FCT ENERGY PARTNERS

How FCT Flex works

How we buy your energy a little at a time, in advance and during the month of supply, so you are never tied to the price on a single day. Explained simply, with pictures.

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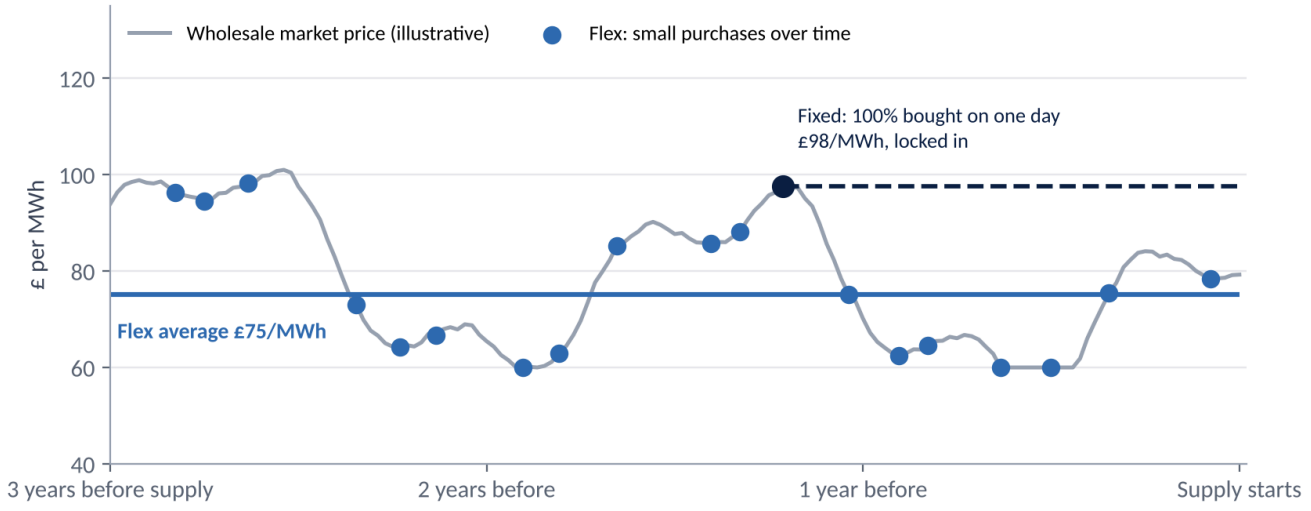
The idea in one picture

A fixed contract buys all your energy on one day, at whatever the price is that day. FCT Flex buys it a little at a time, over months and years, and you pay the average.



Illustrative only. With a fixed contract, your price depends on the day you sign. With flex, no single day decides your price.

Buy together

Your energy joins a consortium "basket" with other businesses, so you buy like a much larger user.

Buy a little at a time

Our trading desk buys in small blocks, from 0.1 MW, when prices are good – never all at once.

Pay what it cost

You pay the price the consortium actually paid, with network and government charges at cost.

Two words to know

PIA

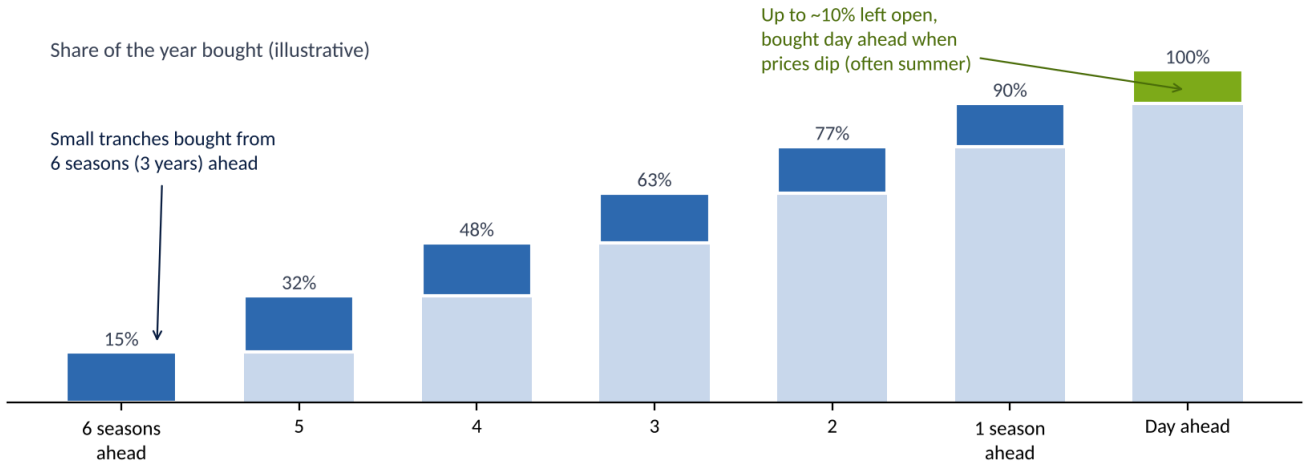
Purchase in advance. Buying energy months or years before you use it, in small tranches. This is where most of your energy is bought – typically around 90%.

PWP

Purchase within period. Buying the last small share during the month you use it, often on the day before. This picks up cheaper days and matches your actual use.

Step 1: Purchase in advance (PIA)

We start buying your energy up to three years before you use it, a small piece at a time, and keep adding to it as each season gets closer.



Illustrative. Each dark block is one small purchase. By the time supply starts, most of the energy is already bought at known prices.

How it works

- **Seasons.** Energy is traded in seasons: summer (April to September) and winter (October to March). We can also buy by quarter or by month.
- **About 6 seasons (3 years) ahead.** Live market ("screen") prices are normally available about 6 seasons ahead, and that is where we start buying.
- **Further out, or in a very volatile market.** When there are no screen prices – sometimes even short term, when the market doesn't know how to react – we ask the supplier for a calculated ("synthetic") price.
- **Small blocks.** We buy from 0.1 MW at a time for electricity and 100 therms a day for gas, so no single purchase can hurt you.

Buying by rules, not guesswork

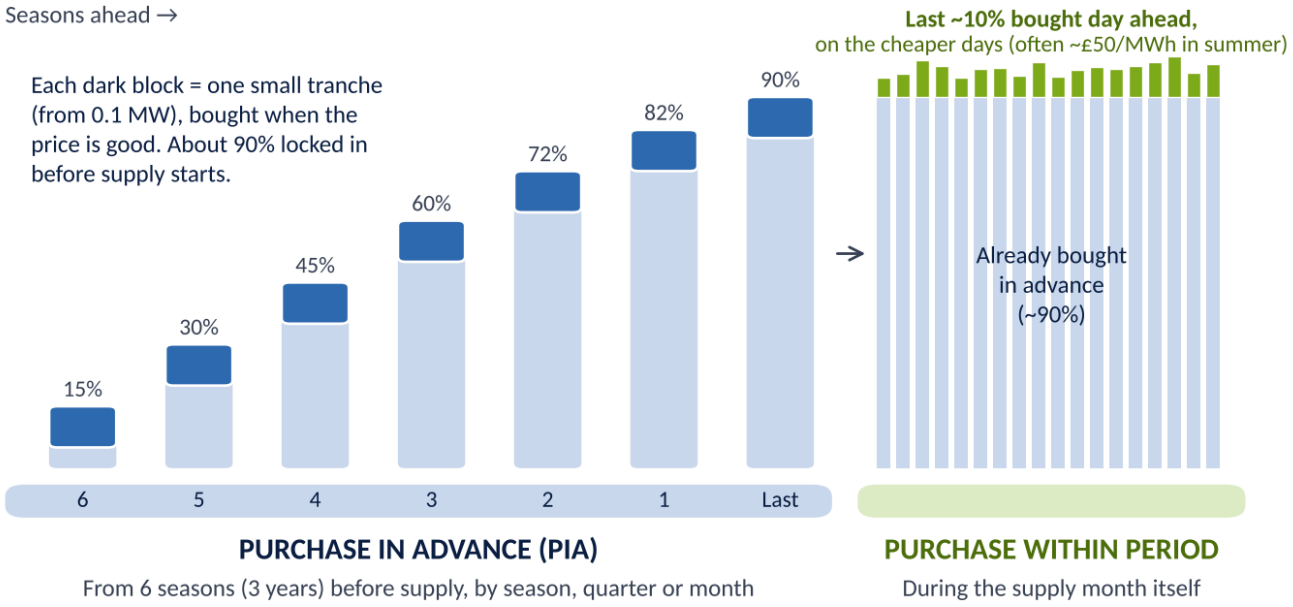
Every purchase is made against a set floor, target and ceiling price. We buy more readily near the floor and less near the ceiling.

Current consortium rules	Floor	Target	Ceiling
Electricity (£ per MWh)	£65	£75	£90
Gas (pence per therm)	70p	80p	100p

£75/MWh is 7.5p/kWh. 80p/therm is about 2.7p/kWh. If prices go above the ceiling, we decide whether to lock in a season, a quarter or a month, or wait. Rules are reviewed as markets change.

Step 2: Purchase within period (PWP)

We leave a small share – around 10% – open until the month of supply, then buy it on the days prices dip.



Illustrative. Left: purchase in advance, building up season by season. Right: during the supply month, the last share is bought day ahead.

Why leave some open?

Day-ahead prices often fall, especially in summer, sometimes to around £50/MWh. Keeping a small share open lets you benefit from those cheaper days without taking a big risk.

If your usage changes

Use more, and we buy the extra within the period and blend it in. Use less, and spare energy is sold back to the market. Any profit is credited to everyone in the basket.

Selling and buying back – used carefully

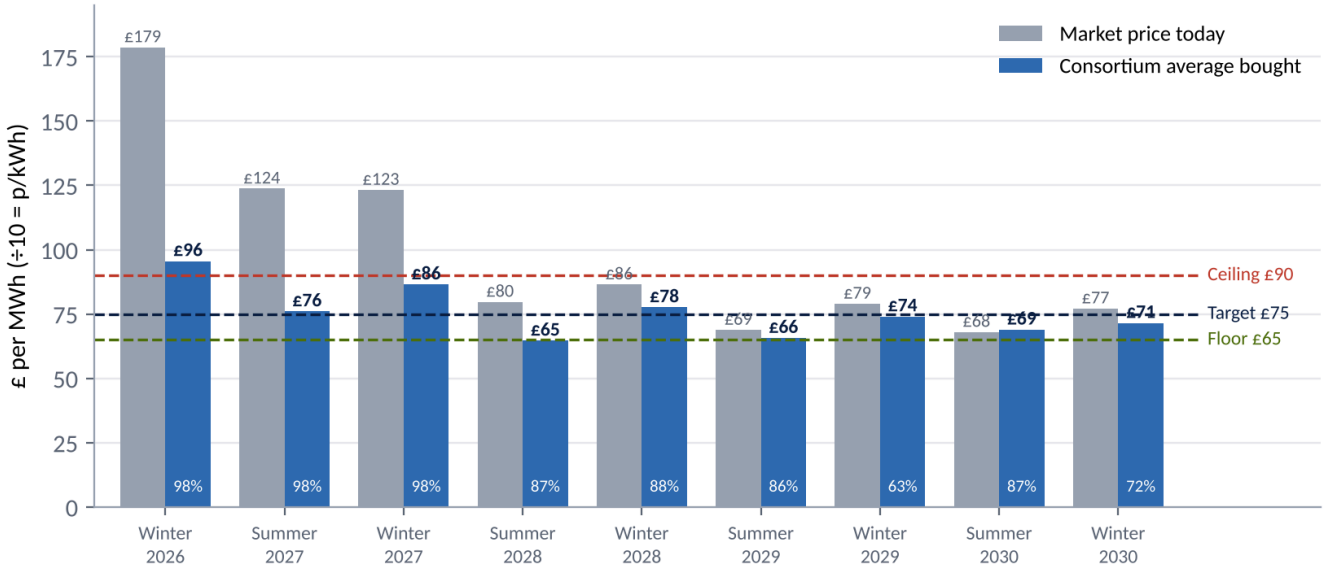
If the market rises well above what we paid, we can sell some energy at a profit and buy it back later when prices fall. It can add value, but it carries risk, so we use it cautiously and only within our buying rules.

No volume penalties

FCT Flex is a full pass-through agreement. There is no take-or-pay and no volume band, so you are not charged for using more or less than expected.

What it looks like in practice

This is the FCT electricity consortium as it stands today: what we have already bought for each season, against what the same energy costs on the market now.



FCT Flex Electric consortium, position at 4 November 2026. Blue: average price already bought, with the share bought shown at the bottom of each bar. Grey: market price today. Dashed lines: our floor, target and ceiling.

87%

of the consortium's electricity already bought

£77

per MWh average bought price, against about £104 on the market today

98%

of the consortium's gas already bought, at an average of 84.75p per therm

What this means for a new member

When you join, your energy is blended into the basket at the consortium's average price. You benefit straight away from energy already bought, and new purchases are added in small amounts, so there is no price shock for you or for existing members.

Past and current buying does not guarantee future prices. Winter 2026 was bought above our ceiling during a period of high prices; later seasons are at or close to target.

What you pay, and how you are billed

Every part of your bill is shown openly. Nothing is hidden in a single fixed rate.



Illustrative split of a typical business electricity bill, excluding VAT and Climate Change Levy.

Part of your bill	What it is
Energy	The wholesale power or gas, at the consortium's average price – bought in advance and within the period.
Network and government charges	Costs set by the industry for using the grid and for government schemes. Passed through at cost and billed in the month of delivery.
Standing and capacity charges	Fixed daily charges per meter, and the capacity (kVA) charge on larger electricity meters.
Green certificates	REGOs for electricity and RGGOs for green gas, bought on the open market and passed through at cost.
Fees	The supplier's and FCT's fees, shown as clear rates per unit rather than hidden in the price.

Billing

- **Monthly, in arrears**, on your actual meter readings, from Evolve Energy, our supply partner.
- **Electricity** invoices arrive between the 5th and 7th of the month. **Gas** invoices arrive around the 23rd to 26th, once the industry's gas settlement figures are known – so you have longer to pay.
- **14 days to pay**, by Direct Debit or BACS. Each invoice comes with a summary sheet and itemised billing for every meter.
- **A budget rate up front.** Before you start, we give you a budget rate for each year to plan with, and regular reports on what has been bought.

Fixed or flex at a glance

	Fixed contract	FCT Flex
When it is bought	All on one day	A little at a time, in advance and within the period
Your price depends on	The market on the day you sign	The average of many purchases
Risk premium	Built in by the supplier for the risk of fixing	None – you pay what the energy cost
If your usage changes	Take-or-pay charges outside the agreed band	No penalties; spare energy sold back
Falling markets	Locked in at the old price	Open share bought at lower prices
What you see	One rate	Every purchase recorded and reported

Who can join

The consortium is for businesses using at least **175,000 kWh of electricity** or **300,000 kWh of gas** a year. Larger users (over about 5 GWh) can have their own individual framework. The term for joining the consortium is 3 years, and you can agree to 31 March 2031 to line up with other members.

Getting started

1. **Letter of authority.** You sign a letter of authority so we can collect your meter and usage data from your current supplier.
2. **Your data and an estimate.** We review your half-hourly data and bills, and give you an estimated annual cost on flex, side by side with fixed prices.
3. **Contract and credit check.** You sign the FCT Flex contract with Evolve Energy, who run a standard credit check.
4. **We start buying.** Your energy is blended into the basket and our trading desk takes it from there, reporting to you as we go.

Who is behind it

Evolve Energy is the Ofgem-licensed supplier, backed by Shell for its wholesale trading. FCT's trading desk makes every purchase for the consortium. Questions? Mark Crozier, CEO & Head of Trading · 07436 863456 · info@thefctgroup.co.uk