

Scottish Fuel Poverty Conference

Fuel Poverty and the Road to Recovery

Thursday 18 March 2021

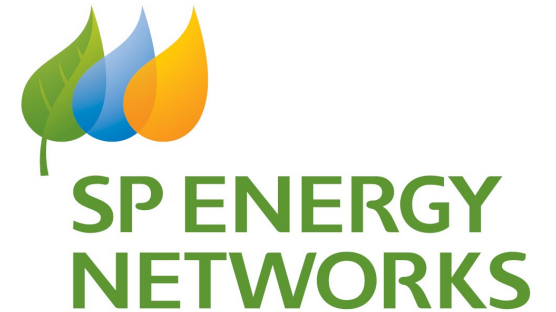
10:00 – 12:00

Session 3

Funding: how can we accelerate change and identify what needs to be done?



Supported by:



Energy Action Scotland Conference

Cassandra Dove (Research and Policy Lead, SFHA)

Freya Burns (Senior Researcher, Changeworks)

Funding: how can we accelerate change and
identify what needs to be done?

Funding: how can we accelerate change and identify what needs to be done?

RSL activities

Energy efficiency of homes

Affordable Housing Supply Programme; EESSH; ongoing maintenance; property surveys & monitoring

Household incomes

Income maximisation; welfare advice; energy top-ups

Energy prices

Supporting tenants to switch supplier or tariffs; lobbying energy companies and governments

Behaviours in the home

Energy efficiency advice; occupancy assessments; environmental/energy monitoring

We represent

140

housing associations and co-operatives in Scotland

1.2m



people live in social housing – half of them in homes provided by housing associations

Energy efficiency of homes

Social sector (new build):

- Affordable Housing Supply Programme (53,000 homes - 37,100 for social rent)
- Increasing construction costs
- Building Standards review, New Build Heat Standard, fire suppression, EVs
- Passivhaus, offsite and MMC

Average unit cost:
Increase from
£114,000 to
£134,000

£3.4 bn
2021-26
AHSP



Energy Efficiency of homes

Social sector (existing homes):

- Energy Efficiency Standard for Social Housing: EESSH (2020)/EESSH2 (2032)
- Deep retrofit, Enerphit standards
- Changeworks research – impact on tenants and fuel poverty

56%

band C+



£400m+

**Social landlords
investment in EESSH**

Household Incomes

Social sector:

- High fuel poverty rate (pre-pandemic)
- Low incomes (majority less than £25,000)
- Support provided by RSLs (income maximization, welfare advice)
- Delivery of emergency funding (Supporting Communities Fund, Social Housing Fuel Support Fund)

37%
**fuel
poverty**

10%
**can't afford to
heat home
(4% all tenures)**

£2m



**Social Housing
Fuel Support Fund**

Behaviours in the home

Social sector:

- RSL energy advice services
- Cost-effective delivery
- Reactive/proactive engagement with tenants
- Developing ongoing relationships
- Support with new technologies



Case studies:

- Flexible referrals
- Holistic Services
- Ongoing staff training
- Customer centred approach



Energy prices

Social sector:

- Pre-payment/credit/restricted meters
- Regional price variations
- Switching tariff/suppliers
- Gas vs electricity
- Need for a fairer energy market

Average gas bill:

Direct Debit = £557

Pre-payment = £618

Unit price:

Gas =

4p/kWh

Electricity =

17-18p/kWh



Our asks of Scottish Government

- Increased funding to tackle **fuel poverty** and **energy efficiency**
- Long-term funding for **communities** (building on emergency funding) and **individuals** (housing support & Universal Credit)
- A national, **public education campaign** on energy efficiency/decarbonisation
- Lobby the UK government on **energy market reforms** to support a just transition and a fair deal for Scottish consumers

For social landlords:

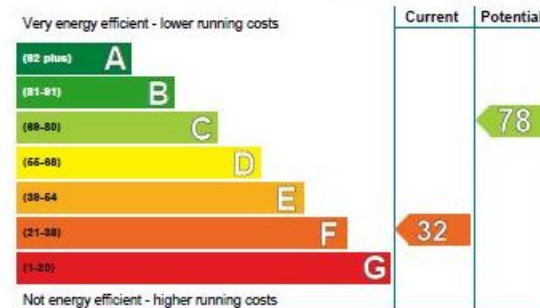
- Increase **grant subsidy** for new affordable homes in line with development costs
- **Multi-year funding** to support energy efficiency improvements and decarbonisation (informed by **Changeworks research**)

Disclaimer!

This presentation contains EPCs

Estimated energy costs for your home for 3 years*	£5,409	See your recommendations report for more information
Over 3 years you could save*	£2,814	

* based upon the cost of energy for heating, hot water, lighting and ventilation, calculated using standard assumptions

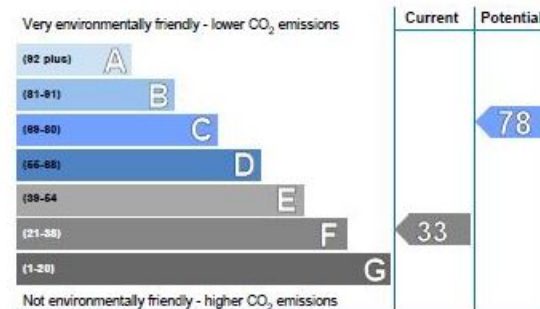


Energy Efficiency Rating

This graph shows the current efficiency of your home, taking into account both energy efficiency and fuel costs. The higher this rating, the lower your fuel bills are likely to be.

Your current rating is **band F (32)**. The average rating for EPCs in Scotland is **band D (61)**.

The potential rating shows the effect of undertaking all of the improvement measures listed within your recommendations report.



Environmental Impact (CO₂) Rating

This graph shows the effect of your home on the environment in terms of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions. The higher the rating, the less impact it has on the environment.

Your current rating is **band F (33)**. The average rating for EPCs in Scotland is **band D (59)**.

The potential rating shows the effect of undertaking all of the improvement measures listed within your recommendations report.

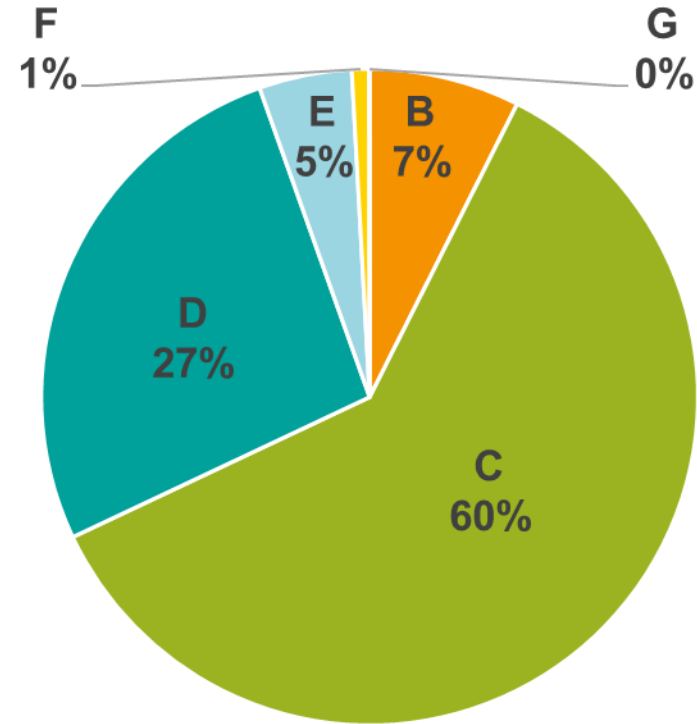
Research Design

- Data analysis using data from Scottish Housing Condition Survey (SHCS)
- Survey and follow up interviews with SFHA members



Energy Efficiency Levels

- Average rating is 71 (low band C)
- 7% currently EESSH2 compliant



EPC bands: ■ B ■ C ■ D ■ E ■ F ■ G

Modelled upgrades



1. Fabric and lighting upgrades
2. Heating upgrades
3. A solar measure

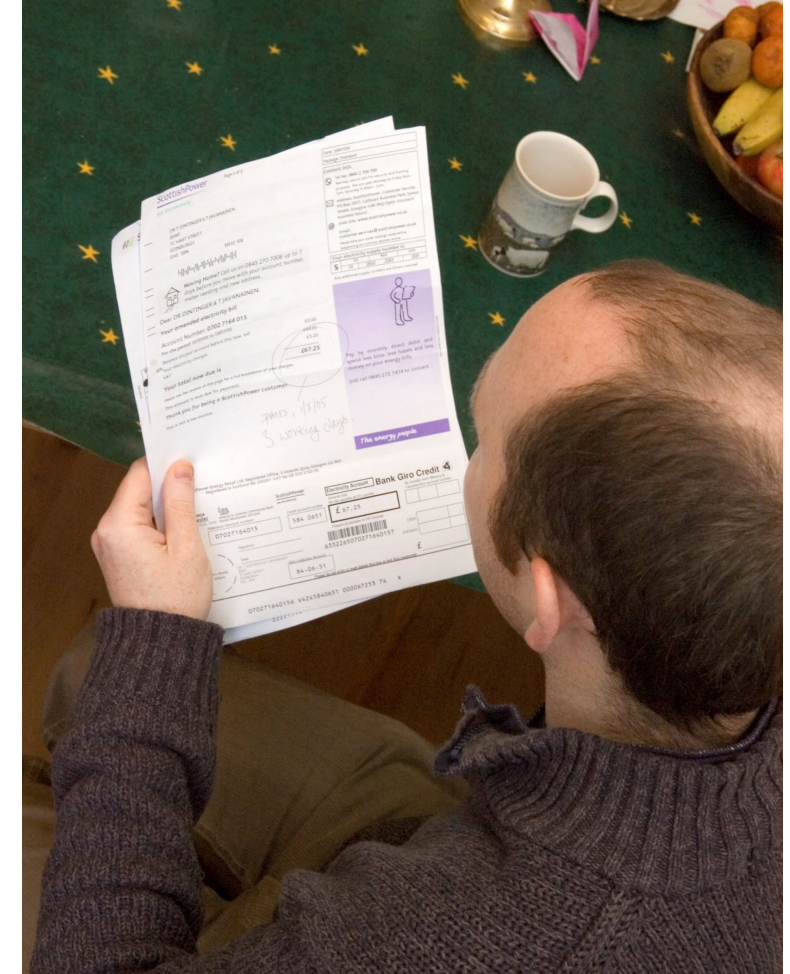
Impacts for tenants

Running costs

- **£1,231** per year
- estimated **£279** annual saving

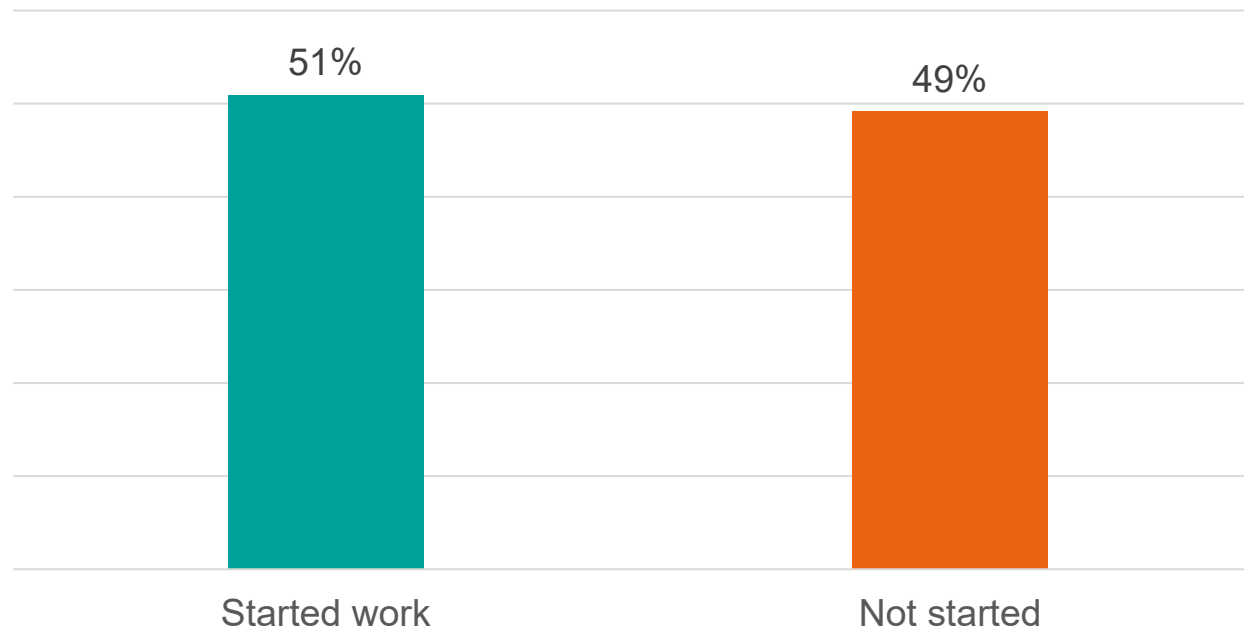
Capital costs

- **£7,661** per property
- How is this funded?

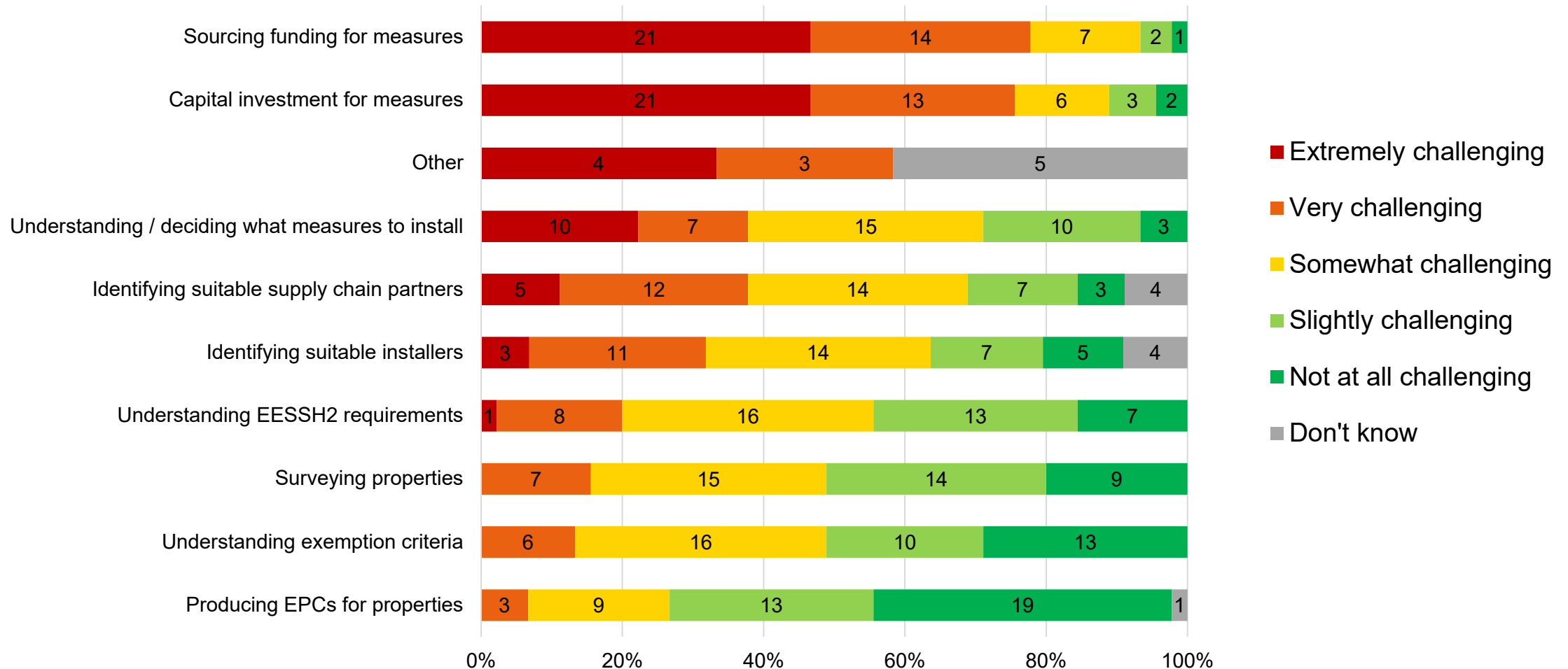


Survey Findings

Have you begun work to make your properties EESSH2 compliant?



Challenges meeting EESSH2



(Base = 45, except 'Identifying suitable installers' = 44, and 'other' = 12)

Funding Challenges

- Ineligibility for funding
- Not passing costs onto tenants
- Certain property types

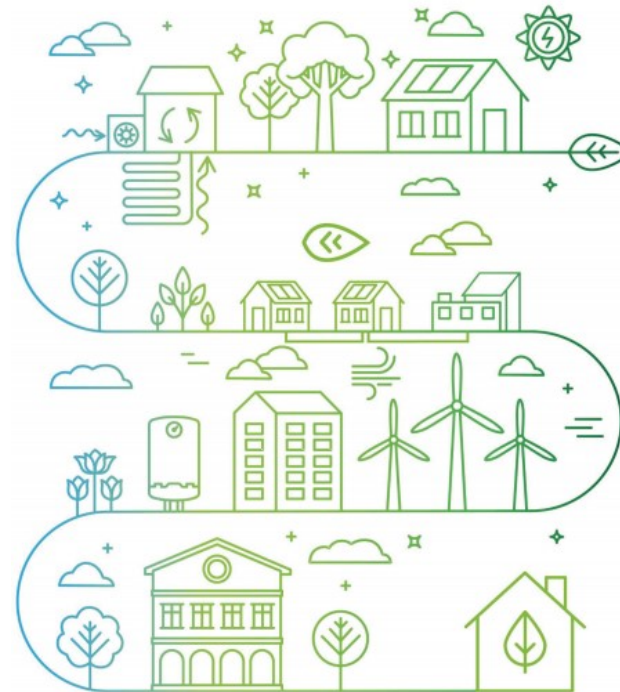
*“not transferring fuel
poverty to rent
poverty”*

Next Steps

Draft Heat in Buildings Strategy

Achieving Net Zero Emissions in Scotland's Buildings
Consultation

February 2021



Keep in touch



Call 0131 555 4010

Visit changeworks.org.uk

Sign up for updates and insights at
changeworks.org.uk/subscribe

Changeworks ~ delivering positive low carbon living

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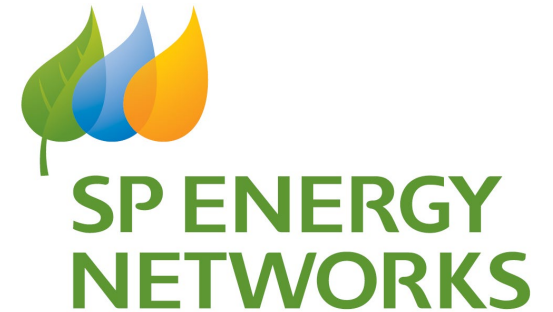
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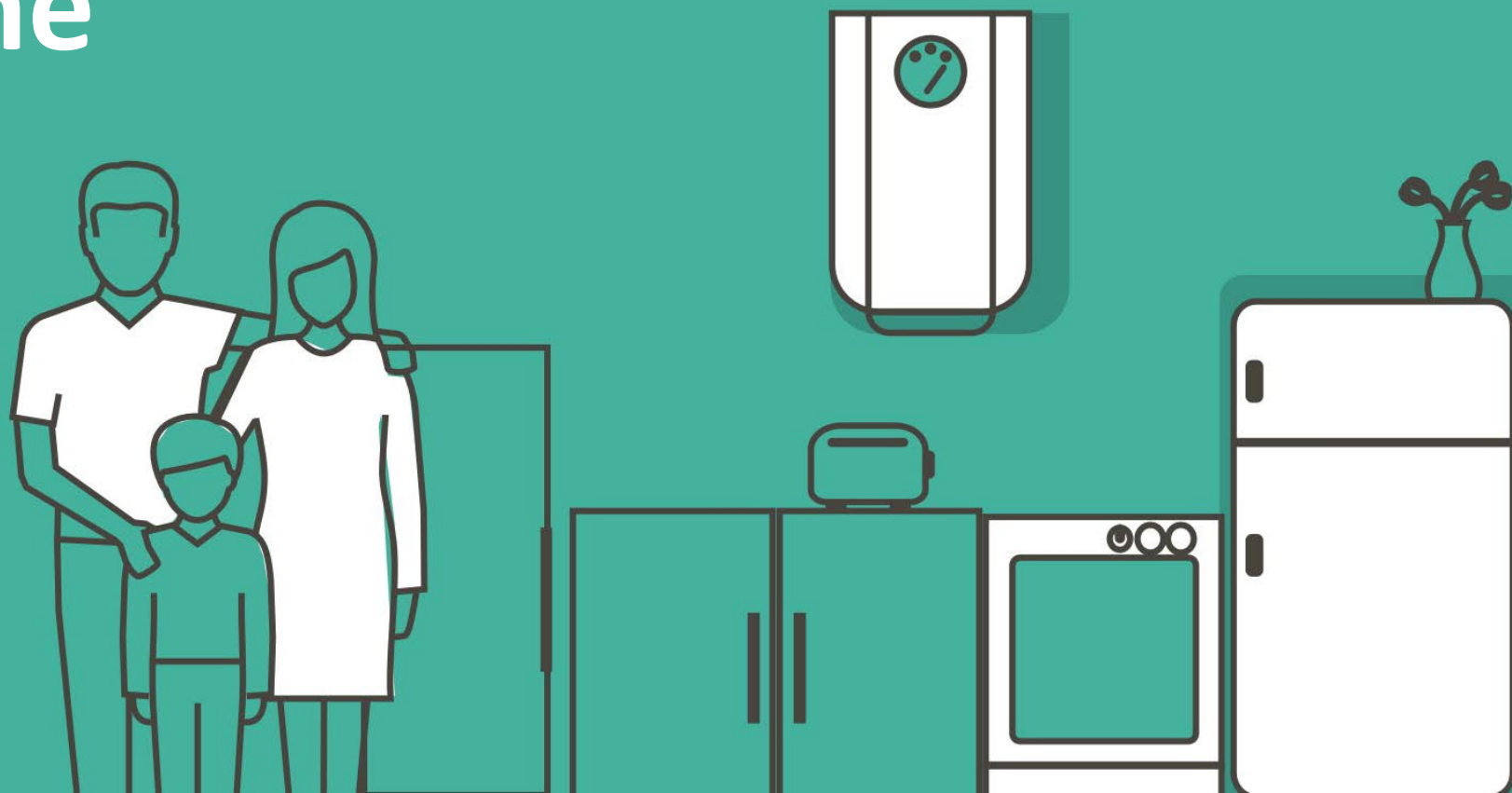


Supported by:



Energy Industry Voluntary Redress Scheme

Graham Ayling
Energy Saving Trust



Energy Saving Trust

- Leading independent, impartial organisation working on the climate emergency
- Evidence and research-based advice and consultancy services
- Programme delivery for public and private sector
- Energy saving, transport, renewables



The Energy Industry Voluntary Redress Scheme

- Distributes voluntary payments from energy companies
- Funding priorities:
 - Vulnerable energy consumers
 - Innovation to benefit energy consumers
 - New – Carbon emission reduction that benefits energy consumers



Eligibility

- Registered charities in England, Scotland and Wales
- Others can partner with charities
- Charity must lead and be accountable
- Regulated energy companies cannot benefit in any way



Application and assessment

- Two step application:
 1. Register interest
 2. Apply for a fund
- Quarterly calls
- Minimum £20k grants, Max - £2m
- Assessed against common criteria
- Decision by an independent expert panel



Our aims for Energy Redress

- Maximise positive impact of Redress money
 - Cost effective, impactful projects
 - Avoid duplication
 - Encourage collaboration
- Transparency
 - Impact monitoring built in from the start
 - Regular reporting to Ofgem
 - Communication of results



Energy Redress so far

- Majority of applications we receive are for energy advice
- No capital measures within the scope of ECO are allowed
- Energy advice plus and small measures is a common model



Energy Redress so far

- Over **750 charities** now registered for the scheme
- 9 funding rounds completed and a tenth in progress
- Over **240 grants given** worth over **£30 million**
- **£21 million** allocated across 130 advice and capital projects
- **£10 million** allocated to COVID-19 crisis support



Energy Redress so far

- Over **£5million** of funded advice/research/capital work carried out to date
- Over **78,000 households** reached with support
- Over 12,000 small measures installed
- Over 160 jobs created/secured, 780 volunteers involved
- Nearly **80,000 households** supported through crisis fund



Energy Redress in Scotland

- **27** projects under main funds worth **£3.9million**
- Additional **27** projects worth **£3.3million** through Crisis fund
- All projects work alongside **Scottish Government programmes**
- Support from Energy Redress team to collaborate with Home Energy Scotland and Local Energy Scotland



Case study: Which heating controls?

- Research Inst for Disabled Consumers
- Research on challenges faced by people living with disabilities
- Identify best heating controls
- Report now publicly available



Finding Redress projects

- <https://energyredress.org.uk/funded-energy-redress-projects>
- Includes hyperlinks to websites of Energy Redress funded charities
- energyredress@est.org.uk
- **Energy Redress consultation:**
<https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/publications-and-updates/consultation-review-energy-industry-voluntary-redress-scheme>

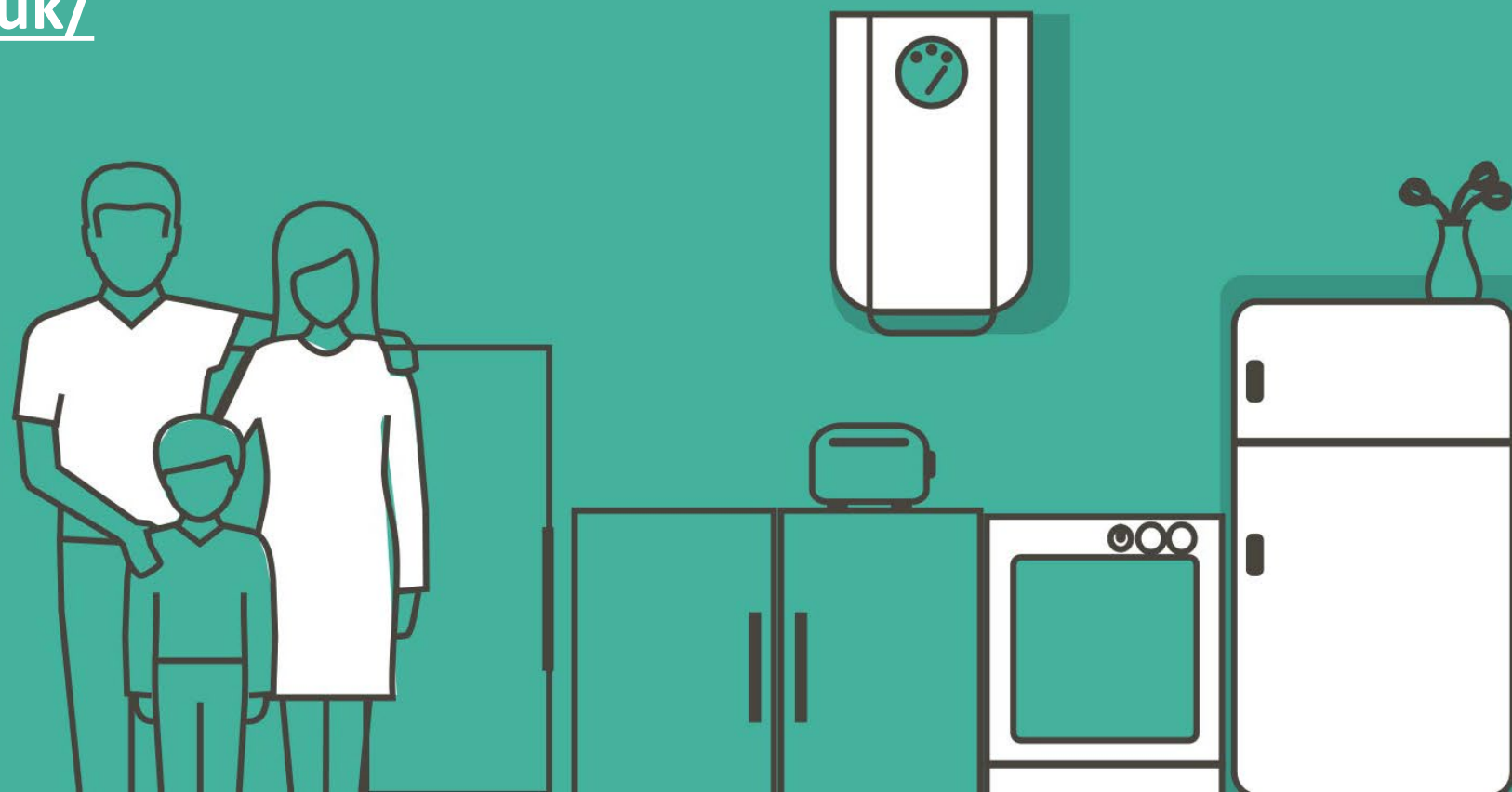


Thank you

<https://energyredress.org.uk/>

energyredress@est.org.uk

Graham Ayling
Energy Saving Trust
energyredress@est.org.uk



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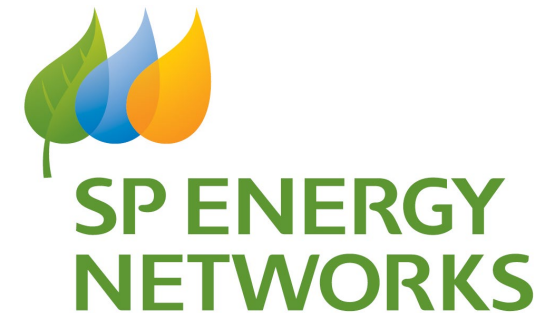
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WILLIAM GRANT
FOUNDATION





INDEPENDENT FAMILY
DISTILLERS SINCE 1887

WILLIAM GRANT & SONS

CHRISTMAS DAY
1887
THE FIRST DROP OF
GLENFIDDICH FLOWED FROM
OUR STILL'S

WE ARE
100%
FAMILY OWNED

6
FAMILY GENERATIONS

SELL TO ALMOST
200
MARKETS

WITH OVER
2,800
EMPLOYEES

IN
44
GLOBAL LOCATIONS



WILLIAM GRANT FOUNDATION

Our vision:
A Scotland where everyone
has the opportunity to thrive.



HEALTH &
SOCIAL CAUSES



YOUTH
OPPORTUNITIES



SCOTTISH CULTURE
& HERITAGE

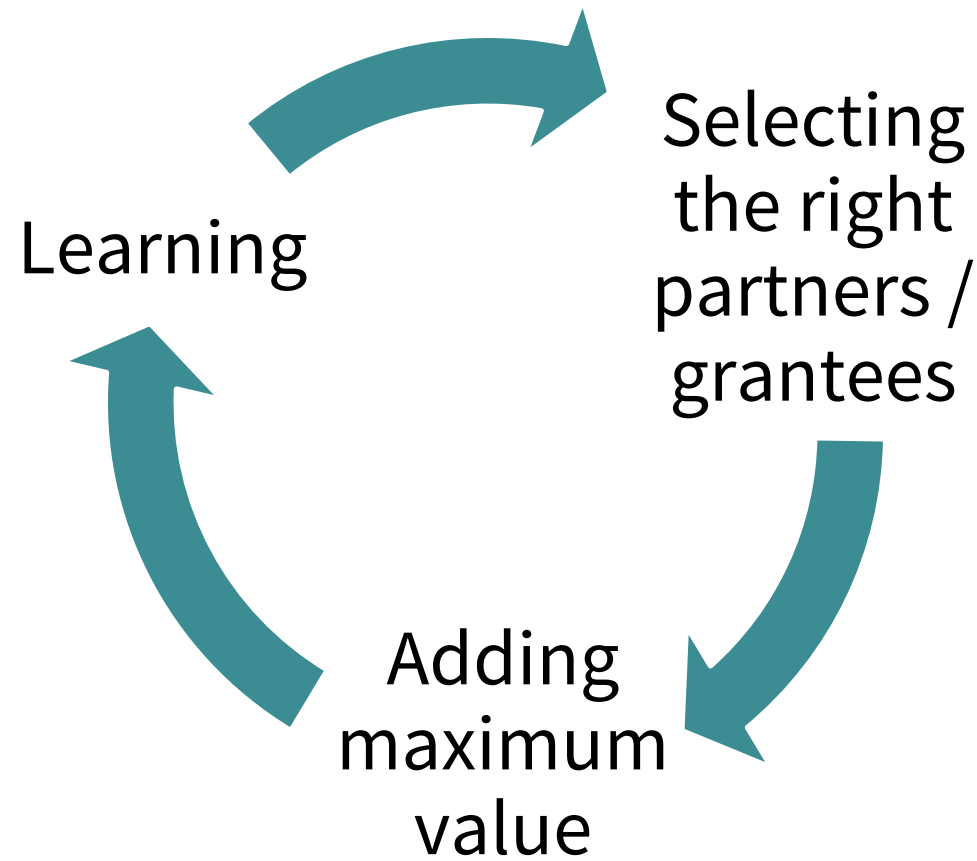


NATURAL &
BUILT ENVIRONMENT

**Energy
Efficient
Homes**

Community
Assets

Marine &
Aquatic



Our involvement in the fuel poverty agenda

- Policy and strategy
- Supporting practice
- Direct delivery



Strategy and policy

Existing Homes Alliance

Research, stakeholder engagement, advocacy

Warm Homes Campaign

- 2017 programme for government: Warm Homes Bill
- Opportunity for ‘the right policies and programmes to make FP eradication credible’

Commitments into practice

- Making good on the Fuel Poverty Bill
- Just transition to low carbon homes
- Making the case for regulation



Supporting practice

Pebble Trust

Sustainable Renovation Guide

Renovation and retrofit to support fuel poverty and net zero carbon

Promotion

Policy measures and standards



Direct support & delivery

Changeworks – Heat Heroes

Capacity gap in provision of 1-to-1 support for the most vulnerable and those at greatest risk of fuel poverty

Improved behaviour changes and sustained skills to keep homes affordable warm

Demonstrating the role of volunteers in increasing the capacity of support provision



CHANGeworks



Final thoughts

WHALEARTS

WHALE Arts Centre 30 Westburn Grove EH14 2SA



A poster displayed in a window or on a wall. It features a large red heart on the left and a colorful rainbow on the right, both appearing to be made of paper or fabric. Below the heart and rainbow, the text "OUR COMMUNITY" is written in large, bold, red capital letters. At the bottom of the poster, the word "food" is written in a green, lowercase, sans-serif font. There is also a small yellow sticker on the bottom right of the poster.



www.williamgrantfoundation.org.uk

<https://grantnav.threesixtygiving.org/funder/360G-WilliamGrantFdn>

foundation@wgrant.com

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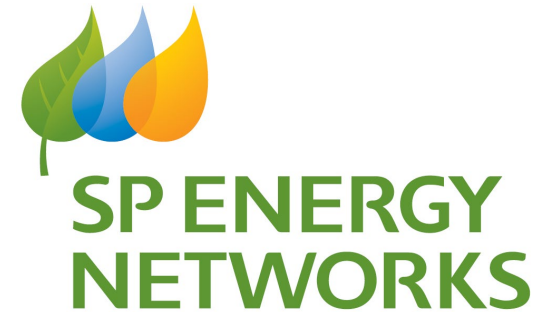
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FUEL BANK FOUNDATION
SUPPORTING FAMILIES IN
FUEL CRISIS

March 2021, Matthew Cole

HOW WE HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE SO FAR



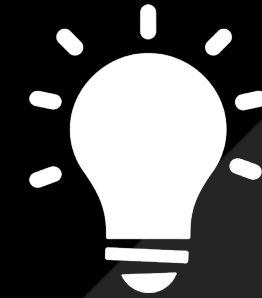
103

Partners



427k

People Supported



£6.65m

Funding

Fuel Crisis



THE NEED FOR FUEL BANK SUPPORT

Many people supported by Fuel bank have had to make difficult decisions when it comes to basic living needs.



“Physically, I wasn’t even taking a bath I was saving up the money, mentally it was impacting my health, I was losing my health, I saw a decline in my health, I was cutting down on so many things. I was holding off with the laundry, even going out looking for a job because you need washed clothes.”



WHEN THE FUEL BANK VOUCHER WAS PROVIDED...

The findings highlight the complex and desperate circumstances that led people to seek financial support from Fuel Bank.

The majority of people that were forced to self-disconnect were or had been borrowing money from friends or family and using emergency credit.

38%


had run out of gas and electricity causing meters to be switched off

69%

were using emergency credit on their meter

59%

were borrowing money from friends/family to keep their meters working





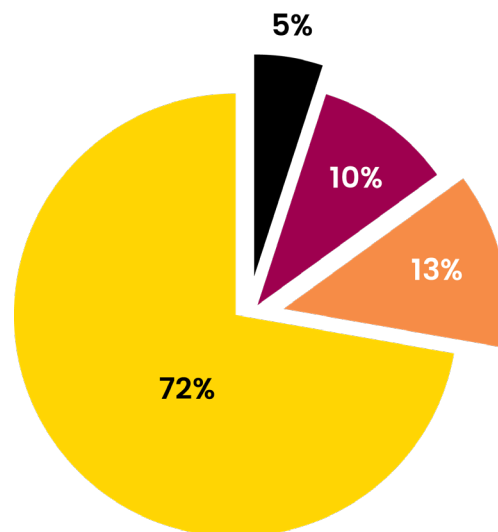
FUEL BANK MAKES A DIFFERENCE TO FAMILIES

The vast majority who have received Fuel Bank vouchers feel they have made a significant improvement to both their physical and mental wellbeing.



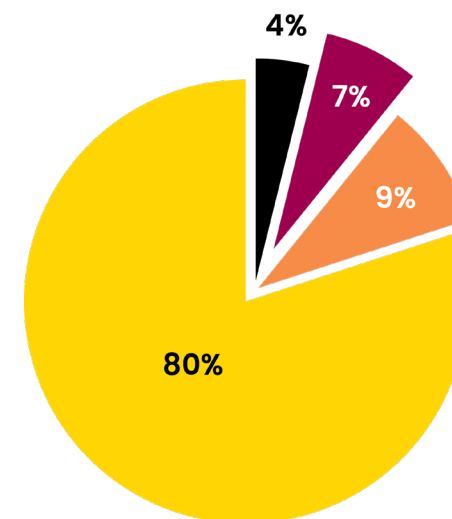
I WAS HAVING MONEY ISSUES AND I WASN'T IN BEST PLACE WITH DIFFERENT THINGS IN MY FAMILY LIFE AND MONEY WORRIES BUT BEING ABLE TO COOK, CLEAN HAVE A SHOWER WHEN YOU WANT AND DRY WASHING ON THE RADIATOR ON RAINY DAYS ALL LIFT YOUR SPIRITS.

PHYSICAL WELLBEING



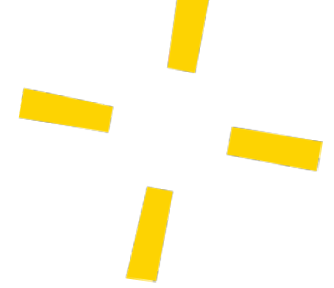
85% net 4-5 Improvement

MENTAL WELLBEING



89% net 4-5 Improvement

■ No/little improvement at all (1-2) ■ 3 ■ 4 ■ 5 – Significant improvement



HOW FUEL BANK VOUCHERS CHANGE LIVES

The improvement to mental and physical wellbeing comes hand in hand



PHYSICAL WELLBEING

Fuel Bank Foundation vouchers enable people's basic needs to be met which otherwise would not have been possible. For example, showering, heating home and cooking warm food.

This creates a feeling of normality and is life saving for people, especially those with health conditions and disabilities.



MENTAL WELLBEING

Many mention struggles with mental health, for example anxiety and depression.

Money and living worries worsen these struggles further.

Receiving help from Fuel Bank Foundation alleviates a lot of pressure and worry amongst those who are struggling and creates a sense of relief knowing there is help.

“I would be able to walk around the house with ease rather than sitting still under blankets to keep warm, was getting lethargic sitting still to keep warm.”

“I have a high depressive and anxiety disorder. I was really relaxed, my head wasn't going overtime. It is nice to sit in the warm and have warm dinners.”

THE IMPACT ON FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN



“When they stopped my benefits I was so stressed I didn’t even think of electricity I just thought of food. When I was at the food bank and they mentioned the Fuel Bank voucher, I just felt like I had won the lottery. It was a massive weight off my shoulders. They saved me from doing something stupid.”

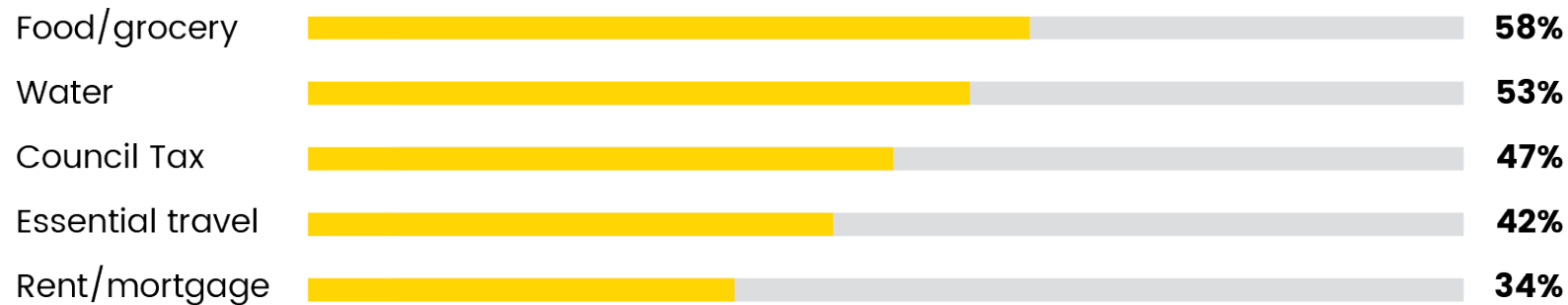
“They helped me out and we are really grateful for what they are doing. I get upset when things are running out, and it effects me and my daughter I get worried. I panic when things are running out.”

“We were struggling and we had to go to the food bank as well, it helped me to put the electricity back on, my son has health problems and I had to make sure that there was electricity so that he could take his medication.”

FUTURE SUPPORT IS NEEDED

89% ARE STRUGGLING TO TOP UP THEIR GAS &/OR ELECTRICITY PREPAYMENT METERS

81% ARE STRUGGLING WITH ESSENTIAL HOUSEHOLD BILLS, MAINLY FOOD & WATER



COVID-19

82% agree that COVID-19 and lockdown has made them worry more about running out of money to pay for their energy. Families with children are significantly more likely to worry (92%) than those without children (72%).

THE WAY FORWARD

- **Continue to provide immediate support for people in fuel crisis**
- **Drive a greater recognition of self-disconnection**
- **Help the energy sector think about additional measures to mitigate self-disconnection**
- **Ensure government policy reflects differing costs households incur for energy, the cross departmental impacts of living without energy and how more targeted support is provided**





FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit: fuelbankfoundation.org

Email: matthew.cole@fuelbankfoundation.org



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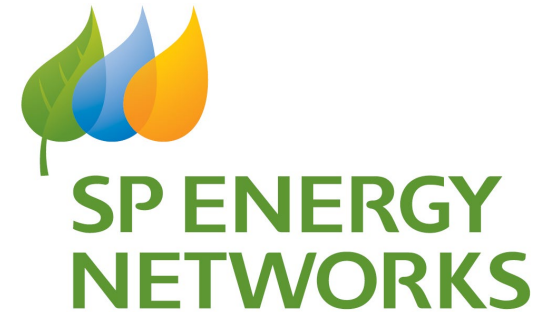
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A large, white, stylized graphic of the letter 'R' that curves from the top left towards the bottom right, partially overlapping the text.

Funding to accelerate
change: Jim McCormick

Energy Action Scotland
Conference, 18 March 2021

The landscape

Scotland's prospects for addressing poverty and trauma – ten years on from the Christie Commission:

- The pandemic has exposed the roots of poverty via food, fuel, digital, housing security and strains to mental health
- And the unequal burden carried by women and carers, disabled people and keyworkers, BAME and low-income communities
- #KeepThePromise for care-experienced children and young people
- Everyone Home alliance to leave homelessness behind us
- Renewed Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan in 2022

Social Renewal Call to Action

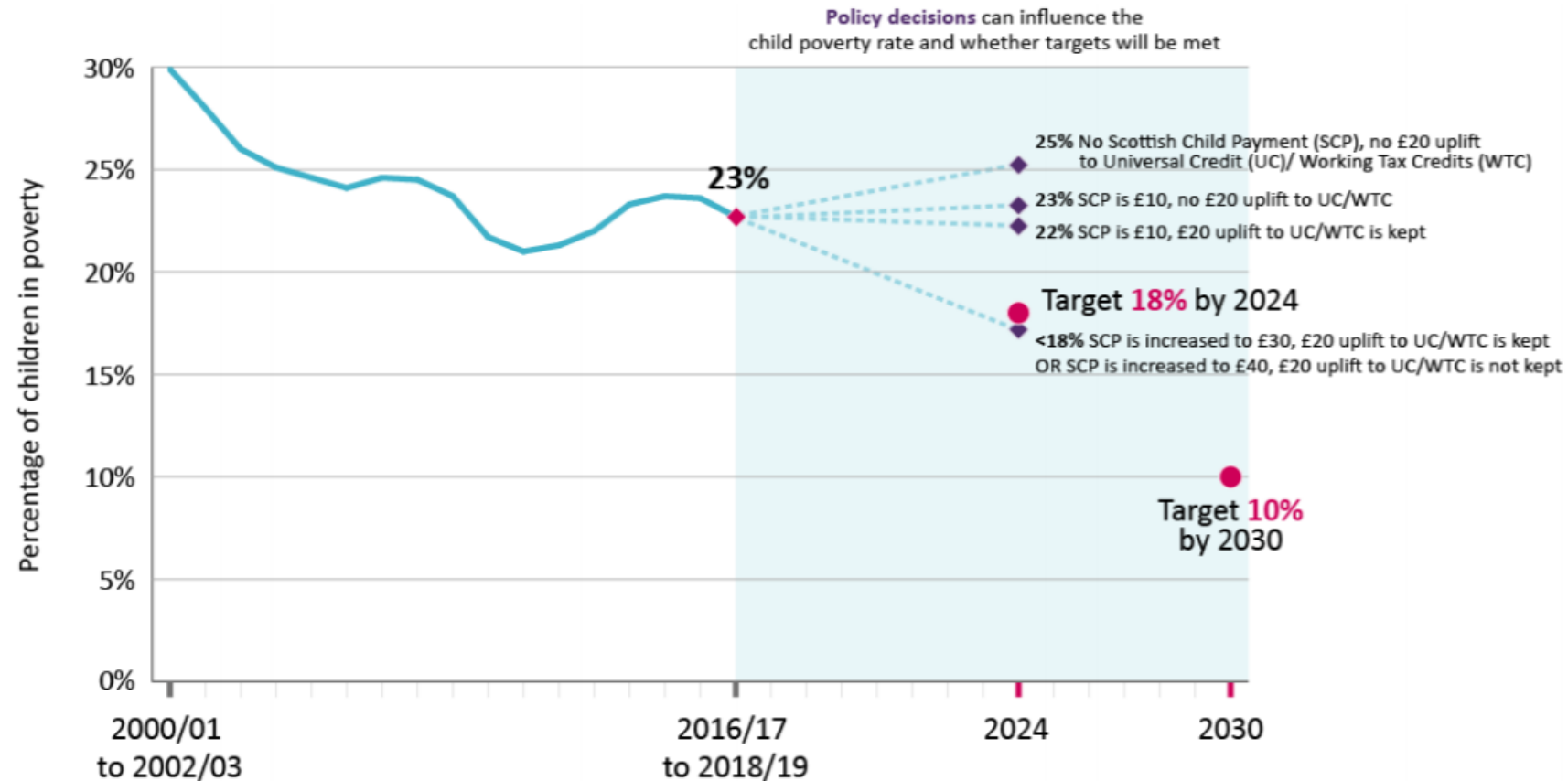
If Not Now, When?

The Social Renewal Advisory Board Report
January 2021

- Independent group reported to two Cabinet Secretaries on 21 January. 20 Calls to Action covering:
 - Money and Work
 - People, Rights, Advancing Equality
 - Communities and Collective Endeavour
- Proposals include a **Minimum Income Guarantee**, boost in **safe, warm, accessible affordable homes**, shifts in decision-making power

Child poverty in Scotland: gauging the choices we make

Projected trajectories for the child poverty rate under different scenarios



Source: JRF analysis of HBAI

The Robertson Trust's new strategy to 2030

"We work with others, using all of our tools and resources, to improve the wellbeing of people affected by poverty and trauma"...

- We seek **to fund, to support** and **to inform**
- By taking action on **financial and material security, emotional wellbeing and relationships**, and **education and work pathways**.
- Using approaches that are **collaborative, community-rooted, relational** and **rights-based** (our decision frames)

Our Funds

- New Funds for Constituted Groups and Registered Charities with annual income of <£2m
- Five current strands, more unrestricted funding, some up to five years
- Revenue (3): Wee Grants for Wee Groups, Smalls Grants, Large Grants
- Capital (2): Community Buildings (Hubs) and Vehicles
- Committed to transparent grant-making, learning, improvement
- Fuel poverty: off-grid hardship funds, affordable warmth advocacy, home packs, income maximisation, energy advice embedded in food banks – especially in rural and remote communities

Groups in focus



- Women
- Disabled people
- People from BAME backgrounds
- Asylum seekers and refugees
- Severe & multiple disadvantage
– *Hard Edges Scotland*
- Rural/remote locations
- Young people
- Older people
- Family groups with higher poverty rates and risks

Things to come

- A new Strategic Fund emerging from the pandemic: supporting larger third sector organisations/alliances to benefit the people and places they serve
- Wider Sector Support starting with a renewed capacity-building offer to grant-holders
- Embedding learning from new Funds, Social Bridging Finance, Journey to Success (Scholarship)
- Independent not neutral: widening the platform for others and using our own convening/influencing ability

Connecting with each other

- Outreach programme and funding surgeries as part of our Funder Plus commitment
- Advice: funding@therobertsontrust.org.uk
- Resources: webinars, FAQs, application guidance
www.therobertsontrust.org.uk
- Follow: @RobertsonTrust



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