

Pricing page

Oil users are the fuel price winners again

The latest comparative average heating price figures below cover the three months up to the end of April. The change compared to April 2013 – just four years earlier – is very striking and has been hugely beneficial for our industry. The beginning of 2013 marked a significant turning point because the cost of kerosene peaked during February at 62.83ppl in the UK, and since then has, for the most part, tumbled. Looking more recently, compared to the previous quarter, fuel prices in the UK have experienced both positive and negative fluctuations, depending on the fuel type. By contrast, in the Republic of Ireland, the majority of prices have

remained static while oil has seen a decrease in price.

For oil heating users in the UK, the good news is that the cost has decreased slightly this quarter for most areas, ranging from 1-3%. The exceptions are Scotland and Northern Ireland, where costs have risen by approximately 2% and 5% respectively. Regional variations can be quite significant and prices are usually highest in Scotland, where transport costs are a bigger factor. The best news comes from the Republic of Ireland where the average cost of home heating using oil has decreased by almost 8% compared to last quarter, which is excellent news for homeowners and oil heating businesses alike.

Homeowners with other types of heating have not all been so lucky. Over the last quarter, the biggest heating cost losers have been consumers of LPG and electricity in all UK regions. In Great Britain, consumers of LPG have experienced a price increase of approximately 5%, while in Northern Ireland LPG costs have risen by almost 8%. In Republic of Ireland, the cost of using LPG has remained static.

Consumers using electric heating in Great Britain have also seen an increase in costs, whereas in Northern and Southern Ireland prices have remained static. The natural gas price has remained static except in Northern Ireland where it has increased by over 2%.

Comparative space and water heating costs for a three bedroom house

GREAT BRITAIN

	Apr-13	Apr-17	Price change	% Difference
Anthracite Grains	1094	1114	20	1.85%
Electricity	1456	1744	289	19.82%
Gas (British Gas)	1079	967	-113	-10.43%
LPG	2461	1863	-597	-24.27%
LPG (Condensing)	2020	1535	-484	-23.98%
Oil	1751	1148	-603	-34.41%
Oil (Condensing)	1431	942	-489	-34.16%
Wood Pellets	1246	1284	38	3.07%
Air Source Heat Pump Radiators	1360	1576	215	15.84%

NORTHERN IRELAND

	Apr-13	Apr-17	Price change	% Difference
Anthracite Grains	1033	953	-80	-7.74%
Electricity	1498	1437	-61	-4.07%
Gas (Phoenix)	1036	845	-191	-18.44%
LPG	2542	2345	-197	-7.75%
LPG (Condensing)	2085	1925	-160	-7.67%
Oil	1668	1097	-571	-34.23%
Oil (Condensing)	1364	901	-463	-33.94%
Wood Pellets	1038	1124	86	8.29%
Air Source Heat Pump Radiators	1390	1384	-6	-0.43%

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

	Apr-13	Apr-17	Price change	% Difference
Anthracite Grains	1297	1510	213	16.42%
Electricity	2086	1953	-133	-6.38%
Gas	1346	1291	-55	-4.09%
LPG	3479	2380	-1099	-31.59%
LPG (Condensing)	2853	1962	-891	-31.23%
Oil	2211	1383	-828	-37.45%
Oil (Condensing)	1804	1134	-670	-37.14%
Wood Pellets	1166	1310	144	12.35%
Air Source Heat Pump Radiators	1766	1718	-48	-2.72%

The tables above show the average annual costs for a range of heating options. Prices are shown in pounds sterling (£) for Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Euros (€) for the Republic of Ireland. Figures are for a semi-detached three bedroom house, requiring 13,500 kWh space heating & 2,500 kWh DHW heating. Great Britain (Average) is calculated using South East, South West, Wales, Midlands, Northern England and Scotland. Data from the Sutherland Tables.