

Wales-wide Fuel Poverty Forum

Ben Saltmarsh, Head of NEA Cymru

17 May 2021



Gweithredu dros Gartrefi Cynnes
Action for Warm Homes

Agenda



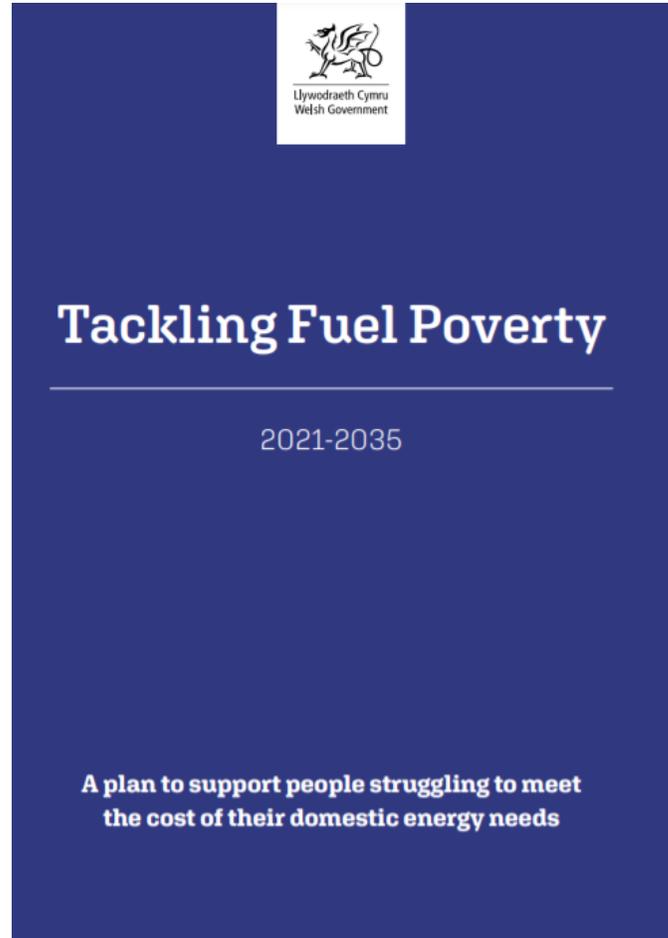
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- **Policy update** – Ben Saltmarsh, Head of NEA Cymru
 - **Wales & West Utilities** – Nigel Winnan, Customer and Social Obligations Strategy Manager, WWU
 - **Smart meter rollout** – Fflur Lawton, Head of Public Affairs, Smart Energy GB
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- **Energy Advice and Support Services pilot** – Joanna Seymour, Project Manager, Warm Wales *and* Meilyr Tomos, Wellbeing Project Worker, Y Dref Werdd
 - **70+ Cymru** – Jo Harry, Project Manager, Care & Repair Cymru
 - **NEA projects update** – Gareth Thomas, Project Development Co-ordinator, NEA Cymru

Supported by



Tackling Fuel Poverty 2021–2035



Published 2 March 2021, following:

- Three-month consultation (closed 31 December 2020)
- Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs (CCERA) Committee [inquiry](#) (April 2020)
- Audit Wales Landscape Review (Oct 2019)

Policy goals

Welsh Government will take action across four policy goals within its control:

Identify

**Prioritise and
protect –
worst first**

**Decarbonise –
fabric first**

Influence

Targets

Three non-statutory targets to be achieved by 2035:

No households are estimated to be living in severe or persistent fuel poverty, as far as reasonably practicable

No more than 5% of households estimated to be living in fuel poverty at any one time, as far as reasonably practicable

Number of households “at risk” of falling into fuel poverty more than halved based on 2018 estimate

Actions

10 priority short-term actions for 2021–23, covering 4 key areas:

Warm Homes Programme

1. Continue Nest and Arbed (Ongoing)
2. Consult (June–Dec 2021) on future scheme and implement from April 2023

Energy Advice and Support Services

3. Consult (June–Dec 2021) based on pilot and implement from April 2023
4. Publish and keep under review plan to improve winter resilience

Monitoring, evaluation and reporting

5. Advisory Board on Fuel Poverty (June 2021)
6. Publish Welsh domestic energy data annually (July 2022)
7. Biennial review (incl. fuel poverty estimates) (July 2022)

Working with partners

8. Encourage reduction in installation of PPMs to recover arrears (Ongoing)
9. Support smart meter rollout (Ongoing)
10. Support UK Govt initiatives in re. Wales (Ongoing)

EPCs vs kWhs

Draft proposed to measure future success of fuel poverty home energy efficiency schemes by a reduction in consumption (kWhs), rather than increase in EPC/SAP.

Now 'both/and':

SAP methodology will continue to provide the basis for the setting of domestic energy efficiency targets within the Warm Homes Programme

The next iteration will aim to achieve a 21%, and not less than 15% reduction in household energy needed to maintain a satisfactory heating regime. In cases where there is evidence of self-disconnection or self-rationing, improvements will be measured against modelled typical consumption levels.

Oil and LPG – Discretionary Assistance Fund

Following calls from the Fuel Poverty Coalition Cymru and partners, the Discretionary Assistance Fund (DAF) undertook a winter trial to offer Emergency Assistance Payments towards the cost of oil or LPG:

- **Oil – up to £175** (max. of one award)
- **LPG – up to £60** (max. of three awards)

Trial closed on 31 March.

96 (of 159) applications awarded: **72 for oil (totalling £12,477) and 24 for LPG (totalling £1,880).**

Welsh Government



Mark Drakeford
First Minister



Vaughan Gething
Minister for Economy



Eluned Morgan
Minister for Health and
Social Services



Jeremy Miles
Minister for Education and
Welsh Language



Rebecca Evans
Minister for Finance and
Local Government



Julie James
Minister for Climate Change



Lesley Griffiths
Minister for Rural Affairs,
North Wales and Trefnydd



Jane Hutt
Minister for Social Justice



Mick Antoniw
Counsel General and
Minister for the Constitution



Lee Waters
Deputy Minister for Climate
Change



Lynne Neagle
Deputy Minister for Mental
Health and Wellbeing



Dawn Bowden
Deputy Minister for Arts,
Sports and Chief Whip



Hannah Blythyn
Deputy Minister for Social
Partnership



Julie Morgan
Deputy Minister for
Social Services

Warm Home Discount

- **One-year extension:** Scheme broadly unchanged:
 - 2021/22
 - same Core and Broader Groups
 - same payment: £140
- **Expansion:**
 - 2022 – 2026
 - payment: £150
 - overall pot increase to £475m/yr (up from £350m/yr) = extra 750,000 households will receive rebate
 - aim to improve targeting: automatic



FAIR BY DESIGN
Ending the extra costs of being poor



Action for Warm Homes

**KEEPING
BRITAIN
WARM AND WELL**

How to help millions of people
pay a fair price for their energy

Energy price cap rose in April

Increased from 1 April for approximately 15m customers:

- £96 to £1,138 for typical default tariff customer;
and
- £87 to £1,156 for typical prepayment (PPM) customer

Energy price cap

Mae'r dudalen yma ar gael yn Gymraeg.



Resources | Press



The energy price cap is here to ensure you pay a fairer price for your gas and electricity. Find out about the cap set by Ofgem for [prepayment](#), [standard variable](#) and [default](#) energy tariffs in Great Britain.