



DOMESTIC ENERGY EFFICIENCY FUEL POVERTY REPORT

Fuel Poverty occurs when households have required fuel costs that are above average, and, were they to spend that amount; they would be left with a residual income below the official poverty line. This can lead to households unable to keep adequately warm or use the energy they need for basic functions. In some households, energy use is too low, e.g. when people under-heat.

The strategy treats fuel poverty at a high level, but behind the data are serious personal impacts. This is why the strategy recommends the city take a whole-house and person-centred approach. It is through understanding the needs of citizens that we deliver this agenda. Locally, AgeUKNotts asked people to rate how warm/ cold their home was on average throughout winter (ranging from Very Cold, to Very Warm). Over half (56%) of people described their home as Cold (Quite Cold, Cold or Very Cold), with many citing symptoms how the cold affected their health the most common being increased stiffness and joint pain, and increased problems with breathing/ breathlessness. One person who described their home as Cold stated: "I have arthritis and in the cold weather my joints get worse and more painful, so I move less which makes me colder. It's a spiral. I get to the point where I can't go out."

Tackling Fuel Poverty

Nottingham City Council last September launched a Fuel Poverty Strategy for the city through the Domestic Energy Efficiency Fuel Poverty subgroup (DEEFP). The group exists to foster city-wide collaboration, reporting to the Health and Wellbeing Board, and consists of council officers from different directorates, third sector organisations and other institutions. The strategy aims to increase thermal comfort and well-being in the coldest and most vulnerable homes. The [strategy](#) identifies key actions:

-  **REDUCE ENERGY BILLS**
-  **IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY**
-  **MAXIMISE HOUSEHOLD INCOME**

These factors are complex and often interrelated. Low-income households are commonly in less energy efficient homes and on more expensive payment method.

DEEFP has developed an accompanying action plan that covers the three areas above in relation to citywide ambitions and actions to reduce fuel poverty. The overarching target of the action plan is to *Reduce Nottingham cities fuel poverty rate* with the aim to be below the national average by 2020. Fuel Poverty affected an estimated 12.6 % (16,722) of Nottingham households in 2017/18. The National fuel poverty rate was 10.9% in 2017/2018. This is the most up to date information as the data has a two-year time delay.

Nottingham City has reduced its fuel poverty rate from 21.7% to 12.6% (2011/12-2017/18).



The DEEP subgroup and action plan align to and support the council plan targets to:

- Become the first carbon neutral city in the country, reaching this target by 2028
- Reduce the number of older people experiencing fuel poverty by 10%

Health and Wellbeing

Feedback to the health and wellbeing board health impacts of fuel poverty

Living in excess cold leads to a higher risk of poor health and wellbeing outcomes, increased winter deaths and puts further pressure on the NHS and other services. Children living in cold homes are more than twice as likely to suffer from a range of respiratory problems compared to those living in warm homes and can suffer indirect negative effects on their educational attainment, emotional wellbeing and resilience.

In Nottingham there were 499 excess winter deaths¹ (Aug 2013 – Jul 2016). The NEA estimate 1 EWD equates to 8 hospital visits. With the average cost of a hospital bed at £222², the estimated cost of excess winter deaths during this time for Nottingham is £886,224.

Public Health's created a winter campaign for 2018/19 called 'Stay Well' to offer some simple suggestions on how people can stay warm and well over the winter, for more information please see <https://www.nhs.uk/staywell/>.

Housing condition that impact health:

Excess cold - Public Health England (PHE) recommends home temperatures of at least 18°C, though it recognises that vulnerable groups may benefit from higher temperatures. 5% of PRS homes in England have excess cold. Cold conditions can affect respiratory and cardiovascular functioning, affect the immune system, and worsen arthritis symptoms (increasing the risk of home injuries).

Cold can cause death as well as poor health. The number of deaths in the UK rises in winter, a trend known as 'Excess Winter Deaths' (EWDs). Cold weather, and particularly cold housing, has been identified as contributing to this rise. The Marmot Review Team estimated that EWDs in the coldest 25% of all homes are almost three times higher than in the warmest 25%.

Damp and Mould – 9% of PRS homes in England are affected by damp. Damp can encourage dust mites and mould growth. There is evidence that damp and mould are associated with asthma, respiratory issues and eczema, particularly amongst young people. There is also a potential link with anxiety, depression and social isolation.

Excess heat and poor air quality - Insulation intended to prevent cold and damp can also be linked to health risks. When insulation is added to existing housing, ventilation needs to be provided to prevent overexposure to indoor pollutants (such as mould and second hand tobacco smoke) which have been shown to negatively affect health. Housing with poor insulation and high ventilation can lead to

¹ https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles/area-search-results/E06000018?place_name=Nottingham&search_type=parent-area

² <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng27/resources/costing-statement-2187244909>



harmful pollutants from outside the home mixing with those indoors. Insulated homes are also at greater risk of overheating in hot weather. (Source: POSTNOTE Number 573 April 2018).

Next Steps

- Examine business models and funding routes for energy efficiency capital works.
- As well as the direct and indirect societal costs. Look at research opportunities to show the adverse impacts of cold homes on health and healthcare spending. Admissions for certain conditions across set area/sample.

MAXIMISE HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Income is a significant factor in tackling fuel poverty, with low income contributing to half of the current indicator. Low-income households are commonly in less energy efficient homes and on more expensive payment method. Nationally, the fuel poor were identified in the lowest four income deciles with 75% in the lowest two decile.

After Housing Costs (AHC) equivalised income decile group	Proportion of households Fuel poor within group (%)	Proportion of households fuel poor (%)	Average fuel poverty gap (£)
1st decile - lowest income	42.4	38.8	364
2nd decile	41.2	37.6	272
3rd and 4th deciles	12.9	23.5	328
5th-10th deciles - highest incomes	-	-	-
All households	10.9	100.0	321

Nottingham City in 2017 remained the lowest Local Authority for gross disposable household income in England at £12,445 (36.2% below the UK average)³. The income gap to the national average has increased since 2015 and the amount of disposable income in Nottingham is over 2.5% lower than in 2015. Therefore, maximising household income is a key action with DEEFP’s focus on support and communication of energy related benefits, subsidies and grants.

Subsidies and Grants

There is a range of government assistance to help subsidise the cost of energy including Winter Fuel Payment, Cold Weather Payment and Warm Homes Discount. For further advice on heating and housing benefits go to www.gov.uk. The Warm Homes Discount scheme offers a £140 energy bill discount to low income households from participating suppliers. Citizens should contact their supplier to see if they are eligible.

RHE had 274 eligible customers for WHD within Nottingham City in 2018/19 with 270 claiming their rebate.

Targeted information

Providing up to date information and increase awareness of the available financial support around utility costs is key area action for all DEEFP members. Citizens should contact their supplier to see if

³<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/regionalaccounts/grossdisposablehouseholdincome/bulletins/regionalgrossdisposablehouseholdincomegdhi/1997to2017>



they are eligible for grants / schemes, some of which are offered to non-customers, for access to white goods or to pay off fuel debt.

Interventions

DEEFP continue to use and promote our existing one page leaflet, social media, community networks and partnerships to share key messages and increase uptake energy related benefits, subsidies and grants.

A two-page briefing was created and shared with councillors to raise awareness and provide information on citywide support.

DEEFP continue to monitor both citywide and ward level data on fuel poverty to identify target areas. This is then overlaid with data on the city's building stock (both BRE modelling and EPC data) and multiple deprivation index.

- For the last financial year (2018/19) the Council webpages links below received the following number of views :

- Greener housing received 4608 views - 2001 of the first time viewers

<https://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/information-for-residents/housing/greener-housing/>

- Fuel poverty strategy received 638 views - 283 unique viewers

<https://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/information-for-residents/housing/fuel-poverty-strategy/>

Next Steps

- It remains difficult to measure uptake of Warm Homes Discount at a local level. This next year DEEFP aims to develop a way to monitor uptake of WHD across the city, particularly for the broader group
- DEEFP will support the financial vulnerability communication group to plan, create and deliver key messages to target areas. Fuel poverty has been identified as one of three at risk factors to financial vulnerability and been mapped to identify target areas.

Direct assistance to complete applications and/or signpost towards installers/providers

Interventions

- Age UK Notts provides advice and support enabling older people to access the Winter Fuel Payment and Warm Home Discount, saving up to £440 on household fuel bills.
- Age UK Notts provide welfare benefit checks for older people, supporting them to apply for the benefits and discounts they are entitled to but not currently claiming. Supporting older people and the fuel poor to maximise their income, Age UK Notts supported older people to claim over £1.6m in benefits last financial year.
- The NCH Energy Advice Officer deals with all fuel debt and affordable warmth referrals including energy switching, as well as training frontline staff to enable them to identify and deliver sound advice to tenants when required.



- NEP offers advice on grants available for energy upgrades and fuel poverty advice. The 2018/19 average savings from fuel switch was £226.

Through these actions, the ambition is to achieve a greater uptake of grants, discounts and funding for City residents.

Communication/ Signposting Services

DEEFP aim to maximise all points of contact with citizens to ensure they receive the advice and support required. DEEFP aim to empower citizens to make low/zero cost changes to reduce energy bills, increase warmth and well-being but to enable this requires having the right information and knowledge. Creating a standardised approach that makes efficient use of all points of contact with citizens by embedding trained support in relevant channels.

Provide Financial Inclusion through Local Community Engagement

Interventions

DEEFP through Energy Services have access to the Fantastic Home Van as part of our LAEP communication subscription. The van has attended, Challenging time's event 13th April the Vine Bobbersmill Rd. MEA spoke to over 40 people and engaged in conversations re energy bills and energy efficiency.

In 2018/18 NEP held 22 community presentations/ events raising awareness on this agenda and engaged 254 people.

Link into broader Financial Vulnerability Strategy

A collaborative approach enables a great opportunity for additional coordination of services. Fuel-poverty is a multi-dimensional problem, and it is vital that it is tackled in a systemic manner. The financial vulnerability group covers aspects broader than DEEFP'S remit, this provides insight into city support to help maximise household income. The DEEFP group specifically support action 6.3 - Reduce household expenditure and help prevent eviction. While broader than fuel poverty, this allows ensures that the poverty premium and other relevant costs such as housing costs are considered and supported.

Next Steps

- DEEFP will support the financial vulnerability communication group to plan, create and deliver key messages to target areas. Fuel poverty has been identified as one of three at risk factors to financial vulnerability.

Front line staff at NCH and NCC trained to spot signs of fuel poverty.

Interventions

The Energy Advice Officer at NCH has also delivered staff training to 85 of our front line staff, enabling them to deliver support and fuel poverty and energy advice to our tenants who need it, when they need it. As a result, staff have a better knowledge and understanding of the support available for tenants in fuel debt.

NEP's Healthy Housing Service deliver up to 25 training courses for frontline staff per year. It has delivered training to 23 frontline teams (e.g., nurses, firefighters, occupational therapists) and 275 staff. The course explains the links between cold, damp housing and fuel poverty and its impact on the health for vulnerable and disadvantaged households.

The MEA provided training to staff training as part of the Big Energy Saving Network.



Next Steps

- Gain further senior support to raise awareness and increase uptake of training when provided and implement Making Every Contact Count principles

Signpost to simple energy advice– information on energy efficiency and where to go for help

A council consultation in 2018 identified that citizens are not sure where to go for help and advice on reducing energy bills. This is where we as a council can make the one of the biggest impacts. DEEFP have created a leaflet, cut the cost of keeping warm this winter, that signposts citizens to citywide agencies that can help with various issues arising from fuel poverty. This [leaflet](#) is checked and updated regularly.

A government website www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk additionally offers personalised online advice to help households become more energy efficient, find out about support and understand their own property's current and potential energy performance.

Encourage citizens and inform front line staff of the benefits of registering for the Priority Service Register

The Priority Services Register (PSR) is a free service provided by energy suppliers and network operators to customers in need. Citizens can register as a priority services customer to received additional support during power cuts. For more information, visit <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/consumers/household-gas-and-electricity-guide/extra-help-energy-services/priority-services-register-people-need>.

Interventions

- In 2018 /2019 a total of 474 households were signed up to the priority services register by NEP and Age UK Notts

Public engagement events

Interventions

On fuel poverty awareness day, MEA and NCC held a popup advice stall in Loxley House. Offering advice to both citizens and staff.



Funding

Look into funding sources to support council targets and objectives

The Energy Company Obligation (ECO) provide grants for insulation (roof, wall and floor) and boilers. Nottingham City Council’s Flexible Eligibility Statement of Intent states who is eligible for this. Nottingham has installed 530 ECO Flex measures, the highest of the core cities.

ECO and core cities	April 2013 to March 2019	Per 1,000 homes	LA flex to March 2019
Birmingham	80,680	192.3	Nil
Manchester	39,207	183.2	18
Nottingham	18,997	147.8	530
Liverpool	30,622	141.6	172
Leeds	42,960	131.1	228
Sheffield	23,548	99.1	Nil
Newcastle	12,006	99.0	5
Bristol	11,881	62.5	nil

The DEEFP group continue to horizon scan for funding which will support our objectives.

Remourban is in its final year of funding and has facilitated the improvement of over 300 Nottingham City Council properties, managed through Nottingham City Homes, and a further 50 private sector properties project managed by Nottingham Energy Partnership.



Following the successful pilot in REMOURBAN, Nottingham City Council has secured over £5million through the European Regional Development Fund (2014-20) to roll out its Energiesprong, ultra-low energy homes to over 150 Nottingham City Homes’ (NCH) properties. Deep Retrofit Energy Model (DREEM) which aims to improve the efficiency of homes & public buildings in Nottingham.

Applied and unsuccessful

- Western Power Energy Affordability Fund
- Behavioural insight – NESTA collective intelligence

Create a document of all organisations within the city working on fuel poverty

The DEEFP group building on success with its collective approach to tackling fuel poverty in the city. The group includes a number of dedicated organisations in its aim to tackle fuel poverty, such as third sector organisations, grant providers, registered housing associations, energy suppliers, installers, DNO and local universities. There is a strong need for a combined and integrated approach.

Next steps:

- Create a publicly available list of a summary of activities and contacts
- Create a wish list of projects and detailed account of skill set of DEEFP to help to coordinate funding when arises

Support Nottingham Financial Resilience Action Plan

Keep up to date with actions and coordinated citywide approach

Active participation in the Financial Resilience Partnership. The DEEFP group specifically support action 6.3 - Reduce household expenditure and help prevent eviction. Household income is maximised through reduced household expenditure.

Interventions

- Community Money Hubs

The work on developing money hubs in certain neighbourhoods is a community development process. Therefore work is developing at its own pace and each one is slightly different. This project is funded by small grants from Santander and Awards for All. All groups have a small budget for any running costs. Currently set up in Aspley, Beestwood and Hyson Green. Other neighbourhoods for development next:

- St Anns & Sneinton
- Bulwell
- Clifton

NCH have their own in-house Energy Team to offer advice. Last financial year NCH made 35 referrals to St Anns Fuel Debt Team, of these 26 were for fuel debt wipe off.

total gas debt	total electric debt	grand total debt
£11,560.87	£6,234.42	£17,795.29



Advice Nottingham is a citywide advice agency that will help citizens to manage their benefits, debts and household budget. They employ 2.5 f/t equivalent staff that operate from St Anns Advice Group, Nottingham Law Centre, the Meadows and Bestwood Advice centres.

Tailored benefit advice

Collaborating with DWP, welfare rights and other third sector organisational support across the city to make sure income levels for people on low income are maximised and reduce the level of over-indebtedness in the city.

Age UK Notts - Approx. £1.6 million in benefits gains for City and county combined during the last Financial Year.

Advice Nottingham supported 400 new clients last year. All receive benefit checks; devise financial statement used to budget and manage debt and a desktop energy survey and receive tailored energy efficiency advice. Additionally 80 were assisted with tariff checking and providing switching. On average clients gained £1,000 in benefits.

Emergency support

While it is the intention to mitigate the risk of citizens reaching a crisis point and seeking support early, emergency support is essential. Important citizens are able to afford and obtain the level of warmth or thermal comfort they need and are entitled to.

Measures

- Age UK Notts provided about 30 loan heaters last financial year.
- Advice Nottingham to provide emergency credit for energy and to help clear fuel debt. They have just under £10,000 a year in energy vouchers to give out in emergencies and nearly £5,000 to cover costs of Debt Relief Orders. There is a small cash budget to support clients with travel costs.
- NEP provided 60 Winter Crisis packs

Next Steps

- Continue to prevent citizens reaching a crisis point
- When required provide a co-ordinated approach to emergency support

ENERGY PRICES

Over 60% of consumers are currently on more expensive standard tariffs⁴. People can ask their existing supplier to ensure they are on the best tariff and / or shop around for an alternative supplier.

Locally, Nottingham Energy Partnership (NEP) offers advice and help with energy switching or nationally, Ofgem have an on-line [guide](#) to switching tariff or suppliers.

⁴ BEIS Fuel Poverty Statistics England 2019



Method of payment - gas	Proportion of households Fuel poor within group (%)	Average fuel poverty gap (£)
Direct debit	7.4	297
Standard credit	16.7	294
Pre-payment	19.9	205
n/a = No gas	15.7	550
All households	10.9	321

Method of payment – electricity	Proportion of households Fuel poor within group (%)	Average fuel poverty gap (£)
Direct debit	8.0	336
Standard credit	17.0	375
Pre-payment	20.5	254
All households	10.9	321

BEIS Fuel Poverty Statistics England 2019

BEIS 2016 data

Nottingham	All	Owner Occupier	Private Rent	NCH /Housing Association
GAS MEAN KWH	12,500	14,000	12,600	9,800
ELECT MEAN	3,500	3,600	3,800	3,200

Nottingham All Tenures	Under £15K income	£15-19,999K income	£20-29,999 income	£30-39,999 income
GAS MEAN KWH	12,500	11,200	11,000	11,500
ELECT MEAN kwh	3,500	3,200	3,200	3,400

Switching

Empowering citizens to compare prices and switch to the best tariff. Enabling a greater number of citizens have more affordable bills through being on the best tariff for their circumstances.

Ofgem has introduced a safeguard tariff, which offers an energy price cap on the amount suppliers can charge domestic prepayment meter customers per unit of energy – Not the total cost of the bill.

Offer advice and raise awareness of the potential cost saving from switching

NEP assisted 358 comprehensive energy efficiency advice and/or given help and advice to switch energy supplier or get on the cheapest tariff with an average fuel switch savings of £226.

NCH Energy Team 2018-2019 - 49 tenants received their 'switch & save' service and in total, they saved £7,903.34 - an average of £163.49.

Robin Hood Energy aims to help tackle fuel poverty by offering low pay-as-you-go rates, a Nottingham City resident discount and has offers the Warm Home Discount voluntarily to the core group.



New Technology

Smart meters to be installed to customer who want them in line with national target by 2024.

Citizens are more easily able to read, monitor and control their energy usage. “Smart meters can also help people to save money on fuel bills, aid budgeting and identify unnecessary fuel consumption for example, where lights are left on in an unoccupied room” Smart Energy GB.

In 2018 and 2019, Age UK Notts provided over 350 smart meter sessions to older people, giving the facts and benefits of installing a smart meter.

Next Steps

- Estimated no. of smart meters installed and understand barriers
- Promote tips to reduce consumption

Retrofit

Retrofit of properties with poor energy efficiency, through holistic and whole house approaches, for example Energiesprong.

Innovating

Nottingham has become the first UK City to adopt the ground-breaking retrofitting housing solution, known as “Energiesprong”, pioneered in the Netherlands. The household’s energy demand will be greatly reduced and can mostly be generated on site via smart use of renewable energy technologies. Environmental performance will be improved to almost net zero carbon; as a result, this approach won the prestigious UK Housing Award for Innovation of the Year in 2018.

An Energy Advice Officer has supported on the Courts retrofit Project by carrying out Energy Surveys and helping tenants to understand the new electricity and heating that is currently installed in their homes, and supporting our metering and billing partners in establishing their services.

Retrofitting inefficient properties is less carbon intensive and more cost effective than new builds. DEEFP support a whole house approach to maximise energy efficiency gains and minimise resident disruption. DEEFP will aim to monitor:

- No. properties retrofitted to above an EPC D (by 2025) and C (by 2030).
- Reduce cost, resources and emissions of interventions

Interventions

- Solar PV was installed to NCH Remourban Courts in 2018-19:
 - Byron Court – 28kWp
 - Keswick Court – 15.15kWp
 - Haywood Court East – 14.56kWp
 - Haywood Court West – 13.44kWp
 - Morley Court – 20.16kWp



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Nationally in 2017, 1 in 10 fuel poor households are living in a property with an Energy Efficiency Rating of Band C or above, compared to nearly 1 in 3 of fuel poor households living in Band E or below⁵.

Dwelling Characteristics

Households with insulated cavity walls are least likely to be in fuel poverty (7.5 per cent of households with an average gap of £237) compared to households with uninsulated solid walls (16.8 per cent and an average fuel poverty gap of £420). In addition, the age of a building interacts with fuel poverty levels. Older dwellings tend to have a higher proportion of households in fuel poverty compared to newer dwellings. Nationally, households in dwellings built between 1900-1918 were most likely to be fuel poor (18.6 per cent of households in 2017/18 compared to just 4.1 per cent of fuel poor households in dwellings built post 1990).

Increase awareness of SAP/EPC ratings and interventions available

Nottingham has a significantly large proportion of housing pre 1990's. An EU project called InSMART estimated that 82.5% of total residential properties in Nottingham are pre 1980's with 21% Victoriana. Estimated there are 50,000 uninsulated solid wall, system built and stone built homes across the city.

As a result of the strong correlation between poor energy efficiency and fuel poverty, it is important to raise public awareness. DEEFP are taking collective action to champion the importance of energy efficiency and increase awareness of household energy efficiency ratings EPCs, particularly for private renters, which now has a Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard (MEES) of an E.

The aim of this is to increase thermal comfort, reduce energy consumption and save citizens money on their energy bills.

Since the introduction of selective licencing and 10-year expiry of EPCs on new lettings there has been a local increase in the number of EPCs with a peak of 5,509 EPCs in 2018 Q3. The number of "failing" EPCs of F and G are down to 1.5% in 2019 Q2.

EPC in Nottingham	Total	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	% FG
2019 Q2 Apr-June	1,794	0	200	551	768	248	24	3	1.5
2019 Q1 Jan-Mar	3,109	13	351	989	1308	405	40	3	1.3
2018 Q4 Oct-Dec	3,784	7	297	1261	1657	493	50	19	1.8

⁵ BEIS Fuel Poverty Statistics England 2019



Next Steps

Additional planned actions include:

- Promoting the extent of savings from energy efficiency measures over time, as well as assistance with identifying ways of financing the upfront costs.
- Continue to promote the national 'simple energy advice' website to find out information on their properties and action that can be taken.
- Reinststate an equity loan scheme for vulnerable owner occupiers.
- A research project to assess incentives necessary to increase the purchase of energy efficient products. Energy intensive products such as fridges also have energy ratings and will affect running costs.
- Targeted campaign on:
 - The importance of energy efficiency and associated cost savings

Greener HousiNG

NCH and the City Council have already treated over 7,000 of the city's hard to treat homes under our Greener HousiNG domestic energy efficiency programme. Privately owned homes as well as social housing have been targeted and this has made a significant impact on fuel poverty.

Encourage and facilitate citywide energy efficiency measures through the established brand. Used across the city including for the REMOURBAN demonstration work in Sneinton. A citywide online council survey that 50% of respondents knew of the branding. In Nottingham, 22.1% of homes will need to shift EPC band rating by 2025.

Occupier Characteristics

Nationally, the level of fuel poverty is highest in the private rented sector, with 19.4 per cent of households in fuel poverty in 2017/18, compared to 8.0 per cent in owner occupied properties. Households in the owner occupied sector also tend to be deeper in fuel poverty, with an average fuel poverty gap of £356, compared to £195 for those in social housing.



Fuel poverty by employment status of household reference person (HRP), 2017				
Employment status	Proportion of Fuel poor households within group (%)	Total number of households (000's)	Proportion of households fuel poor (%)	Average fuel poverty gap (£)
Full-time work	8.0	11,362	35.7	359
Part-time work	17.3	2,245	15.4	257
Retired	7.6	6,812	20.4	296
Unemployed	31.9	566	7.1	315
Full-time education	24.4	271	2.6	370
Other inactive	24.6	1,941	18.8	322
All households	10.9	23,197	100.0	321

BEIS 2019 England

Fuel poverty by income decile group EER split, 2017				
After Housing Costs (AHC) equalised income decile group	EER band	Proportion of households Fuel poor within group (%)	Proportion of households fuel poor (%)	Average fuel poverty gap (£)
1st and 2nd deciles - lowest incomes	A/B/C	4.3	7.9	171
	D	50.2	43.1	212
	E	91.7	19.9	409
	F/G	99.5	5.6	1,023
	All	41.8	76.5	319
3rd and 4th deciles	A/B/C	3.2^	2.1^	113^
	D	14.2	12.8	189
	E	31.1	6.4	397
	F/G	1.2	2.2	1,134
	All	12.9	23.5	328
All households	All households	10.9	100.0	321

No fuel poor households in the highest incomes - 5th-10th deciles *BEIS 2019*

The table above shows the importance of income and its correlation with energy inefficient housing. As stated in the Maximising Income section, Nottingham is subject to a number of low-income indicators and vulnerable demographic characteristics.



Number of people in household	Proportion of households Fuel poor within group (%)	Proportion of households fuel poor (%)	Average fuel poverty gap (£)
1	8.2	21.1	290
2	8.5	28.5	263
3	12.0	17.0	311
4	16.1	19.8	379
5 or more	23.3	13.5	416
All households	10.9	100.0	321

Household Composition	Proportion of households Fuel poor within group (%)	Proportion of households fuel poor (%)	Average fuel poverty gap (£)
Couple with dependent child(ren)	15.2	29.7	380
Couple, no dependent child(ren) aged 60 or over	8.2	13.3	300
Couple, no dependent child(ren) under 60	5.8	9.3	275
Lone parent with dependent child(ren)	25.4	16.4	315
One person aged 60 or over	6.3	9.4	310
One person under 60	10.7	11.7	274
Other multi-person households	13.6	10.2	288
All households	10.9	100.0	321

Household composition such as number of persons in the housing, age, dependent child all affects the risk of experiencing fuel poverty. Fuel poverty related priorities should be considered alongside other city priorities such as 2028 carbon neutral ambition to align policy and focus resources. There was a 4% reduction in domestic carbon emissions in 2017 compared to 2016.

Provide tailored information and advice

As there are many contributing factors to fuel poverty, often a combined and tailored approach is required to have the most sustained effect. Age UK Notts provide home energy checks, which take individual, and household needs into consideration when offering support.

Energy efficiency interventions

Age UK Notts provide free Home Energy Checks, which consider individual and household needs, offering energy efficiency advice and includes the free fitting of small energy saving products in the home.

- Age UK Notts delivered 145 home energy checks last financial year, fitting over 1,000 free energy saving measures
- NEP supported 172 households with heating and home insulation measures, leading to a financial saving of £161,307 and a carbon saving of 47.3tCO₂.

Next Steps

- The Digital Economy proposed greater access to data offering a potential opportunity for more effective targeting and research to identify the 'hard to find'. The DEEFP group continues to explore the use and implementation of this new legislation, particular in conjunction with the GDPR legislation.



Targeted approach

Use all available information

EPCs, indices of multiple deprivation and fuel poverty to identify target areas through combining and analysing resulting datasets.

The groups maintains the aim within the strategy to “use knowledge of ward level areas of high fuel poverty, wider deprivation and poor housing, to target delivery at groups that are in most need”.

Next Steps

- Yearly review of data sets available and GIS map to be created to identify target areas. Produce a map when the latest consensus data is available.

NCH Properties

The city can deliver effective area based programmes for retrofit when funding it available. NCH properties to achieve average SAP of 69 by 2018.

- No. of capital works and average SAP rating (LAHS)
- The Energy Team received 126 referrals, and of this total;
 - 63 tenants were visited at home
 - 63 tenants were supported by telephone

Legal requirement and enforcement

Ensure private landlords in Nottingham are ahead of the energy regulation

There is greater focus and attention on energy efficiency by landlords and tenants as a result of the introduction of MEES in 2018 and selective licencing. Citizens who rent are protected from excess cold and higher energy costs.

Safer Housing Enforcement			
	01/09/18 - 31/12/18	01/01/19 – 31/03/19	01/04/19 – 30/06/19
Cat 1 excess cold removed	16	19	29
Cat 2 excess cold reduced	3	2	0
MEES enforcement notices	0	0	0