



**BE
WINTER
READY**



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New National 'Be Winter Ready' Campaign Launched

Western Power Distribution (WPD) is working with the Energy Networks Association on a new national campaign called Be Winter Ready, which is to be launched on Thursday 2nd November 2017.

Be Winter Ready aims to encourage people to prepare in case they experience a power cut or gas emergency this winter.

We're contacting all of our stakeholders to make you aware of the campaign as it would be great if you could help share this important information. For those of you for whom it is relevant to do so, we also wanted to ask if you would be able to share some of our content through your channels to help spread the word about the campaign.

Background

In recent years the chances of unscheduled problems with electricity and gas supply have dropped dramatically. Since 1990, network companies have invested £80bn in improving the reliability of local energy networks in the UK. As a result, on average, electricity customers have a power cut just once every two years and gas distribution customers will have their gas supply interrupted without advance notice just once every 40 years.

Whilst the UK's gas and electricity supply is very reliable, bad winter weather can cause damage and disruption.

Steps you can take:

We are therefore sharing this simple advice to help people prepare:

- **Know your free emergency numbers:** In a power cut dial 105 or, for a gas emergency, dial 0800 111999.
- **Prepare your home:** Keep a torch handy and get your appliances serviced by a Gas Safe registered engineer to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- **Register as a vulnerable customer:** Vulnerable households can get extra support by signing up to the Priority Services Register. If you live in the Midlands, South West or South Wales you can register with WPD [here](#). If you live in a different area you can contact your gas or electricity network to find out more.
Visit www.energynetworks.org to find out who your network operator is.
- **Keep your eyes open:** Keep an eye on the weather forecast and, if you have a power cut or a gas emergency, check on your neighbours.

Tools to help you spread the word

We have created a great toolkit of assets to communicate this information, including social media posts, a poster and leaflet. The toolkit can be found [here](#). Please share the posts on Facebook and Twitter, on a website, share in a newsletter or print flyers and posters. We'd really appreciate it if you can help us to reach people with this advice.

We are also asking people to sign up to a Thunderclap for 2nd November when the campaign will launch. It would be great if you can sign up to the Thunderclap to help us

reach as many people as possible through social media. You can sign up here, following a few simple steps <https://www.thunderclap.it/projects/63952-be-winter-ready> .

Thank you in advance for any support you can provide.

**POWER CUT?
CALL 105**

