

Low Carbon Energy Tariffs and the Energy Footprint Tool (2025)

Why is there a list of green tariffs in the Energy Footprint Tool (EFT)?

Choosing a green energy supplier is an important part of reducing our carbon emissions. With this in mind, the EFT allows you to choose from a list of green tariffs when you enter your energy consumption data.

When you tell us that you are using one of these green tariffs, the EFT will calculate a reduction in your church's carbon footprint.

What has changed?

This year, the Church of England has updated that list because we have worked with specialist consultancy firm Turner and Townsend to rigorously assess the green tariffs available on the market. Some of the tariffs previously on the list did not stand up to that assessment because they were not actually sourcing renewable electricity. You can find a simple explanation of how the energy market allows this to happen [here](#).

We have also removed the checkbox which previously allowed a parish to tick to say, 'I am on a green tariff but it is not listed here', because we needed to only deduct carbon when approved tariffs in the list are selected.

What is the impact on parishes?

The impact of this change is that some parishes may have been expecting to see a reduction in their carbon footprint and are unhappy that didn't happen.

They may have been using a supplier that was previously listed as 'green' on the EFT, but that supplier is no longer on the list.

Why did we make the change now?

It is very important that when we publish the Church of England's carbon footprint, we can all believe it to be an honest and accurate calculation that can stand up to international scrutiny.

The analysis that we commissioned of the energy market showed that the way we calculated it previously wasn't accurate. So now we know which tariffs offer genuine low carbon electricity we need to only show carbon reductions when those tariffs are used.

The good news?

This is a really exciting piece of work, because it is the first time that a rigorous analysis of green energy tariffs and the ethical behaviour of suppliers has been assessed by anyone.

Our new Church of England Green Tariff definition is speaking prophetically into how we want the energy market to behave, in line with our Christian values and beliefs.

The following tariffs have met our criteria, and were supplying low carbon energy in 2024

Fuel	Supplier	Tariff
Electricity	Ecotricity	Green Electricity
	Octopus (Own Bulb and Shell Energy Retail)	All tariffs
	100Green (previously Green Energy UK)	Sparking, EKO Tide
	Good Energy	Standard Variable Tariff
	Opus Energy	Advance Plus
	Engie UK	UK Green Plus Green Select
	Smartest Energy	Traceable Renewable Supply
	SSE (Business Energy)	SSE Protect SSE Choice SSE Shaping SSE Cash Out Green Journey
	EDF	Clean Renewable Select Renewable
	Scottish Power	Simply Green Energy
Total	Parish Buying Green Energy Basket	
Gas	100Green (previously Green Energy UK)	Sparking EKO Tide
	Crown Gas and Power	Bio100 (100% Biogas only)
	SSE (Business Energy)	SSE Green Gas Plus (100% Biogas only) Green Journey (100% Biogas only)

Is this a list of recommended tariffs?

Not yet. At the moment, the list of tariffs in the EFT is the result of only part of the analysis by Turner and Townsend. Although the list only includes tariffs that are supplying genuinely renewable electricity, the suppliers of these tariffs may not meet our standards for ethical behaviour. We’ll be publishing more information on this later in 2025.

A note on ‘green’ gas tariffs

If your church uses mains gas, it will likely take some time to transition to a non-fossil fuel heating system.

Due to the limited availability of genuinely low carbon green gas tariffs, we’d encourage you to spend money on making your building more energy efficient rather than the additional cost of a ‘green gas’ tariff.

How we can help you choose a green supplier

Later in 2025 the Church of England will be publishing lots of resources to help you to choose a green tariff, one that you can be confident is truly reducing your carbon emissions.

You will be able to share this with members of your congregations and communities if they want advice on genuine green tariffs. You can also sign up for our monthly Environment Bulletin [here](#) and get up to date news and resources delivered straight to your inbox.