

YouGov Survey Results

Sample Size: 1913 GB Adults
Fieldwork: 24th - 25th October 2013

Total	Voting intention				2010 Vote			Gender		Age				Social grade		Region					
	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	UKIP	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Male	Female	18-24	25-39	40-59	60+	ABC1	C2DE	London	Rest of South	Midlands / Wales	North	Scotland	
1913	X	X	X	X	591	506	374	928	985	228	484	654	547	1090	823	245	622	409	471	166	
Unweighted Sample	444	605	128	215	575	495	416	903	1010	179	446	722	566	1262	651	279	647	347	482	158	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

As you may know, three of the major energy companies have recently announced increases in their prices. Do you think the government should introduce measures to force the energy companies to freeze their prices?

Yes, it should	70	56	84	65	75	61	81	72	67	74	59	67	76	71	66	76	69	66	73	74	72
No, it should not	17	31	9	24	19	27	9	15	21	13	17	19	14	19	21	11	14	22	15	15	14
Don't know	13	14	8	11	6	12	10	13	12	13	23	15	10	10	13	13	17	12	12	11	13

Thinking about the idea of government freezing consumer energy bills for 20 months, and whether it is workable or not, which of these statements comes closer to your view?

Forcing the energy companies to freeze consumer energy bills for 20 months CAN'T work because if the price the energy companies pay for energy goes up they will have no choice but to pass that on to consumers	20	39	7	34	24	35	9	16	26	14	24	20	16	23	25	13	18	23	19	18	15
Forcing the energy companies to freeze consumer energy bills for 20 months COULD work because the energy companies can afford to take lower profits to protect consumers from price rises if the government forces them to do so	68	51	83	55	65	55	80	70	64	71	61	60	75	68	65	71	67	64	69	69	74
Don't know	13	9	10	12	10	10	11	14	11	14	15	20	9	9	10	16	16	12	12	13	11

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		Reasons you think the government is opposed to freezing energy prices					
Total		The Conservatives believe that freezing prices is unworkable and there is no way they could force the energy companies to freeze bills	The Conservatives are taking the side of the energy companies	The Conservatives are not taking sides, but think it is better for prices to be determined by market forces	The Conservatives are just attacking Labour's policy because it's not their idea	None of these	Don't know
Weighted Sample	1913	279	591	376	380	55	232
Unweighted Sample	1913	265	626	369	399	56	198
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

As you may know, three of the major energy companies have recently announced increases in their prices.

Do you think the government should introduce measures to force the energy companies to freeze their prices?

Yes, it should	70	48	91	54	81	49	58
No, it should not	17	38	5	34	10	23	5
Don't know	13	14	4	12	8	28	36

Thinking about the idea of government freezing consumer energy bills for 20 months, and whether it is workable or not, which of these statements comes closer to your view?

Forcing the energy companies to freeze consumer energy bills for 20 months CAN'T work because if the price the energy companies pay for energy goes up they will have no choice but to pass that on to consumers	20	50	8	34	8	16	10
Forcing the energy companies to freeze consumer energy bills for 20 months COULD work because the energy companies can afford to take lower profits to protect consumers from price rises if the government forces them to do so	68	44	87	57	80	38	50
Don't know	13	7	5	8	11	47	40

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	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	UKIP	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Male	Female	18-24	25-39	40-59	60+	ABC1	C2DE	London	Rest of South	Midlands / Wales	North	Scotland	
Weighted Sample 1913	X	X	X	X	591	506	374	928	985	228	484	654	547	1090	823	245	622	409	471	166	
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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

The Conservatives have attacked Labour's plan to freeze energy prices for 20 months as unworkable. Which one of these do you think is their main reason for saying this?

The Conservatives genuinely believe that freezing prices is unworkable and there is no way they could force the energy companies to freeze bills even if they were determined to do so

15 30 7 20 12 25 8 10 17 12 15 15 10 19 17 12 13 20 13 11 12

The Conservatives are taking the side of the energy companies who don't want to do anything that could cut their profits

31 9 51 19 39 15 46 37 34 28 29 25 35 32 30 32 27 25 33 35 39

The Conservatives are not taking sides, but think it is better for prices to be determined by market forces rather than set by the government

20 40 7 27 19 35 8 18 20 20 17 18 20 21 23 16 20 21 21 18 14

The Conservatives are just attacking Labour's policy because it's not their idea

20 8 29 22 20 11 28 24 20 20 16 22 22 17 19 21 21 18 20 21 21

None of these

3 4 1 5 3 3 2 3 3 3 2 3 4 2 3 3 3 2 3 3 2

Don't know

12 10 5 7 6 11 8 8 6 18 21 16 9 9 9 16 16 13 10 12 12

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		Reasons you think the government is opposed to freezing energy prices					
Total		The Conservatives believe that freezing prices is unworkable and there is no way they could force the energy companies to freeze bills	The Conservatives are taking the side of the energy companies	The Conservatives are not taking sides, but think it is better for prices to be determined by market forces	The Conservatives are just attacking Labour's policy because it's not their idea	None of these	Don't know
Weighted Sample	1913	279	591	376	380	55	232
Unweighted Sample	1913	265	626	369	399	56	198
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

The Conservatives have attacked Labour's plan to freeze energy prices for 20 months as unworkable.

Which one of these do you think is their main reason for saying this?

The Conservatives genuinely believe that freezing prices is unworkable and there is no way they could force the energy companies to freeze bills even if they were determined to do so	15	100	0	0	0	0	0
The Conservatives are taking the side of the energy companies who don't want to do anything that could cut their profits	31	0	100	0	0	0	0
The Conservatives are not taking sides, but think it is better for prices to be determined by market forces rather than set by the government	20	0	0	100	0	0	0
The Conservatives are just attacking Labour's policy because it's not their idea	20	0	0	0	100	0	0
None of these	3	0	0	0	0	100	0
Don't know	12	0	0	0	0	0	100