

A study by Energy Information Administration (2011) found that Britain was the 10th worst offender in the world when it comes to carbon dioxide emissions from power consumption

Energy usage is generally down to building or appliance design and occupant behaviour. Here we have listed some tips to reducing energy waste while in the department and at home.

Energy waste in the office

Check to see if you've left any appliances on standby mode. Appliances in standby use a lot less energy but it's still going to waste, a new appliance wastes £1.23 per year. Add that up to everyone in the building and multiple appliances and that's a lot on nothing. Switch them off at the plug to save energy. Have a wander around your office before you go home and switch off all appliances at the wall: computers, printers, kitchen equipment.

Don't forget to turn out the lights when you leave a room.

Energy waste

Zoology Department Green Impact Team
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Energy waste in the home

Much like in the office, check if your appliances are on standby mode. An estimated 9-16% of the electricity consumed in homes is from appliances in standby.

When charging your tech, electricity is wasted continuing to charge a fully-charged device. Try charging during the day so you can turn off the charger once done.

Consider switching to a green energy supplier, there are more on the market every year with different schemes, either producing energy through renewable sources, or offsetting their carbon through projects. [This website](#) provides comparisons of a few.

Outdated technology tends to use more electricity than modern, consider replacing outdated appliances. For example, LED lighting use 75% less electricity than incandescent bulbs, have no mercury, and last 25% longer.

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Turn down your fridge and freezer. Your fridge should not need to be lower than 5°C, while your freezer shouldn't be lower than -18°C.

Turn down the thermostat. Turning it down by just 1 degree can save £85-90 per year.

Spending just 1 minute less in the shower can save £10 per year.

Maintain your appliances to keep them running efficiently. Bleed your radiators, and defrost your freezer.

Green Homes Grant

If you're a homeowner, the government has launched a grant to help pay towards the cost of installing energy efficient improvements to your home. Check [here](#) to see if you are eligible.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Green Team at: ea483@cam.ac.uk