

# waterwise

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14th June 2022

Dear Rishi Sunak ([rishi.sunak.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:rishi.sunak.mp@parliament.uk))

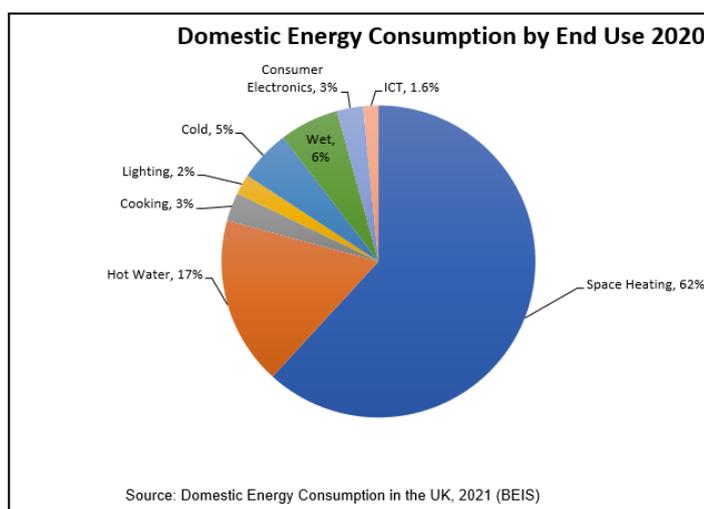
cc [rebecca.pow.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:rebecca.pow.mp@parliament.uk); [kwasi.kwarteng.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:kwasi.kwarteng.mp@parliament.uk);  
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## Energy Efficiency One Stop Shop - Inclusion of Water Efficiency Measures

We were really pleased to see your comment at the Treasury Committee on 6th June that the government is actively considering setting up a “One Stop Shop” for the public to better access energy efficiency advice, support and funding, building on the model in Ireland.

**We strongly urge the government to include household water efficiency measures in your plans for a One Stop Shop.**

Simple, low cost water efficiency measures such as fitting tap aerators and more efficient showerheads will cut household energy bills by reducing the use of hot water. Hot water use makes up 17% of domestic energy consumption (see graphic). About 12% of a typical gas heated household's energy bill is from heating the water for showers, baths and hot water from the tap<sup>1</sup>. Households who pay for water based on the amount of water they use will also save money.



The Climate Change Committee recommended the inclusion of water saving measures in home energy retrofit programmes<sup>2</sup> as did the National Retrofit Strategy published in 2021 and supported by over 50 organisations<sup>3</sup>. It is also key element in the new UK Water Efficiency Strategy that Waterwise is developing<sup>4</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> <https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/advice/saving-water-at-home/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/uk-housing-fit-for-the-future/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.constructionleadershipcouncil.co.uk/news/national-retrofit-strategy-v2-launches/>

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.waterwise.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/J37880-Waterwise\\_Water\\_Efficiency\\_Strategy\\_Inners\\_Landscape\\_V8.pdf](https://www.waterwise.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/J37880-Waterwise_Water_Efficiency_Strategy_Inners_Landscape_V8.pdf)

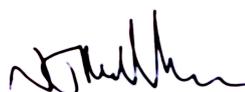
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As well as reducing household utility bills the inclusion of water efficiency measures as part of the One Stop Shop would also contribute to meeting wider government commitments such as the proposed Environment Act water demand reduction target<sup>5</sup> and the net zero commitment. Around 5% of UK greenhouse gas emissions are from our water use in the home<sup>6</sup>. It would also have support from the water sector and environmental NGOs.

An excellent example of this joined up approach in practice is the Home Energy Scotland and Scottish Water [partnership](#). This has seen water saving devices being delivered alongside energy efficiency support and funding through a “one-stop shop”. Since 2017 more than 60,000 households have been supported through the work, and recent [evaluation](#) shows that 86% of people surveyed had made some changes following the advice they had been given, with lifetime estimates of £674,900 energy bill savings.

We believe that there is a great opportunity available through combining energy and water efficiency support and messaging and we would be happy to discuss it in more detail with you or other government officials.

Regards



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## **Who is Waterwise**

[Waterwise](#) was founded in 2005 and is the leading authority on water efficiency in the UK. We are an independent, not-for-profit organisation, receiving funding from supporters across and beyond the water sector and wider sponsorship and research projects. We like to be at the front, leading and supporting innovative efforts to realise our mission; that water will be used wisely, every day, everywhere.

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<sup>5</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/delivering-on-the-environment-act-new-targets-announced-and-ambitious-plans-for-nature-recovery>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.waterwise.org.uk/knowledge-base/net-zero-and-the-role-of-water-efficiency-waterwise-2021/>