

MICHAEL TOMLINSON MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

December 2022

Help with energy bills for those not on mains gas

Dear resident,

I know what an exceptionally challenging time this is as we face the rising cost of living. The government has put in place a range of support for the rising costs in energy bills for households and businesses.

People on low incomes including those on means tested benefits and disability benefits will have received one-off payments to help with extra costs. Every household is also getting £400 through their electricity supplier - paid in instalments from October to March. People who do not have a direct electricity supplier will receive this through the **Energy Bills Support Scheme Alternative Funding, (EBSSAF)** which is likely to start in January 2023. If you have not received a Cost of Living payment that you think you are entitled to, you can enquire online here <https://secure.dwp.gov.uk/report-a-missing-cost-of-living-payment/welcome>

Globally energy prices have risen significantly, and the government has capped gas and electricity prices through the **Energy Price Guarantee (EPG)**. This cap does not apply however to other sources of energy for heating, such as LPG, oil, or solid fuel. To help people who are not on mains gas, there will be a payment of £200 called the Alternative Fuel Payment. This should be paid shortly after the EBSSAF opens in January.

If you are not on mains gas, you should receive this payment automatically through your electricity supplier. I will be sharing more details of the planned dates for these payments on my social media and website – along with details of what to do if you think you are eligible for the payment but have not received it.

For more details of the help available, and links to other sources of help, please visit the dedicated section of my website: <https://www.michaeltomlinson.org.uk/cost-living-advice> It is important to note that notification for these payments will not come via text message – any such message is likely to be a scam. You should not need to give your bank details, as payments will be made through existing relationships with suppliers.

I hope this information is helpful. The Government will continue to listen and put in place policies to get help to residents as quickly as possible.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael."

Michael Tomlinson MP

Member of Parliament for Mid Dorset and North Poole