

Guidance Note

An important message from the Schools Procurement Unit in relation to Electricity and Gas contracts

Important update for all schools on the performance of the electricity supply and natural gas contracts for schools available from the Office of Government Procurement (OGP)

This information below is confirmation that the OGP utilities contracts offer significant protection from the extreme price volatility being experienced in the utilities markets currently.

The unambiguous advice to schools that remain outside of the OGP contracts is to strongly consider signing-up to the contracts for electricity supply and natural gas (if applicable) and secure the protection they provide, for your school, from the tumult of the current marketplace.

REGISTER: The registration process is relatively simple; complete the details here on this online form: <https://www.spu.ie/electricity-gas-registration-form/> and upload a copy of your latest electricity and/or gas bill as directed. The Office of Government Procurement will issue you an offer of a contract detailing the tariff rates available. If you accept the offer of this new contract, please complete the accompanying paperwork with the contract offer and return it to the email address supplied in the contract documentation as soon as possible.

ELECTRICITY: The schools within the existing contract with Electric Ireland are fixed until 30/04/2024. The only change on the rates will be the pass-through charges from 1st of October of each year as approved by the Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU). These schools are therefore protected from the increase in wholesale prices outside of that contract.

When comparing the existing Electricity contract to the date of renewal being May 1st 2024, placing a contract now for three years from that date would result in an increase on the current contract of **103% per annum (estimated % increase valid as of 05/09/2022).**

NATURAL GAS: Similarly to the above, the schools, currently in contract, are in contract with SSE until 31/08/2024. The client schools are protected from the current increases in the market under the contract. The only changeable element is the usual Pass-through, regulatory charges which apply every October as issued by the Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU).

When comparing the existing Natural Gas contract to the date of renewal being Sept 1st 2024, placing a contract now for three years from that date would result in an increase on the current contract of **131% per annum (estimated % increase valid as of 05/09/2022).**

QUERIES: All queries can be directed to procurementsupport@spu.ie

7th September 2022