



Easy Access account

Building a greener society



Our Easy Access account is a simple account with the same interest rate regardless of your balance. We aim to pay a good rate, but not our best rate, on this account. There is no notice period, so this account is suitable if you need unrestricted access to your funds.

This account can be used for short-term savings such as saving for a holiday or for improving the energy efficiency of your home, as well as providing support for our lending on sustainable properties and projects. It is a low-risk account which may be suitable if you are just starting to save or can't afford the risk of not having access to your savings. This account is not suitable if you are looking to maximise the return on your savings.



“We wanted to ensure none of our money was supporting nasty regimes – guns or exploiting the native peoples of the world” Pam and Peter, Ecology members

We put people and planet before profit

Saving with Ecology means joining a community of people who use their money to build a greener future. We use your funds to provide mortgages for projects that make a positive environmental and social impact, as well as providing a fair financial return for our savers. You can find out more about what makes us special and meet some of our members in *Why choose Ecology for your savings?*

Key features:

- A variable rate of interest
- Monthly savings options
- No-notice withdrawals
- Limited to one Easy Access account per member
- Operation via our online service (restrictions apply) or by free First Class Business Reply post

How your savings are protected

Your eligible deposits with Ecology Building Society are protected up to a total of £85,000 by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). Any deposits you hold above the limit are unlikely to be covered. For further information, please visit [fscs.org.uk](https://www.fscs.org.uk).

“I wanted our money to go to help the earth and the people on it. So it gives me great pleasure knowing that our money is invested with Ecology for the good of the planet”

Peter, Ecology member

The information provided in this Summary Box is a summary of the key features of the Easy Access account and is not intended to be a substitute for reading the terms and conditions that apply to the account.

Summary Box	
Account name	Easy Access
What is the interest rate?	<p>The Easy Access account offers a variable rate of interest of 0.85% gross* p.a./AER**</p> <p>Interest is calculated on a daily basis and credited to your account on 31 December each year.</p> <p>* We pay all savings interest gross, which means that no tax is deducted. It's your responsibility to pay any tax due, based on your individual circumstances. Tax rules may change in future.</p> <p>** AER stands for Annual Equivalent Rate and provides a means of comparing interest rates by showing what the rate would be if interest was paid and added once a year.</p>
Can Ecology Building Society change the interest rate?	<p>We may change interest rates at any time if we reasonably believe that the change is needed for any of the following reasons (which may relate to circumstances existing at the time or those that are expected to apply in the near future):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to respond to changes in the Bank of England Base Rate • to respond to changes in mortgage or interest rates generally (including the interest rates paid on similar accounts by other providers of financial services) • to enable us to manage the difference between the interest rates charged to our borrowers and interest rates paid to our investors, or the providers of funds to us, taking into account the interests of the Society, our members, and your rights and interests as an account holder • to respond to changes in the law or the decision of a court or ombudsman • to meet relevant regulatory requirements • to respond to new (or changes to) statements or codes of practice or industry guidance designed to enhance consumer protection • to reflect changes to our costs in providing the account, including administration costs and costs of providing services or facilities • to introduce or alter 'tiers' of interest where different rates apply depending on the amount in the account. <p>Where we make any such change, we will act reasonably and we will only make the change if we believe it is fair in the circumstances.</p> <p>Any change we make to interest rates will be proportionate to the circumstances giving rise to the change.</p> <p>For further information regarding interest rate changes including the process for notifying you, please refer to section 7 in our leaflet <i>Saving with Ecology - General terms and conditions</i>.</p>

<p>What would the estimated balance be after 12 months based on a £1,000 deposit?</p>	<p>Based on an interest rate of 0.85% gross, the balance on a £1,000 deposit after 12 months would be £1,008.50.</p> <p>This projection is provided for illustrative purposes only and does not take into account your individual circumstances.</p>
<p>How do I open and manage my account?</p>	<p>Complete our Easy Access application form. Please refer to page 5 of this leaflet for further details of how to open an account and make your initial deposit.</p> <p>Limited to one Easy Access account per member.</p> <p>With our online service, you can view your account transactions, send secure messages and request withdrawals.</p> <p>Deposits can be made via bank transfer or by cheque through the post. You can also save monthly by Direct Debit or standing order (the minimum amount payable by Direct Debit is £10).</p> <p>The minimum amount to open an Easy Access account is £25 and the maximum investment is £125,000.</p> <p>The minimum amount required to keep an Easy Access account open is £25.</p>
<p>Can I withdraw money?</p>	<p>As there is no notice period with the Easy Access account, you have unrestricted access to your funds.</p> <p>The minimum withdrawal amount is £5 and withdrawals must be for a specific amount unless the account is to be closed. Accounts can be closed upon request and with no penalty.</p> <p>Withdrawals can be requested via our online service (restrictions apply). Withdrawals can also be requested by using one of our Withdrawal/Notification forms or by sending us a letter signed by whoever is authorised to operate the account.</p>
<p>Additional information</p>	<p>This Summary Box should be read in conjunction with the following leaflets before applying for an Easy Access account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Saving with Ecology - General terms and conditions</i> • <i>FSCS Information Sheet</i> • <i>Current savings rates and charges</i> • <i>Our range of savings accounts</i> • <i>Savings account identification requirements</i>



The mutual difference

When you join Ecology, you become a member of a mutual organisation, owned by our members and dedicated to their interests. It's a way of making finance more democratic – putting people before profit. Every member is valued equally and respected as an individual. We're open and transparent about the decisions we make on your behalf and we encourage you to have your say on our work, including at our Annual General Meeting.

Product Specific Conditions

To open an account

- Simply complete our Easy Access application form and post to: Ecology Building Society, 7 Belton Road, Silsden, Keighley BD20 0EE. Please note, scanned copies are not accepted

- To make your initial deposit via bank transfer, enter the details of the account from which you wish to make the deposit (must be a current bank account in your name) in the relevant section of the application form. Once your account has been set up, we will contact you with instructions on making your initial deposit. Alternatively, you can send a cheque from your personal account payable to Ecology Building Society re: (your name)
- Please be aware of the identification requirements outlined in the leaflet *Savings account identification requirements*
- If you are an existing member of the Society, we may not need further evidence of identification, so please remember to quote your account number on the application form
- You can also open an account on behalf of a child – for more information, please visit ecology.co.uk/savings or read *Savings account identification requirements*





Product Specific Conditions (continued...)

How we pay interest

- Interest will be credited to your account on 31 December each year
- An annual statement will be sent to you in January
- If requested, interest can be paid direct into your bank account in January each year (minimum £25) or to another account with the Society
- We may vary the interest rate on your account from time to time – please see *Saving with Ecology – general terms and conditions* for more details
- For details of our interest rates, please see our *Current savings rates and charges* leaflet, visit ecology.co.uk or call us on 01535 650 770

Operating an account: withdrawals

- If a withdrawal would take the account balance below the required amount to keep the account open (£25), the account will have to be closed



Ecology Building Society was rated as an ethical Best Buy for our mortgages, ISAs and savings accounts by Ethical Consumer magazine in its product guide rankings (May/June 2018 issue).



Protected

All the photographs and testimonials in this leaflet are of actual Ecology savers and borrowers.



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