

REPORT OF THE  
Executive Member for Environment and Transport  
PART II

**358. COLLECTIVE ENERGY SWITCHING**

1. On 22 January 2013, the Executive Member for Environment and Transport approved proposals for a bid to help residents across Hampshire benefit from greater savings on their gas and electricity bills.

2. Following the successful delivery of the Hampshire Senate's Insulate Hampshire scheme - which has seen over 18,500 insulation measures installed into homes in Hampshire, equating to over £2 million in fuel bill savings - the County Council is undertaking work to develop new projects which could continue to benefit the residents and communities of Hampshire.

3. Typically, consumers in Hampshire could save up to £200 a year on their energy bills by participating in a collective energy switching scheme, depending upon their current tariff(s) and their personal circumstances. For the first year of the scheme it is predicted that total savings could reach £25m. This figure is likely to increase in future years of the scheme.

4. The County Council is working with other local authorities across Hampshire to set up a 'collective energy switching service' which will enable gas and electricity consumers in the county to combine their purchasing power and get a better deal on their bills. More details about the scheme and how people can register will be announced at the beginning of April 2013, subject to the tender process leading to the appointment of a contractor with the required expertise, skills and resources. The County Council intends to procure an intermediary organisation on the basis of a concession contract. The intermediary would recover referral fees from energy providers, therefore the County Council would not pay for the services that the intermediary would provide.

5. Nationally, collective energy switching is supported strongly by the Department of Energy and Climate Change, the Local Government Association and consumer groups including Consumer Focus.

6. Further details can be found at [www.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings.htm](http://www.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings.htm) by typing in the relevant reference number:

- Collective Energy Switching (4529)

**COUNCILLOR MEL KENDAL**  
**Executive Member for Environment and Transport**

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