# Keep Warm Stay Healthy this Winter



Keep your home warm to stay healthy this winter.

Find out how to make your home warmer and keep energy costs down.

Being warm and cosy in your home will help protect you and your family's health.









This leaflet has been produced by the Halton Affordable Warmth Group





#### Who is more at risk from the cold?

- People over 65
- Children under 5
- Pregnant women
- People with a long term health condition such as diabetes, respiratory illnesses, heart, liver or kidney disease or neurological disease.
- People with a weak immune system
- People with a disability

#### What's the best temperature to stay healthy and warm?

Over 24°C is HOT. Try to reduce the heat but stay warm.  24°C Just a 1°C reduction can save energy and heating costs.  21°C is an ideal temperature to keep you warm and healthy  18°C is the minimum night-time bedroom temperature for adults and older children. You might feel cold but there should be no risk to your health.  The ideal temperature for a baby's room is between 16°C and 20°C. This is for safe sleep and to avoid your baby getting too hot. Use light bedding or a lightweight, well-fitting baby sleep bag.  15°C At 15°C, you might start to feel uncomfortable and there is a higher risk of chest & breathing problems.  12°C is too cold and may increase blood pressure and your risk of heart attack or stroke.  9°C At 9°C or less there is a high risk of hypothermia.			
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#### **Top Tips for getting ready for Winter**

 Get your flu jab if you are eligible (It's free for people over 65, anyone with a long term condition, carersm pregnant women and young children). Speak to your GP or pharmacist for more information.



• Keep your bedroom windows closed at night.



 Make sure you have enough food and supplies in the house if a cold snap is forecast.



 If you take medications make sure you take them regularly and have enough in stock in case you can't get out of the house.



 Keep your home warm. If you are having trouble with your heating system or paying your bills, there is help available. Call one of the organisations listed in this leaflet for free help and advice.



### Money saving energy scheme Merseyside Collective Switch

Thousands of people across Merseyside have joined the Merseyside Collective Switch to get a better deal on their energy bills. Together they have saved over £1 million since 2013!

We're aiming to get an exclusive deal for people who register. Only those who have registered will have access to the exclusive deals. The more people who take part, the better the deal we'll get, so join in and don't forget to tell your friends!

Register by 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017 by calling Freephone 0800 043 0151 or visit www.LCRenergyswitch.co.uk.

## Where to get help and advice in Halton

There are many organisations who can help you keep you and your home warm and healthy.

- Is your heating system or boiler working and in good condition?
- Is your home well insulated?
- Are you eligible for a warm homes discount?
- Are you paying the right amount for your gas and electricity?

Call the Save Energy Advice Line for details - 0800 043 0151

- Are you receiving the right benefits?
- Are you struggling to pay for your gas and electricity?

Contact Citizen's Advice Halton for free advice - 0344 477 2121

Energy Projects Plus's (EPP) LEAP scheme offers FREE home energy visits to help people save money and keep their homes warm this winter.

Find out if you are eligible by calling 0800 043 0151.

## Do you rent your home?

If you rent, your landlord must ensure your heating system is safe and in good working order. This applies to private landlords as well.

Contact them if you have any doubts. Halton's Environmental Protection Team can help if you have problems with your landlord.

Halton Borough Council Environmental Health Call: 0303 333 4300

Email: environmental.protection@halton.gov.uk