. Taking a few simple steps can reduce your costs and help save the environment. Here are some examples and suggestions:

1. Don't leave electrical equipment such as laptops, TVs and mobile phone chargers on standby. It has been worked out that approx 1.804 kilowatt hours (kWh) is wasted if appliances are left on for 22 hours per day. At a price of 14 pence per kWh this is 25p per day adding up to **£91.25 per year.**
2. Do you really need extra heating in your bedroom or could you put on an extra jumper? Working on an average cost of 14 pence per kWh – the following would cost you

Item	Duration	Cost
Bar Fire (3 kW)	6 hours per day	<b>£17.64 per week</b> <b>£917.28 per year!</b>
Fan Heater (2 kW)	6 hours per day	<b>£11.76 per week</b> <b>£611.52 per year!</b>
Oil Fired Radiator (1kW)	6 hours per day	<b>£5.88 per week</b> <b>£305.76 per year!</b>

3. Does everyone in your house use the washing machine with half a load? How about joining together to make a full load – you will also save on water as well.

Item	Cost	3 x per week	Per Year
Washing Machine load @ 40°C	£0.28	<b>£0.84</b>	<b>£43.68</b>
Tumble Dryer for 1 hour	£0.42	<b>£1.26</b>	<b>£65.52</b>

4. Switch off unnecessary lights – change from normal light bulbs to low energy ones.

Item	Duration	Cost	Per week	Per Year
10 Light Bulb (60W)	16 hours per day	£1.40	<b>£9.80</b>	<b>£509.60</b>
10 Low energy light bulb (20w)	16 hours per day	£0.44	<b>£3.08</b>	<b>£160.16</b>
		<b>Saving:</b>	<b>£6.72</b>	<b>£349.44</b>

5. Does everyone in your house eat at separate times? Why not try and cook, eat and clear up at the same time.

Item	Duration	Cost	x 5per wk	Per Year
Conventional electric oven	Medium heat for 1 hour	£0.42	<b>£2.10</b>	<b>£109.20</b>
Fan assisted electric oven	Medium heat for 1 hour	£0.28	<b>£1.40</b>	<b>£72.80</b>
Dishwasher (cold fill)	1 full load	£0.56	<b>£2.80</b>	<b>£145.60</b>

6. Do you leave your immersion heater on all the time? It is normally cheaper to have it on a timer or switch it on only when you need hot water.

Item	Cost	x 4 hrs per day	Per week	Per Year
Immersion water heater (3K) for 1 hour	£0.42	£1.68	<b>£11.76</b>	<b>£611.52</b>

**Having problems making your student loans etc last? Come and talk to an FXU Adviser on how you improve on your budgeting. For an appointment call in at either Woodlane or Tremough FXU Reception or phone Mo (Woodlane) 01326 213742 or Kim (Tremough) 01326 370447. We're here to help!**