



## **Seaton Sluice Community Association - Supplying energy advice**

### **OVERVIEW**

Around 300 local people use the Seaton Sluice Community Association every week. The centre is home to Northumberland County Library as well as being a real community hub - it's home to a range of classes (including IT, literacy and youth work), as well as being used by around 40 community groups - everyone from scouts and brownies to a craft club, a history society and the Women's Institute.

### **SOLUTION**

The funding would be used to deliver ten energy advice sessions to older local residents, giving advice on switching suppliers online. Around 40% of local residents are over 60 and a recent survey identified that there was a need in this area - the idea was to help older residents who might not be able to access energy advice either because they do not like to use computers or because they need support to compare energy suppliers.

### **OUTCOMES**

The Association successfully delivered three workshops to 12 participants – unfortunately there was low take-up and staffing issues also impacted on delivery. The sessions that were held were a real success however, with four attendees switching suppliers or household insurance, and making savings of around £150 each. The sessions also proved useful in terms of creating a level of confidence for some people who were unsure about accessing online services - and also linked them up to the additional IT skills sessions and support offered by the centre.

### **OBJECTIVES**

To raise awareness about energy issues among older residents, via a number of advice sessions.

MORE DETAILS BOX OUT

**Project title:** Supplying energy advice

**Group name:** Seaton Sluice Community Association

**Theme:** Reducing energy

**Area of benefit:** Northumberland

**Duration:** 12 months