

LRF Community Resilience Group



Get Ready for Winter

Although the weather has generally been unseasonably mild so far, severe weather can happen quickly and cause disruption to our homes, families and communities.

The good news is that there are lots of practical steps that can be taken to prepare for Winter.

The Met Office 'Get Ready for Winter' [website](#) provides lots of useful advice about protecting your home, keeping warm and healthy and supporting your community this winter.

Don't Let Winter Catch You Out

A large number of households in Gloucestershire are not on mains gas so rely on heating oil or Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG).

There is increased demand for heating fuel during the winter, especially in the run-up to Christmas and this is also the time of year when bad weather can disrupt deliveries.

Households who rely on heating oil/ LPG are encouraged to prepare for the winter and if possible stock up on supplies.

It is appreciated that times are hard and heating fuel customers may want to wait before ordering fuel, or only order the minimum quantity. However, a lot of suppliers run payment schemes to encourage customers to have larger, less frequent deliveries, but then spread the payments out over the whole year, helping financially and ensuring households do not run out of fuel when winter hits. Joining a community bulk buying scheme/ oil club may also make oil prices cheaper for individual households.

[Gloucestershire Local Resilience Forum](#) (a partnership of agencies working together to prepare for and respond to emergencies) has arrangements in place to work with suppliers to enable fuel to be delivered to the most vulnerable customers during severe weather. However, this is a last resort in extreme situations so householders are still encouraged to be prepared and not get caught out this winter.

Further useful information for heating oil/ LPG users including advice about preparing for winter is available via the websites of industry trade associations including the Federation of Petroleum Suppliers (FPS) www.fpsonline.co.uk and UKLPG www.uklpg.org