Cabinet reshuffle

The Department of Energy & Climate Change
DECC Ministers

www.nea.org.uk
We agree with Professor Hills assessment of the weaknesses of the current definition, and agree that the Low Income High Costs framework provides a better approach to understanding the issue of fuel poverty and intend to adopt it as the main measures of fuel poverty in future.

The number of individuals in fuel poverty as well as the households affected will also be reported on.

As well as using the Low Income High Costs indicator as the main measure of fuel poverty, we expect to continue to report on numbers under the 10% definition in our annual report of fuel poverty statistics.

Defining fuel poverty - Hills


Responses to the consultation, which can be accessed at the above address, should be submitted by 30 November, 2012.
There have been some energy price rises announced and we expect more to follow.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supplier</th>
<th>Current bill</th>
<th>New bill</th>
<th>Effective from</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>British Gas</td>
<td>£1,260</td>
<td>£1,336</td>
<td>November 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDF Energy</td>
<td>£1,202</td>
<td>£1,324</td>
<td>December 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.ON</td>
<td>£1,260</td>
<td>£1,260</td>
<td>No increase in 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>npower</td>
<td>£1,244</td>
<td>£1,356</td>
<td>November 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ScottishPower</td>
<td>£1,349</td>
<td>£1,368</td>
<td>December 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSE</td>
<td>£1,235</td>
<td>£1,354</td>
<td>October 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>£1,258</td>
<td>£1,333</td>
<td>pending</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Fuel prices and fuel poverty**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supplier</th>
<th>Estimated proportional increase in FP (GB)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SSE</td>
<td>72,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BG</td>
<td>81,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>npower</td>
<td>43,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP</td>
<td>30,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDF</td>
<td>38,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>266,480</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This *estimate* is based on suppliers current market share and DTI’s ready reckoner. On this basis, the estimated additional FP resulting from the recent round of increases is just over a quarter of a million households.
Simpler Tariffs

British Gas has unveiled a new energy bill design – and a new pricing structure with standing charge, simpler discounts and single unit rate for new energy customers. At the last look there were 26 different tariffs for gas and 28 for electricity as well as 25 for Economy 7.

E.ON has simplified their tariff range. They now have five new, simpler tariffs which include variable and fixed price options and replaced all previously available tariffs except their standard tariffs – E.ON EnergyPlan.

The structure of E.ON’s plans has also changed. Instead of offering a confusing two tier rate system, all new plans, plus E.ON's standard plan, now come with a single rate and a simple standing charge.

ScottishPower will write to all its customers who pay for their energy on a quarterly basis, with a personalised quote to estimate how much they can save by making changes to their energy account.
Warm Home Discount Scheme – Year 1 Report

• The Warm Home Discount Scheme (WHD) is now in its second year
• Year One
  • Core Group – 702,000 rebates made
  • Broader Group – 234,297 rebates made
  • Legacy Spend - assisted 1.45 million low income households
• Industry initiatives - £22.3 million spent

The 2012-13 annual discount payment will be £130 and will be paid by March 2013

Meanwhile we will continue to deliver policies that we know are making a difference.

Oil! It’s coming off our bottom line, and forcing us to raise our prices.

http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Sustainability/Documents/1/WHD_AR_08.pdf
Regulator positive:
• Disconnections decreasing
• Repayment periods lengthening
• Number of customers in debt decreasing
• Number of PPM installations decreasing

But also consider:
• The average level of gas debt has increased by around 10% whilst debt levels for electricity are largely static
• Prices are on the up
• Decline in energy advice provision

Improved situation for PPM customers: can switch with a debt of up to £500 as against previous £200.

Ofgem say disconnections have generally fallen and repayment periods lengthened among PPM customers.
The Department for Communities and Local Government published the English Housing Survey 2010-11 reports last week. It highlighted strong links between:

**Poverty and inefficient homes**

**Poverty and damp**

- Roof: 25%
- Windows: 15%
- Draughts: 15%
- Floor: 35%
- Through the walls: 25%

Many missing out on direct debit discounts.

Green Deal and ECO

"...it will be a challenge to make the Green Deal a compelling proposition for consumers. An interest rate of 7.5% could prove to be a major additional barrier to uptake of the scheme."

DECC have published some consumer-facing fact sheets on GD and ECO (available for householders, owners, tenants and landlords).

DECC Local Authority Competition - 3 Elements

£25 million Fuel Poverty Fund
Aimed specifically at helping low income and vulnerable people keep warm this winter and aims to help cut heating costs by installing measures like efficient new and replacement boilers and loft and cavity wall insulation.

£10 million to kick start Green Deal Projects
Aimed at Local Authority Green Deal ‘pioneer’ projects, promoting the Green Deal, from whole house retrofits to demonstrate the benefits of energy efficiency to local residents, to community engagement events to raise awareness of what can be done.

£5 million ‘Cheaper Energy Together’ Scheme
Support development of innovative collective switching schemes by LAs or third sector organisations, where consumers group together, and use market power to negotiate lower energy bills. Particular focus on encouraging participation by vulnerable consumers.

Applications by 30th November 2012

www.nea.org.uk
Cash back available to householders in England and Wales who make energy saving home improvements under the Green Deal.

Packages could be worth over £1000 – more you do, the more you get.

The Green Deal Cash back Scheme is a first-come, first-served offer.

Available from 28 January 2013

## Green Deal Cashback

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loft insulation (incl. top up)</td>
<td>£100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cavity Wall Insulation</td>
<td>£250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solid Wall Insulation*</td>
<td>£650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floor insulation</td>
<td>£150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hot water cylinder insulation (top up)**</td>
<td>£10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draught proofing</td>
<td>£50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heating controls</td>
<td>£70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condensing oil boiler from non-condensing</td>
<td>£310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upgrade boiler to condensing gas boiler</td>
<td>£270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New or replacement storage heaters</td>
<td>£150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double/Triple Glazing</td>
<td>£20 per m2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary glazing</td>
<td>£15 per m2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cross tenure and capped at 50% of householder contribution

[www.nea.org.uk](http://www.nea.org.uk)
What will Local Authorities be required to do under the Home Energy Conservation Act (1995) in the future?

The guidance under the Home Energy Conservation Act 1995 (HECA) to English local authorities with housing responsibilities was published on 26 July 2012.

It sets out requirements for those authorities to report on the measures they propose to take to significantly improve the energy efficiency of all the residential accommodation on their areas. The guidance links with the delivery of the Green Deal by local authorities.

Anti-green taxation

- **The European Commission** has decided that the reduced rate of VAT imposed in the UK on energy saving materials is in breach of EU VAT rules.

- **The UK** has been requested to amend legislation authorising application of the reduced rate to ‘the supply and installation of energy saving materials’.

- The Commission argues that Annex III of the VAT Directive clearly lists goods and services that are subject to a lower tax regime and that **energy saving materials are not included**.

- This issue highlights the inequity between energy supply and energy saving within the EU tax system.

The Department of Energy and Climate Change has published a consultation paper on proposals for the next phase of the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI).

The main aims of the domestic RHI will be to:

- Contribute towards renewables targets under the Renewable Energy Directive
- Develop supply chains by boosting deployment
- Promote improved renewable heating technology performance

This consultation will close on 7th December 2012, after which DECC is aiming to publish a response in early 2013. Pending Parliamentary approval, it is hoped that the scheme will be open to applicants in summer 2013.

It is proposed that the following technologies should be eligible to receive the domestic RHI:

- Ground source heat pumps (GSHPs)
- Biomass boilers
- Air to water heat pumps (ASHPs)
- Solar Thermal

www.nea.org.uk
Use It or Lose It

WARM FRONT/CERT/CESP

There is work that still needs to be done, and there are still opportunities in these programmes.

- CERT Super Priority Group: Supplier success rates vary from 62% to 12.2%
- Difficulty in identifying SPG is claimed as the reason for some rates being low
- Warm Front: £50 million underspend in 2011-12
Stakeholders have helped Ofgem develop five themes of:

- Developing targeted and effective regulatory obligations
- Promoting best practice among suppliers and distributors
- Taking account of vulnerability in our work and being informed by research and insight
- Prompting innovation in the provision of advice and support
- Using expertise and working with others to inform wider policy-making to address vulnerability

The consultation process closes on 3 December, 2012
If you live abroad, you may be able to receive Winter Fuel Payments if all the following apply:

- you have reached women’s State Pension age
- you live in another European Economic Area (EEA) country or Switzerland
- you have a genuine and sufficient link with the UK, for example, you have lived or worked in the UK for most of your working life

“This will not happen and I will introduce a temperature threshold to thwart this injustice.”
Interesting Reports

**New research** for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation

How can we maximise the benefits of renewable energy for social housing? If you would like to discuss this research further, please contact Josh Stott, Programme Manager: Josh.Stott@jrf.org.uk

**Energy bills: right issue, wrong approach**
Article by Will Straw, Institute of Public Policy Research
www.ippr.org/articles/56/9806/energy-bills-right-issue-wrong-approach

**7th Fuel Poverty Action Guide**

www.nea.org.uk
PRIVATE SECTOR CESP SCHEMES

Andrea Howe
Private Sector Housing
Sandown Court, Town Centre
Sandown Court

Background

• 244 flats spread over Two 18 storey blocks in the Town Centre
• Built in the 1960’s as Social Housing residences
• Sold in the early 1980’s to private investors
• 50/50 split between Owner-occupiers and private rented
• Owner-occupiers are mainly elderly
• Private rented – low incomes/benefits
Sandown Court

Issues

• The blocks are constructed using reinforced shuttered and poured concrete as well as large concrete panels. U value of 3.53.

• Windows are a combination of poorly fitted double glazing and single glazed wooden and aluminium framed units. E Rated or worse.

• Heated by electricity. Consumes around 1.4MW of energy per day.

• Electricity bills range between £800 and £1650 pa
Sandown Court

In Summary

• The un-insulated concrete construction coupled with the exposed location and inefficient windows means that heat losses are very high. This is reflected in the higher than normal electricity bills in comparison to other communal living high rise units across the country.
• The majority of the residents are living in fuel poverty
• Many of the flats are cold, damp and consequently suffer from condensation and mould growth
Sandown Court

- Problems to overcome
- Residents Vote
- Residents contribution
- Planning Issues
Sandown Court

What has been achieved

• An insulated external cladding system has been applied giving a ‘u’ value of 0.27
• ‘A’ rated triple glazed windows have been fitted
• A biomass district heating system has been installed
• The roofs have been insulated
• The energy bills for each flat are expected to be on average £450 pa
• Carbon savings will be approximately 926 tonnes pa, 27,780 over the life time of the boiler
• The first CESP biomass scheme for SSE
Sandown Court
Sandown Court

The Management Committee are currently learning all about heat metering and applying for the RHI
Seven Rivers, Fishwick
Seven Rivers

Background

• 104 flats spread over 7 low rise blocks
• Built in the early 1970’s
• Privately owned
• Predominantly private rented ~ 70+% 
• All residents on low incomes/benefits and almost all living in fuel poverty
Seven Rivers

Consultation is the Key

- A consultation event was held for the residents to present their scheme.
- Energy Efficiency, warmer homes, and lower bills were not a big priority for residents.
- Security and anti-social behaviour were the biggest issues.
- Residents did not want a CESP scheme to go ahead unless security measures were installed.
Seven Rivers

Additional Measures Installed

• Electronic security gates on 3 entry points to the parking areas
• High security doors to all blocks at ground floor level with key pad entry
• Permanent office accommodation for Community Police Officers to be based on site
• Car Park re-surfacing and security lighting
• Concrete repairs on stairs and walkways
• Repairs/re-spraying to all metalwork on balconies, stairwells and walkways
Seven Rivers
Warm Front scheme

Gavin McAuley
Important Announcement

More householders to get help to stay warm and cosy this winter

Government’s Warm Front Scheme new regulations came into force on 12th September 2012.

Revisions to the scheme rules will align the income based qualifying benefits with those to be used for the forthcoming Affordable Warmth group under the Energy Company Obligation

DECC Press Release
New Eligibility

To qualify for Warm Front a person must live in their own home or rent privately and be in receipt of one of the benefits below. The property must have a **Standard Assessment Procedure rating of 63 or under.** (The SAP rating does not apply to mobile homes).

A householder or their spouse must be in receipt of one of the following:

- **Pension Credit**
  - Guaranteed Credit or Savings Credit
- **Income Support or Income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance** and have any of the following:
  - Has parental responsibility for a child under 16 who ordinarily resides with that person. (16 or over but under 20 and in full time education)
  - Child Tax Credit (which must include a disability or severe disability element for a child or young person)
  - Disabled Child Premium
  - Disability Premium (enhanced disability or severe disability element premium)
  - Pensioner Premium (higher pensioner premium or enhanced pensioner premium)
New Eligibility Cont.

- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA IR) that includes a work related activity or support component
- Child Tax credit and has an income of £15,860 or less
- Working Tax credit and has an income of £15,860 or less and have any of the following:
  - Has parental responsibility for a child under 16 who ordinarily resides with that person. (16 or over but under 20 and in full time education)
  - Disabled worker element
  - Severe disability element
  - Aged 60 years or over
Grant maximums

- £3500 in areas where mains gas is available
- £6000 off the gas network
- We manage CERT funding on behalf of energy companies and all virgin lofts and cavity wall costs are taken out of this funding which leaves the Warm Front funding intact for the heating costs.
Measures available

- Loft and cavity wall insulation
- Draught proofing, hot water cylinder jacket
- New central heating system, gas, oil or LPG
- Storage heaters are in option in rural areas
- Repairs and replacement boilers
Key areas of Change

• Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) threshold for the property will be increased from 55 to 63.

• Child Tax credit and has an income of £15,860 or less

• Working Tax credit and has an income of £15,860 or less and have any of the following:
  – Has parental responsibility for a child under 16 who ordinarily resides with that person. (16 or over but under 20 and in full time education)
  – Disabled worker element
  – Severe disability element
  – Aged 60 years or over
Working with Families

Warmer Homes mean Healthier Children

Many families on low-incomes have to make the choice between being warm and other essential items such as food or clothing.

A warm home could have a beneficial affect on a child’s progress. Improved living conditions may also result in fewer school absences due to sickness.

With the changes it opens the chance to work closer with families

• Children Centres
• Schools
• Families Information Services
• SureStarts
Promoting the Change

• Targeted Warm Front Mailing letter
  – Running data under new eligibility

• New Warm Front Leaflets are being Printed
  – Leaflet request
    Networking@carillionplc.com

• Press Releases
• Editorials
• Distribution to all Networks
• Working with Families
How to apply

- By phone 0800 316 2814
- On line www.warmfront.co.uk
- Application form in Warm Front leaflet
- Mailing application form
- Stakeholder Portal
Warm Front Update for North West

Activity 2012/13 – (April - September)
Total referrals received
= 4,243

Total number of households assisted
= 2,903

Total Spend
= £2,289,687.09

Increase in referrals since new eligibility introduced
Gavin McAuley
Regional Network Manager - North

Mobile: 07960042547
Email: gavin.mcauley@carillionplc.com
Feedback for DECC

WARM FRONT/CERT/CESP

• Do you still have potential Priority Group and Super Priority Group (PG/SPG) households that haven’t had cavity wall insulation or loft top ups?
• Where is the greatest remaining need – tenure/measure?
• What is working across the country in terms of getting every last measure we can out of these three schemes before they close?
• What the barriers encountered by different organisations are?
  • Any trends/anomalies?
Energy Company Obligation

• What was planned?
• What happened?
• What next?
ECO – 1st October

What was planned?
What happened?
ECO 1st October – 31st December

Statutory Instrument

In-use factors

Ofgem - Guidance

Brokerage
Affordable Warmth Referrals

- Other referral sources
- Energy Saving Advice Centre
  - Including verification with DWP
- Energy Company
- Assessor
  - Property assessment (EPC)
- Installer
  - Installation of Affordable Warmth measures
ECO – what next?
Final report of the Fuel Poverty Review

Terms of Reference

(1) Is fuel poverty is a distinct problem

(2) If so, how fuel poverty is best measured and does the current approach to measurement capture problems effectively?

AND

(3) Implications of measurement for the way we understand the effectiveness of the range of policy approaches to reducing it
Fuel poverty as a distinct problem

We found that fuel poverty is a distinct issue and of concern from at least three different perspectives. Fuel poverty is an additional problem for some low-income households.

- Unequal ability to convert cash to warmth
- Pushed into poverty by high costs
- Poor pay more
- High rate of EWDs and morbidity issues in general
- Mental health and social well-being
- Social isolation

- Capital investments out of reach for some
- Potential obstacle to carbon mitigation policy delivery, especially where costs go on bills
Warm Homes and Energy Conservation Act 2000

“A person is to be regarded as living “in fuel poverty” if he is a member of a household living on a lower income in a home which cannot be kept warm at reasonable cost.”

The Act establishes a duty to produce a strategy setting out how the following objective will be met:

“As far as reasonably practicable persons in England or Wales do not live in fuel poverty.”

This definition correctly focuses on the overlap of low income and unreasonable cost but this is not what we currently measure.
What we currently measure

A fuel poor household is one that would need to spend more than 10% of its income on adequate warmth.

The indicator is rightly based on modelled needs. But it is fundamentally flawed because it misrepresents trends, includes some households that are not low income, does not show policy impacts very clearly and is sensitive to technical issues.
What we currently measure

The current definition captures some relatively well-off households with high costs, especially as prices rise.

The answer is not simply to put an income threshold into the current official indicator.
A fuel poor household is one that has both high modelled costs and low income.

The fuel poverty gap represents the amount a household’s energy bill would need to be reduced by in order for them not to be in fuel poverty.

This provides an indication of the severity of the problem, both for individual households, and for the fuel poor as a whole.

Together, the indicators show both the extent and depth of fuel poverty (rather than conflating them).
Setting the thresholds for low income and high costs

Each threshold is adjusted annually, making the indicator **relative** over time. It tracks the position of each household compared to current norms and creates a kind of moving target.

The extent of fuel poverty depends on how costs change for all households not just the fuel poor.

This approach captures the risk that the poor could lose ground as housing improves in general.
### Reaction to our proposed indicator

Our interim report was a consultative document.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Concerns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- our conclusions on the causes and impacts of fuel poverty</td>
<td>- the way we measured required costs, especially how we adjusted costs for household size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- our view that the core problem is correctly identified in WHECA</td>
<td>- the level of the costs threshold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- the general approach represented by LIHC indicator and the fuel poverty gap</td>
<td>- the relative nature of the costs threshold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- how to set the income threshold under any LIHC approach</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In preparing our final report we have considered these criticisms very carefully.
Fuel poverty under twin indicators, 1996-2009

Under the LIHC indicator, the number of fuel poor households has remained broadly stable over this period.

The fuel poverty gap increased by three-quarters between 2003 and 2009.
RECOMMENDATION

The Government should adopt a new indicator of the extent of fuel poverty under which households are considered fuel poor if:

- they have required fuel costs that are above the median level; and
- were they to spend that amount they would be left with a residual income below the official poverty line.

The Government should count the number of individuals in this position as well as the number of households they live in.

The Government should adopt a new indicator of the depth of fuel poverty as represented by the average and aggregate fuel poverty gap, defined as the amounts by which the assessed energy needs of fuel poor households exceed the threshold for reasonable costs.
Using the fuel poverty gap

The fuel poverty gap can provide a bridge between targeting and the measurement of fuel poverty.

Importantly, the fuel poverty gap also helps identify those who are deepest in fuel poverty who are priorities for assistance.

Just over 50 per cent of the 2009 fuel poverty gap was accounted for by recipients of means-tested benefits living in houses with solid fuel heating or off the gas grid or solid walls or built pre-1945. Of course, some houses showing these characteristics are not fuel poor.
Applications: Understanding policy

Principles

The impact of a given policy on fuel poverty will depend on three factors:

1. The type of policy (i.e. whether it addresses energy efficiency, income or prices)

2. Who pays for the policy (i.e. customers or taxpayers)

3. Who benefits (i.e. fuel poor households or all households)
Applications: Making further progress

Policy archetypes

- Bill rebate*
- Narrowly-targeted energy efficiency policy*
- Broadly-targeted energy efficiency policy*
- Increase in means-tested benefits
- Increase in Winter Fuel Payment

* For these policies we have modelled both Exchequer- and supplier-funded variants

Modelling
We spend £500 million on each intervention in 2016. These are stylised scenarios with standardised inputs to allow comparison of effects against key indicators.
Results - eligibility by household status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low-income</th>
<th>High-income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low costs</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High costs</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Narrowly targeted supplier-funded energy efficiency archetype

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low-income</th>
<th>High-income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low costs</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High costs</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Broadly targeted supplier-funded energy efficiency archetype

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low-income</th>
<th>High-income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low costs</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High costs</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Energy bill rebate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low-income</th>
<th>High-income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low costs</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High costs</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Winter Fuel Payments

This is analogous in some ways to ECO affordable warmth.

This is analogous in some ways to ECO carbon.
Conclusion

Fulfilling our ToR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Is fuel poverty distinct from general poverty?</th>
<th>2. What does this imply for measurement?</th>
<th>3. How can measurement help effective policy-making?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes – it is a serious problem and appears set to rise</td>
<td>The current indicator is flawed. It would be better to focus directly on the overlap of having both low income and high costs and to separate the measurement of extent and depth.</td>
<td>The LIHC indicator provides a framework for analysis. It flags priorities for action, opens up tools for targeting and highlights risks and trade-offs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RECOMMENDATION

The Government – not just DECC but also other Departments – should set out a renewed and ambitious strategy for tackling fuel poverty, reflecting the challenges we lay out in the review’s reports and the framework we have set out for understanding them.
Purpose of current consultation

The purpose of this consultation is to seek views on the Government’s proposed changes to the way we measure fuel poverty in England. This includes:

- a proposal to change the definition of fuel poverty,

- recommendations on changing elements of the methodology used to calculate the fuel poverty statistics

- the implications for the associated fuel poverty target which is set out in the Warm Homes and Energy Conservation Act 2000 (“WHECA”).
Roundtable debate and response

- Do you agree with the Government’s intention to change the definition away from the 10% definition and adopt the Low Income High Costs approach?

- Do you agree that the core indicator should calculate income after housing costs have been deducted?

- Do you agree that extra cost benefits should continue to be included in the calculation of income, in line with current Government practice?

- Do you agree that we should consider hanging the legislation and if so do you have a view on how and where the target should be specified?

- Do you have a view on the possible options for the form of target?
Thanks for listening

Diane.bland@nea.org.uk
Tel. 01609 767092

www.nea.org.uk