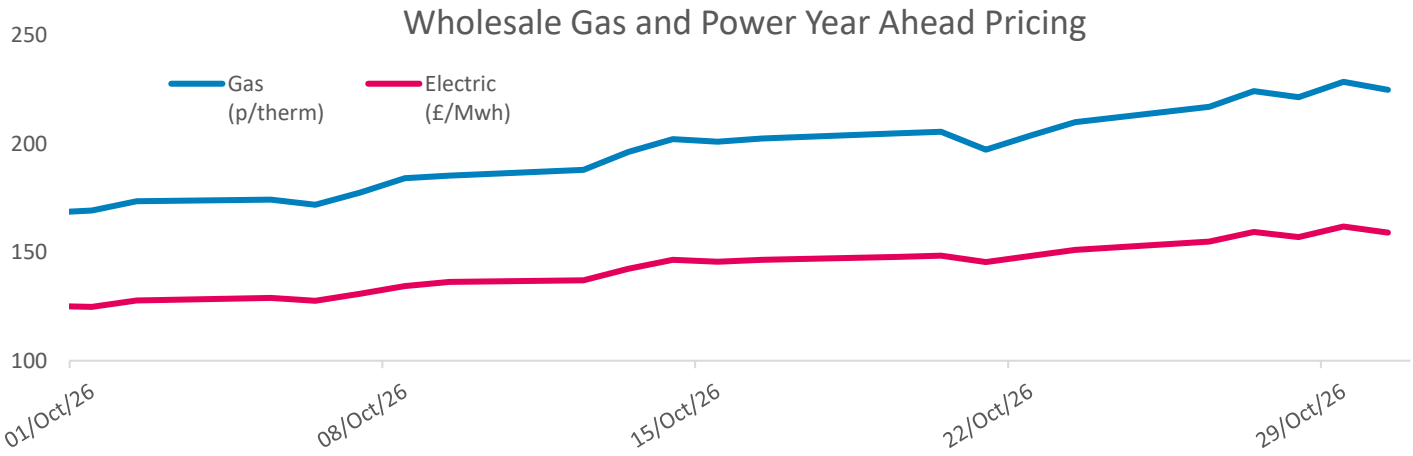


ENERGY MARKET UPDATE

OCTOBER 2026



YEAR AHEAD WHOLESALE GAS AND ELECTRICITY PRICE

UK wholesale gas and power prices increased throughout October 2026, with both markets experiencing sustained upward pressure amid growing concerns over winter supply availability.

Geopolitical tensions in the Middle East continued to influence market sentiment, with potential disruption to energy infrastructure and shipping routes adding a risk premium to wholesale prices.

Uncertainty surrounding global Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) availability and European gas supplies contributed to rising costs.

Gas prices approached 200p/therm by mid-month, while electricity rose towards £145/MWh. Both markets briefly eased before resuming their upward trend.

Electricity broadly followed gas market movements, reflecting the influence of gas-fired generation on wholesale power costs.

Norwegian production outages tightened pipeline supplies, while disruption to LNG shipments through the Strait of Hormuz increased concerns over replacement supplies.

By the final week, gas prices had climbed towards 225p/therm, while electricity reached approximately £160/MWh. European gas storage remained a concern, with depleted reserves increasing the need for winter replenishment and competition for available LNG cargoes.

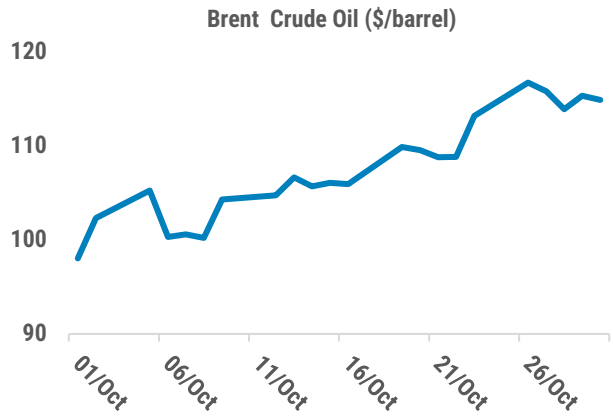
Despite occasional price reductions, supply disruption, geopolitical uncertainty and approaching winter demand maintained upward pressure, with both markets ending October significantly higher than at the start of the month.

BRENT CRUDE OIL

Brent crude oil prices increased throughout October 2026, rising from around $98 per barrel at the start of the month to above $115 by the final week. Early trading saw downward pressure as the recovery in Middle Eastern oil exports and restoration of Saudi supply routes eased shortage concerns.

Prices fluctuated mid-month as hopes of renewed US-Iran negotiations briefly reduced market concerns. However, renewed attacks on Saudi energy infrastructure and shipping in the Strait of Hormuz heightened supply disruption fears, pushing prices higher.

Towards the end of October, prices climbed as Houthi attacks and threats to tanker movements increased geopolitical risk. Brent peaked at around $116 per barrel before settling lower. Overall, October saw a sustained upward trend, with supply risks and Middle East uncertainty keeping crude prices elevated.



PURCHASE DIRECT

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