

## We are writing to provide some clarity about utility accounts at your property

Things to be aware of:

- 1) Your tenancy is a fixed-term tenancy and includes obligations to pay for utility bills (gas, electric, water) at the property. So even if you move out early, **you are still liable for these bills until the tenancy ends\***.
- 2) **Do not advise the utility companies that the University is the new tenant.** If we receive any bills in our name, we will advise the company it was in error and pass on your name and home address for billing.
- 3) When ending accounts with utility companies, unless you are returning to the property, **advise that you do not know who the next tenant will be.**
- 4) **The Data Protection Act 2010 allows us to pass on your personal information** to utility companies for debt recovery. Please ensure you settle all your bills.
- 5) **Don't try to duck out of your share of the household bills.** It makes you a bad person.

### \* **Leaving early**

Sometimes a housemate may move out much earlier than the others and feel that they should no longer pay for bills.

We have some sympathy with this, as most bills are based on consumption, and in the warm weather remaining housemates probably aren't paying to heat the empty room.

However, there are still standing charges associated with most bills. These will probably work out overall at about £10-15 per month per person. If you want an exact figure, check your bills.