



Smart Meters

A guide

As an Energy Local Club member, you gain access to local renewable power and special energy tariffs. Smart meters record when you use electricity, so that this can be matched with:

- a) local renewable energy generation from solar, hydro or wind
- b) off peak times when power prices are lower

What exactly does a smart meter do?

Smart meters provide automated, half hourly readings of your electricity use to your supplier so that they can ensure that your bills are accurate. These are called 'smart' meters because they keep a much more accurate record of when you used power than regular meters do.

How do I know how much power I have used?

When you join your Energy Local Club, you give permission for Energy Local to access and process your smart meter data. We'll use this to calculate your share of local renewables, show you a breakdown of your energy use on your personal energy dashboard and send you monthly reports. Plus, we'll be able to show you how your community is doing as a whole.

How does the data get sent from the smart meter?

Smart meters use the mobile phone network to send electricity meter readings. They have a SIM card inside, just like in a mobile phone.

Can anyone else see my electricity meter readings?

Your smart meter readings are sent securely and are only used by your energy supplier and Energy Local to manage your account, prepare bills and tell you more about your own electricity use.

Why doesn't my smart meter have a screen on it?

Most smart meters actually don't have a screen on them – unlike the ones you'll often see on TV adverts. Instead of a screen on the meter, Energy Local Club members use the online energy dashboard, which gives a detailed breakdown of your energy consumption. This is conveniently available to you online through your smartphone, tablet or computer.