# FS09: Heating system and controls upgrade

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| **Measure** | **Key considerations** | **Benefits** | **Indicative Cost and Savings** |
| **Hot water tank and pipe insulation** | Insulating the hot water tank using a jacket and hot water pipes using tubing can help stop unnecessary heat loss. Permission is not required for this, it is a simple measure and can often be done by the resident. | * Pay less on your energy bills
* This can often be done yourself, without the need for an external contractor
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| **Upgrade heating controls** | Upgrading heating controls will allow you use your heating system more efficiently. This includes a programmer to allow you to set the times you want the heating to come on and off, room thermostats to measure and set the temperature at which the heating system will turn off and thermostatic radiator valves (TRVs) which allow you control the temperature in individual rooms. | * Pay less on your energy bills
* Tailor the temperature in your home to suit your preferences
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| **Hot water tank thermostat** | A thermostat placed correctly on the hot water cylinder can be programmed to switch the boiler off when it has reached the required temperature and on again if it drops too low. This will avoid using more energy than needed.Installation should be completed by a qualified heating engineer or electrician. | * Pay less on your energy bills
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| **Upgrade boiler (to condensing boiler)** | Condensing boilers are much more efficient than other types of boilers meaning that they use less fuel to provide the same amount of heat. Oil, LPG and gas boilers can be upgraded to condensing boilers.Installation should be completed by an accredited heating engineer and should comply with building regulations.  | * Pay less on your energy bills
* Reduce the carbon footprint of heating your home
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| **Upgrade to smart storage heaters** | Smart storage heaters have more insulated heat storage bricks, high accuracy thermostats and better programming capability. This means that you can better control how much and when heat is released into the home and maintain temperatures that are comfortable for you. Installations should be completed by an accredited installer. | * Pay less on your energy bills
* Tailor the temperature in your home to suit your preferences
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| **Upgrade to condensing gas boiler (switch fuel)** | Heating your home using oil, LPG or electricity is more expensive than using mains gas. To switch to gas there must be a mains gas connection close by, and if your home is not already connected to mains gas, there will be an initial cost to get the gas and meter installed.Installation should be completed by an accredited heating engineer and should comply with building regulations. | * Pay less on your energy bills
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| **Heat pumps** | Heat pumps can either use heat from the ground (Ground Source Heat Pumps) or the air (Air Source Heat Pumps) to heat radiators, hot water or underfloor heating systems.Switching to heat pumps is most effective if you are currently using electricity for heating and when your property is well insulated. | * Pay less on your energy bills
* Minimal maintenance required
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| **District/Communal heating system** | District heating is when one large boiler serves more than one property. This is more efficient than having lots of individual boilers so heating costs can be reduced. Joining a district heating network will most likely require a long term (~25 year) contract. | * Pay less on your energy bills
* Reduce carbon footprint
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