

Family S

| | | | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| FUEL Electric | BUILDING AGE ? | BUILDING TYPE 3-Bed Semi | OCCUPANTS 1 adult 1 child | RENEWABLES - | CO ² SAVING -15% |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|

The S family are tenants in a 3 bed semi-detached house in Lingwood. There is no gas and is all electric.

The Challenge:

The family is an all electric household and, as tenants, their options were limited. Their home already had filled cavity walls and some insulation in the loft. The windows were double glazed but the draught stripping needed attention, as did the gaps in the front and back doors. The old storage heaters were covered with attractive covers.

The audit identified the following actions:

| Measure | Cost/£ | Savings per year | | |
|---|--------|------------------|------|--------------------|
| | | £ | kWh | Kg CO ² |
| Draught Proofing | 80 | 238 | 6383 | 1213 |
| Install an additional hot water tank jacket | 20 | 18 | 195 | 105 |
| Switch Energy Supplier | 0 | 130 | 0 | 0 |
| Top up loft insulation | 200 | 36 | 389 | 209 |
| Remove storage heater covers | 0 | 50 | 600 | 322 |

Results:

The family cut their electricity by 9%, giving an estimated saving of £106 of their annual energy bills.

| | Before actions | After actions |
|---|----------------|---------------|
| Total carbon footprint tCO ₂ | 7.7 | 7.0 |
| Electricity kWh | 14307 | 13088 |
| Saving £ | | £106 |

Overall the family made reductions in other areas and cut their total carbon footprint by 15% overall.

What the family did:

They were very keen to reduce their energy consumption through the project within their limited budget. Arrangements were made to top up the the loft insulation and draught stripping through Broadlands contractors. The family installed the Efergy energy monitor, using it to experiment and discover where their energy went. They found the batteries didn't last long and after a while stopped paying it to much attention. They family decided to remain on card meter, it made energy bills more manageable. The family also decided to keep the storage heater covers in place, even though it made them more efficient, as they found them ugly to live with.

The family investigated the option of installing solar hot water but found that it was unaffordable, despite being an ideal household. The family also got the home grown bug and have turned the garden over to growing veggies. They also shop much closer to home at the farm shop. *(continued overleaf...)*

"We found the Efergy really fun for a short while. It was great for showing what appliances used the most energy. We were really surprised that the tumble drier didn't use as much as we thought it would"

"We would have loved to have solar hot water installed, it would have made a huge difference to our energy bills. But if you want to do these things then there ought to be more financial help to do it"

What the family did: *(continued)*: This has saved them 2/3 of their annual shopping trips (a 40 mile round trip) and they only need to go now once every three weeks, massively cutting down their mileage and fuel costs. They also bought a new freezer and had to replace their car.

What next?: They would love to install a solar hot water system to replace their electric immersion heater. When it becomes more affordable they would like to work with the landlord to have it installed. The family would also like to look for an allotment or piece of land to grow more of their own food.

"We really took to growing our own food and found the local farm shop was excellent for other bits and bobs and meat. Its really cut back on our mileage as we only go to Yarmouth once a month now rather than every week."