

EDF ENERGY TRUST

Annual Report and
Accounts for the
year ended
31 December 2009



MAKE A FRESH START

Chairman's Report



We began the year concerned about the impact of the 'credit crunch' and of the significant increases in energy prices which took effect in the autumn of 2008. We expected these factors to result in an increase in application numbers to the Trust – and we were right. During 2009 we received 7,064 applications from individuals, the highest level ever experienced by the Trust and a rise of 32% over last year.

The very good news is that we were able to make over 4,000 awards to individuals and families in need with grants totalling £2,322,248. We were also able to increase the number of organisations for whom we provide grants to fund money advice workers 'at the sharp end'.

These significant increases in grants made could not have been achieved without the increased level of funding from EDF Energy for which the Trust is particularly grateful.

During the year, I was able to promote the Trust's work by speaking at two events in the West Country. The first was a conference on fuel debt jointly organised by EDF Energy and Plymouth CAB. I also spoke at a meeting of the Devon Money Advice Forum.

In 2009, two of our most experienced trustees, Yvonne Constance OBE and Jane Guy, reached the end of their second three-year terms and left the Trustee Board. Both have played very important roles in establishing and developing the Trust over those six years. We thank them both, very sincerely, for their diligence and hard work over such a long period.

Two new trustees have been appointed. Tim Cole who brings wide experience in energy customer representation and Dr Krishna Sarda from The Ethnic Minority Association.

2010 looks to be no less challenging for the Trust as it enters its seventh year of operation and we look forward to providing a fresh start to many more EDF Energy customers who are in need of our help.

Peter Privett, Chairman

What we do

The EDF Energy Trust was the first energy trust to be established in the UK. Receiving donations from EDF Energy since 2003, the Trust is independent of its donor company and is governed by a Board of unpaid Trustees. The administration of the Trust is undertaken by Charis Grants Ltd on behalf of Trustees.

The EDF Energy Trust awards grants to vulnerable domestic customers of EDF Energy who

- ◆ are in debt with their gas / electricity charges, and / or
- ◆ need help with other essential household debts or essential household items.

The Trust also provides grants to organisations to

- ◆ Increase the availability of independent money / debt advice services in communities to resolve energy debt problems and support applications to the Trust.
- ◆ Provide education to organisations and individuals on awareness and prevention of fuel debt.
- ◆ Provide appropriate signposting information where appropriate to ensure that customers of EDF Energy are able to access energy efficiency advice and measures.

Achievements in 2009

- The Trust saw a 32% rise in application numbers in 2009 compared to 2008. In 2009 7,064 applications were received compared to 5,352 in 2008. This is on top of the 10% increase in applications received in 2008.
- 4,181 awards were made to individuals and families in need .
- The total value of these awards was £2,322,248 (final amount after refunds was £2,251,620).
- The Trust continued to support four organisations originally awarded grants in 2007 to provide debt and energy advice within their local communities and raise awareness of help available from the EDF Energy Trust.
- In addition the Trust awarded four new awards to organisations in the summer of 2009.
- Trustees visited all 2007 organisational grant recipients during the year, offering support and the opportunity for discussion.
- An Open Day was held for funded project workers in August 2009 to deliver information and training.

Objectives for 2010

In 2009 the Trust will continue maximising the value of the donation in awards to individuals and organisations and has the following aims:

Individuals and Families Grants Programme

1. To fully utilise the Individuals and Families budget available at 1 January 2010.
2. To monitor the level and value of awards in the early part of the year and if necessary, re-assess grant criteria during the year (this is due to the continuing uncertainty regarding application levels following a particularly severe period of wintry weather).
3. Working in partnership with EDF Energy improve opportunities to better support applicants to the Trust.

Organisational Grants Programme

5. To review the Trust's strategy towards organisational grants by end January 2010.
6. Implement new programmes and initiatives identified by the review by 1 April 2010.
7. Maintain and monitor organisational grant commitments made previously.
8. For Trustees to undertake visits to the new 2009 organisational grant recipients - Westminster, Hammersmith and Fulham, Medway and Thurrock Citizens Advice Bureaux.

The Trust is mindful of its legal requirement for all of its charitable aims to be for the public benefit.

Public benefit provided by the Trust includes:

- Immediate financial help to vulnerable individuals and families by alleviating fuel debt.
- Other help to vulnerable individuals and families close to falling into debt, or who might, without the help of the Trust.
- Increasing the capacity of communities to help people in debt.
- Providing help and support to enable vulnerable individuals and families to handle indebtedness.

Grant Making Programmes

The EDF Energy Trust operates two grant making programmes:

1. The Individuals and Families Grants Programme and
2. An Organisational Grants Programme

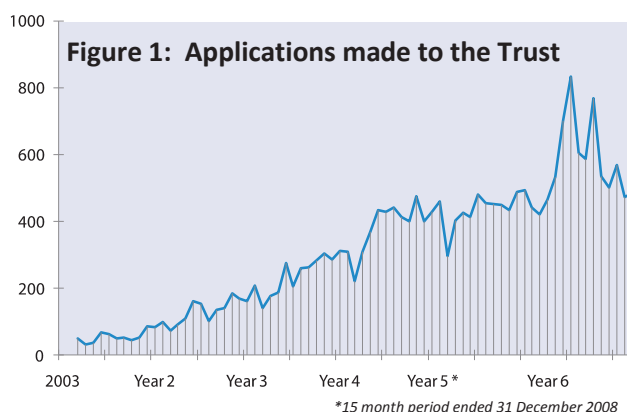
1. Individuals and Families Grants Programme

The Trust can help domestic customers of EDF Energy with their gas or electric debt and can sometimes in exceptional circumstances help clear other priority household debts and purchase essential household items (known as 'Further Assistance Payments' (FAPs)).

Applications to the Trust

Awareness of the EDF Energy Trust continues to grow from strength to strength as shown by year-on-year increasing application numbers. Since the start of the Trust to the end of the Trust's sixth year of operation, a total of over 23,000 applications have been received and of those over 16,500 (72%) applicants have received an award.

In 2009, application numbers increased 32% on the previous 12 months - 7,064 compared to 5,352. This was on top of a 10% increase in applications received in 2008.



Awards made and value

In 2009, 4,181 awards were made as follows:

- ♦ 3,902 to clear gas and electricity debt
- ♦ 279 Further Assistance Payments

The total value of awards made to individuals and families was £2,322,248 (however with refunds this fell to £2,251,620). This figure can be broken down as follows:

- ♦ £2,239,680 total value of awards to clear gas and electricity debt
- ♦ £82,568 total value of Further Assistance Payments

As the Trust's primary objective is to help vulnerable people with their gas and electricity debts, such awards accounted for 96% of the individuals and families budget. Further Assistance Payments accounted for the remaining 4%.

The average energy award value during the year was £574 and the average Further Assistance Payment value was £296.

Greater chance of success applying via support agencies

Applications supported by third parties have a success rate of 77% which is significantly higher than a success rate of 51% for unsupported applications. The Trust therefore encourages all applicants to seek money advice before applying to the Trust. This helps ensure that an individual's financial situation can be treated in an holistic way, ensuring that an award from the Trust gives the recipient the best possible fresh start and allows them to better manage their finances in the future.

Further Assistance Payments (FAPs)

In addition to helping clear energy debts owed to EDF Energy, the Trust can in exceptional circumstances clear other household debts, for example, electricity and gas debts to other suppliers, water debts, telephone arrears, and council tax or rent arrears. The Trust can also purchase essential household items including a range of white goods, such as cookers, fridges and items such as beds, carpets, etc. The Trust also helps with other expenses, such as funeral expenses.

Figure 3: Breakdown of FAPs by number

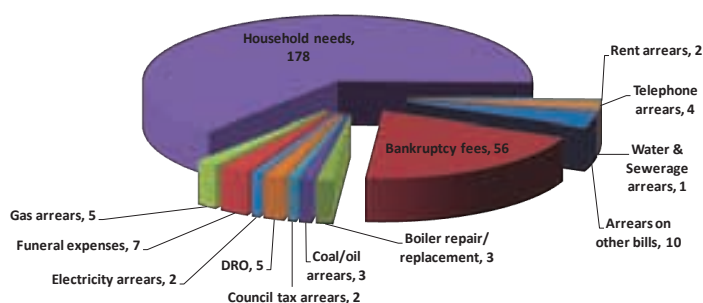
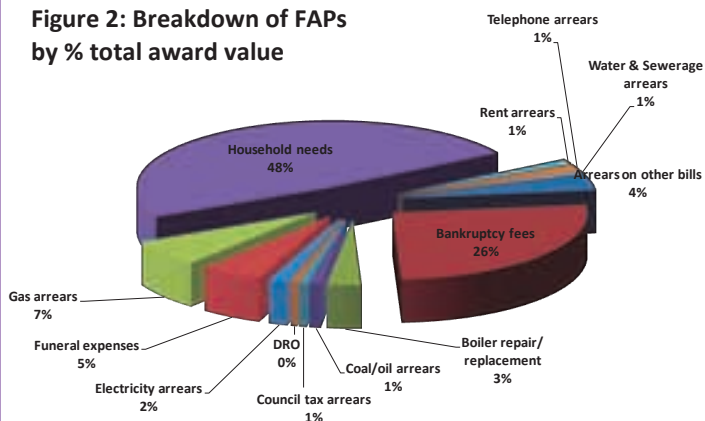


Figure 2: Breakdown of FAPs by % total award value



In 2009 a total of 279 FAPs were awarded totalling £82,569 (excluding refunds).

Figures 2 and 3 show the breakdown of FAPs by percentage of total FAP award value and by the total number of awards, respectively. The majority of FAP awards made were for household needs (178 awards or 48% by value) followed by bankruptcy fees (56 awards or 26% by value).

The average FAP value was £296 in 2009 a small drop from £311, the average FAP value in 2008.

Messages from grant recipients

"Thank you from the bottom of mine and my family's heart. I have unexpectedly become a single parent on benefits for the first time in my life, and whilst I realised quite quickly how better off I was without my worthless husband, it also came to light just how much debt he had left me in.

Thanks to the EDF Energy Trust I am now up to date with my gas and electric and have set regular prepayments up so this will never happen again.

Your application form is easy to understand and fill in, when I phoned up you were very helpful and polite and what I would call an all round excellent service."

Trust's Decision: Applicant awarded a grant totalling £771 to clear gas and electricity arrears.

"I am writing to say 'Thank You' for awarding me a grant from the EDF Energy Trust. This really will help me make a 'fresh start'.

I can now afford to pay regular payments through winter and into next summer when doctors expect that I will have my medical condition under control.

Monies awarded will help my severe financial situation."

Trust's Decision: Applicant awarded a grant totalling £912 to clear electricity arrears.

2. Organisational Grants Programme

In 2009, the Trust continued to support four organisations originally awarded grants totalling over half a million pounds in 2007 for a 3 year Fuel Poverty Grants Programme. Grants were provided for projects to raise awareness of the Trust, help submit quality applications to the Trust, provide specialist money and debt advice and signpost clients to energy efficiency advice. These agencies have become the hub for other agencies within their areas to direct queries relating to the Trust. In addition the Trust awarded four new grants to organisations in the summer of 2009 to deliver projects of a similar nature over a period of 18 months. The value of awards payable in 2009 are listed below:

	Organisation	2009 Grant (£)
2007 awards	Hastings & Rother CAB	36,450
	Brighton & Hove CAB	31,665
	Bristol Debt Advice (BDAC) *	39,380
	East London Financial Inclusion Unit (ELFI)	40,007
2009 awards	Hammersmith & Fulham CAB	34,207
	Medway CAB	35,018
	Thurrock CAB	33,018
	Westminster CAB	32,070
Other	Strategic research on Organisational Grants	404
Total		282,219

*BDAC is also jointly funded by the British Gas Energy Trust.

Case Study—Citizens Advice 1066

Citizens Advice 1066 was until recently known as Hastings Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB). The bureau was one of the first government-backed outlets to be set up in 1939, to help people with war-related problems.

Although the CAB service is well-known for the work it does with the most vulnerable people in their area, it was also recognised that the CAB was generally not able to help the less disadvantaged who fall on hard times. Funding is rarely available for this group of people.

Citizens Advice 1066 is now able to advise clients from this group through funding from the Trust and this allows them to maintain one of the Bureau's core principles of treating people equally.

Application to the EDF Energy Trust

The applicant, who worked as a bricklayer, was exposed to the effects of the economic climate with opportunities for work diminishing until it came to a complete standstill. His partner was caring for her disabled parents and one of their two children who suffered ill health due to scarring on the lungs as a result of pneumonia several years earlier. This resulted in various medical problems and frequent, expensive visits to specialist hospitals. The child also has a severe allergy to dust mites which increased the families electricity, gas and water costs to enable the house, clothes and children's toys to be kept as clean as possible. They soon fell into arrears with their fuel payments and approached 1066 for assistance.

The Bureau was able to advise the applicant on benefits he was entitled to claim and supported an application to the Trust for help with his family's fuel arrears.

Trust's Decision

The Trust awarded £1162 to clear gas and electricity arrears.

Treasurer's report—Review of finances



Donations received from our sponsor were significantly higher at £3.6m for the year, adding to the balance brought forward and putting the Trust in a strong financial position at the end of the period. This was important to help us meet the increasing numbers of applications being received as previously reported. Grants paid to individuals and families amounted to £2.25m, and a further £282,000 was given as grants to agencies in select areas to promote the Trust's charitable activities, to increase debt awareness, and to signpost energy efficiency advice.

At the end of the year the funds available and reserves stood at £1.37m. This was a healthy balance which, when added to funding commitments made by EDF Energy, will enable the Trust to continue to meet its objectives in the coming year.

Bob Jackson, Treasurer

Summary of the EDF Energy Trust's Accounts for the period ended 31 December 2009

Summary of Statement of Financial Activities	Year ended 31 December 2009		15 month period 31 December 2008	
	£'000	%	£'000	%
Funds available brought forward	611		143	
Total incoming resources	3,647		3,027	
Total funds available this year	4,258	100.0	3,170	100.0
Resources expended				
Charitable activities	2,877	67.6	2,849	89.9
Governance costs	10	0.2	10	0.3
Total resources expended	2,887		2,859	
Funds Balance at 31 December	1,371	32.2	311	9.8

Summary of Balance Sheet	2009 £'000	2008 £'000
Current Assets		
Debtors	4	-
Cash at bank and in hand	1,462	712
	1,466	712
Creditors: amounting falling due within one year	95	101
Net current assets	1,371	611
Net assets	1,371	611
Unrestricted funds		
Designated funds	300	300
Other charitable funds	1071	311
	345	611

The summary of the financial information above has been extracted from the full statutory accounts, a copy of which can be obtained together with the Trustees' and Auditors' Reports from the Trust's registered address.

Trustees and Officers (2009)

Trustees

Peter Privett - *Chairman*
Bob Jackson - *Treasurer*
Denice Fennell MBE
Tim Cole - *appointed September 2009*
Krishna Sarda - *appointed September 2009*
Steve Meakin
Jane Guy - *appointment ended September 2009*
Yvonne Constance OBE - *appointment ended September 2009*

Registered Address

Midgate House
Midgate
Peterborough PE1 1TN

Charity Registration Number

1099446

Auditors

Rawlinsons, 90 Lincoln Road
Peterborough PE1 2SP

Bankers

National Westminster Bank plc
PO Box 15, Cathedral Square
Peterborough PE1 1HW

Solicitors

Bates, Wells, and Braithwaite
138 Cheapside, London EC2V 6BB

Administrators

Charis Grants Ltd, Midgate House,
Midgate, Peterborough PE1 1TN

The Trustees set policy, and control and monitor the Trust's activities but have entered into an agreement for the administration of the charity with Charis Grants Ltd, a company with extensive grant management experience.

Contact Details

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Email	edfet@charisgrants.com
Telephone	01733 421060 - application form request line
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PLEASE HELP US TO HELP EVERYONE WHO COULD BENEFIT FROM THE TRUST. IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO COULD APPLY TO THE TRUST, PLEASE GIVE THEM THE TRUST CONTACT DETAILS ABOVE.