Life of a Boiler

Type of boiler

- Combination boilers have lots to go wrong and cheaper models can work out a very expensive boiler in the end
- Regular boilers have less to go wrong and can survive debris floating round in an old system especially cast iron versions.

Boiler location

- Kept in an outhouse or loft can reduce a boilers life.
- Risk of freezing can cause gradual damage; condensation around a boiler can cause severe rusting of components.

Recommendations

- Fit a lime reducer and a Magnaclean or equivalent to the system
- Flush out every 5 years and add an inhibitor
- If you're spending money constantly on repairs to your boiler you need to replace it.
- If you're boiler is old, very noisy, cast iron or a back boiler you need to start saving for a new replacement

Boiler Service/Repair Plan

- If the boiler is a good make (Worcester or Vaillant) I would not take out a service plan. I recommend you find out how much it would cost and every year put that money to one side for when the boiler does go wrong.
- If the boiler make is a cheaper option and you have worries then a service plan is for you.

My Opinion

I service many boilers, all different types an ages. I service some boilers that are 25+ years old, yes, I make sure they are working properly and test vigorously.

My advice is clear

"Put some money to one side, get the boiler replaced before winter or be prepared to wait if it breaks down in the midst of winter"

Don't replace your boiler just because it's not a condensing boiler, the money you will save on gas will not make up for the outlay of a condensing boiler. For example: You save £300 a year of your gas bill, a new boiler cost £2,500. The new boiler lasts 15 years, that's 10 years before you've saved any money, five years later you need a new boiler.