



NATIONAL ENERGY ACTION – Northern Ireland (NEA-NI)

MAIN PROJECT REPORT: Version 1.0 (2nd October 2024)

This report constitutes the main report (both quantitative and qualitative results) from a NI-Wide Attitudinal Poll-Project carried out by LucidTalk on behalf of National Energy Action (NEA) in September 2024.

The report has been compiled by LucidTalk on behalf of the National Energy Action (NEA)



The Data, Results, and Commentary enclosed in this report are confidential and subject to the provisions of the UK Data Protection Act. Any publication, distribution, or communication, of this report, or parts thereof, are not permitted without the authorisation of LucidTalk and/or National Energy Action (NEA).

LucidTalk is a member of all recognised professional Polling and Market Research organisations, including the UK Market Research Society (UK-MRS), the British Polling Council (BPC), and ESOMAR (European Society of Market Research Organisations). The BPC are the UK professional body ensuring professional Polling and Market Research standards, and all polling, research, sampling, methodologies used, and results and reports production, for this project, are, and have been, carried out to the professional standards laid down by the BPC and also (as published) of AIMRO (Association of Irish Market Research Organisations).

Strictly Confidential – LucidTalk and NEA use only

Key acronyms and ‘shorthand’ used in this report:

Where referenced in this proposal the following acronyms are used: NI = Northern Ireland, LT = LucidTalk, UK = United Kingdom, ROI = Republic of Ireland, BPC = British Polling Council, GB = Great Britain, NEA = National Energy Action.

Subject	LT NI Attitudinal Poll Projects – National Energy Action (NEA)
Issue	2 nd October 2024: LT NI Attitudinal Poll-Project: NEA – September 2024: Main Results Report: Version 1
	Date (Version 1.0 – Main Results Report): 2 nd October 2024
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LUCIDTALK – INTRODUCTION and BACKGROUND

LucidTalk is a specialist polling and market research company based in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Its mission is to provide professional, in-depth, polling-market research services to public, private, media, and political and public affairs organisations, in Northern Ireland, Ireland, and the UK.

The company was founded in 2012 by Bill White, a mathematics/statistics graduate, who has worked at the highest level in the Information/Communications Technology (ICT) industry for over 25 years. During this time Bill also worked professionally in the polling and market research industry in Great Britain and gained significant business and project-management experience, plus key knowledge of the latest polling/market research technologies.

Since returning to Northern Ireland, Bill White has been providing polling/market research consultancy, and founded LucidTalk in order to offer a full local, regional, and national (UK and Ireland) polling and market research service. Bill White and his LucidTalk colleagues all have 'frontline' polling and market research experience, having worked on several political polling projects in Great Britain, including projects for the 'big name' UK based polling organisations.

Unlike other companies in the Market Research sector LucidTalk are a focussed company specialising only in Polling and Market Research, and are therefore not 'distracted' by other business activities. As such, all LucidTalk personnel have built-up highly specialist knowledge and experience which is cross-transferable between all LucidTalk personnel.

LucidTalk have an experienced team of consultants who provide input, analysis, and opinion for all Poll Project results and reports. LucidTalk's Consultants include: Dr. Kevin Cunningham (Lecturer Dublin City University) – LucidTalk's Data-Director, Roy Garland (Political Commentator and Irish News columnist), and other prominent economic, business, and political consultants. In addition, LucidTalk also work closely with all Northern Ireland Marketing, PR, and Public Affairs consultancies.

LucidTalk are fully aware of the market sensitivity of the results obtained from a polling/market research project and LucidTalk guarantee that all our project team(s) from directors to researchers are aware of, and committed to, total confidentiality. In addition, all LucidTalk staff are fully security cleared to the highest level (via AccessNI etc.).

LucidTalk are exclusive polling partners to the Belfast Telegraph, Northern Ireland's largest daily newspaper and media group. LucidTalk carry out regular polling for the Belfast Telegraph including several NI-wide poll-projects per annum. This exclusive business relationship exemplifies the confidence that LucidTalk can command from major companies and organisations like the Belfast Telegraph.

LucidTalk's skilled and trained 'polling teams' can complete polling projects at short notice without compromising the professionalism, detail, and accuracy of their service. LucidTalk use the latest polling/market research technologies, and predictive methodologies, thus ensuring the highest degree of accuracy and detail in all projects.

LUCIDTALK – POLLING AND PROJECT METHODOLOGY

LucidTalk run regular 'Attitudinal' polls targeted at various sectors and usually targeted at Northern Ireland (NI), with the objective of obtaining a robust and mathematically representative sample of NI opinion.

In the context of this project polling was carried out by Belfast based polling and market research company LucidTalk. The project was carried out online for a period of 4 days from 13th to 16th September 2024. The project targeted the established Northern Ireland (NI) LucidTalk online Opinion Panel (16,000+ members) which is balanced by gender, age-group, area of residence, and community background, in order to be demographically representative of Northern Ireland. 2,696 full responses were collated, and after data auditing to ensure:

(a) 'one person-one vote' responses, and (b) the collation of a robust, accurate, and balanced representative NI sample, - 1,199 full responses were recorded and used for analysis in terms of the final results.

All data results have been weighted by gender and community background to reflect the demographic composition of Northern Ireland resulting in 1,199 responses being considered in terms of the final results - the results presented in this report. All data results produced are accurate to a margin of error of +/-2.3%, at 95% confidence. NB All surveys and polls may be subject to sources of error, including, but not limited to sampling error, coverage error, and measurement error. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting.

All polling questions were agreed by the project partners and designed to British Polling Council (BPC) professional market research standards, to ensure neutrality and balance. This resulted in ten agreed poll-project questions and sub-questions being used for the research project. Full results are presented in this report, including some key demographic analyses. Full demographic analyses are available on request.

If applicable, LucidTalk would be pleased to answer any questions regarding the methodology and results for this project. For more information, please contact LucidTalk directly on: info@lucidtalk.co.uk.

NI Targeted Poll – Auditing Process

Auditing: This report includes all the results relating to FULL AUDITED responses (1,199 responses) received as part of the NI poll-project. The poll project was carried out on the basis of ‘invitation’ to the online LT Northern Ireland (NI) Opinion Panel members (membership 16,000+) resident in the targeted area of NI. As such, although the project was carried out on the basis of ‘one participant – one vote’, and the online polling systems have in-built safeguards and checks to ensure this, to a degree of 100% compliance with ‘one participant – one vote’. The poll-project auditing process, which involves detailed IP address analysis of each response, ensures that the complete set of base responses from which the audited results are determined were totally (to a degree of 99.8%) ‘one participant – one vote’ and that the participants definitely resided in the targeted area i.e. Northern Ireland.

Demographic Analyses

Main ‘headline’ results graphics are shown for each poll question. Key demographic analyses are provided for Poll-Survey Question 1 only, as part of this report. This is done for example purpose only:

These demographic analyses for Question 1 are by:

Total NI-wide representative results
and presented as Q1 results graphics:

- ABC1 (Middle Class) Socio-Economic group only
- C2DE (Working Class) Socio-Economic group only
- ‘Others’ (Students, Retired, Non-Salaried, etc.) Socio-Economic group only

NB This full report is based on the Full-Results Data-Tables report which will be supplied shortly to NEA i.e. this report will include all the results, plus all the demographic analyses for each poll question, and sub poll-question.

These demographic breakdowns (8 in total), for each poll question and sub-question are:

- TOTAL NI REPRESENTATIVE RESULTS (representative of NI opinion to within +/-2.3%)
- Gender
- Age-Group
- Socio-economic group
- NI Residence area (by 5 NI areas: BELFAST, NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, WEST)
- NI Constitutional Voting Block (Unionist, Nationalist/Republican, Neutral, Undetermined)
- Religious community (Catholic, Protestant, etc.)
- Home type (owned, rented, etc.)
- Heating type (Oil, gas, coal, etc.).

Graphics of all the above demographic analyses can be provided for any/all of the above demographics. LucidTalk can do all these analyses, and types of analyses, for each poll-survey question. We have only collated them in graphics-results format for Question 1, as to do them for every question would lead to ‘data-overload’, and produce a report with about 100 graphics, which would frankly look too confusing! We would advise that the best approach is for the client, i.e. in this case NEA-NI, to review the main results of each poll-survey question and then request the particular demographic graphics results analyses that would be most applicable, and are of most interest to NEA-NI.

Notes – relating specifically to this report – the main project report:

- This report includes all the main data results from the project – both quantitative and qualitative (respondent comments and responses for each applicable question, inc. the ‘Final Comments’ section etc.).
- The results come from a sample of opinion (2,696 respondents – leading to a 1,199 response dataset model) from the LT NI representative Opinion Panel (16,000+ members) which is balanced and NI representative.
- The results are representative of NI opinion to within an error of only +/-2.3% at 95% confidence.
- Full demographic analyses for each poll question, and/or sub-question, will be provided within the Data-Tables results report which will show the main NI representative results and demographic analyses by: Gender, Age-group, Socio-economic group, NI Residence area, NI Voting Block (Unionist, Nat/Rep, Neutral etc.), Community (Catholic, Protestant, etc.), + by the two project-specific demographics of: Home type (owned, rented, etc.) and Heating type (Oil, gas, coal, etc.).
- Where applicable, qualitative analyses are provided including Word Cloud analyses, Word count analyses, and complete listings of all comments made by the poll-project participants for each of the applicable questions that included qualitative sections: Questions 3, 5a, 6, 7a, 8a, 10 and the ‘Final Comments’ section.
- This report contains ALL the voluntary comments made as part of the NEA NI-Wide Attitudinal Poll – September 2024, and are verbatim and unedited. NO comments have been removed except some meaningless comments such as N/A, ‘None’, ‘no comment’ etc. Therefore, and as would be expected, this report also contains some critical comments about the poll, the poll questions, energy policies etc. NB Qualitative comments are unedited and are exact verbatim comments from the poll participants i.e. they are not grammar or spell checked, however the overall meaning should be clear. NB a separate comment/record No. (left-hand-column), represents a separate comment, from an individual poll-survey participant. To assist reading and reviewing some meaningless comments have been removed e.g. N/A, ‘No comment’, ‘None’ etc. – therefore the No. sequencing may show some ‘missing’ Nos.
- Regardless of the Qualitative (i.e. comments) analyses e.g. Word Cloud analyses, Word count analyses, we recommend a direct review of all comments by applicable and knowledgeable NEA personnel. This is because correct, accurate, and meaningful interpretation of comments, can really only be carried out by those who have key knowledge and experience about the topics and issues being researched.

LUCIDTALK – Professional Credentials

LucidTalk is a member of all recognised professional Polling and Market Research organisations, including the UK Market Research Society (UK-MRS), the British Polling Council (BPC), and ESOMAR (European Society of Market Research organisations). The BPC are the primary UK professional body ensuring professional Polling and Market Research standards. All polling, research, sampling, methodologies used, market research projects and results and reports production are, carried out to the professional standards laid down by the BPC and also (as published) of AIMRO (Association of Irish Market Research Organisations).

Question Analysis Data – Quantitative Questions

All applicable questions i.e. those with quantitative determinate answer structures e.g. Yes/No/Don’t Know – Not Sure, are presented with five key analysis scores, as well as the main total results i.e.

MEAN – The average score (presented as a number) within the band of choices as presented in the question.

STANDARD DEVIATION – Amount of variation or dispersion of the set of all values within the question.

SATISFACTION RATE – The lower this No. is, then the more the overall question has tended towards ‘YES’, or towards the ‘positive’ answer aspect of the poll question, however defined. This is calculated by the overall pattern of all the answers, and not just the ‘YES’ score, but also including the level of ‘NO’s and ‘Don’t Knows’.

VARIANCE - The **Variance** measures the average degree to which each score within the poll differs from the **Mean** – the average of all the respondent scores within the poll. NB the **Standard deviation** (see above) looks at how spread out a group of numbers is from the mean, by looking at the square root of the **Variance**.

STANDARD ERROR – This is the error specific to each of the poll questions and usually is either 1% or 2% dependent on the structure of the poll question. However, as per above, the overall error that applies to the total poll-survey project in terms of representing of NI opinion is that the results presented are NI representative to within an error of only +/-2.3% at 95% confidence.

Full Poll Question List:
National Energy Action (NEA) – Northern Ireland (NI) Attitudinal Poll – September 2024
Parts in Red is/are background information related to the specific question, to assist the respondent.

QUESTION NEA1: Approximately what proportion of your household income do you spend on heating (oil/gas) and electricity in a year?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Less than 5%		0.00%	0
2	Between 5% and 10%		0.00%	0
3	Between 11% and 20%		0.00%	0
4	Between 21% and 30%		0.00%	0
5	Between 31% and 40%		0.00%	0
6	41%, or More than 41%		0.00%	0
7	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say		0.00%	0

NIView – QUESTION NEA2: What is the main method of paying for your heating and electricity?
Please tick all that apply

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Prepayment Meter/Top up Card		0.00%	0
2	Monthly Direct Debit - Electricity		0.00%	0
3	Quarterly Direct Debit - Electricity		0.00%	0
4	Fuel Direct		0.00%	0
5	One payment - Oil		0.00%	0
6	Part-payment (monthly/quarterly) - Oil		0.00%	0
7	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say		0.00%	0

NIView – QUESTION NEA3: At any point in the last 24 months have you gone without heating (oil/gas) or electricity as a result of not being able to afford the costs of your energy (e.g. unable to top up your oil tank, unable to put credit on a pre-payment meter or unable to pay a bill).

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	NO, never		0.00%	0
2	YES, on one occasion - Electricity only		0.00%	0
3	YES, on one occasion - Oil/Gas only		0.00%	0
4	YES, on one occasion - Electricity and Oil/Gas		0.00%	0
5	YES, on more than one occasion - Electricity only		0.00%	0
6	YES, on more than one occasion - Oil/Gas only		0.00%	0
7	YES, on more than one occasion - Electricity and Oil/Gas		0.00%	0

NIView – QUESTION NEA4: Are you currently in, or have you at any time in the past 24 months been in, debt to your energy supplier?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	YES, currently in debt		0.00%	0
2	YES, have been in debt at some time in the past 24 months		0.00%	0
3	NO		0.00%	0
4	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say		0.00%	0

NIView – QUESTION NEA4a: You answered 'Yes' to the previous question, - We would be grateful if you would tell us approximately the amount of debt you are in, or were in, at any time in the past 24 months to your energy supplier?

NB this is voluntary, - if you don't want to say then please choose the '.../Prefer not to say' option.

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	up to £100		0.00%	0
2	£100 to £500		0.00%	0

NIView – QUESTION NEA4a: You answered 'Yes' to the previous question, - We would be grateful if you would tell us approximately the amount of debt you are in, or were in, at any time in the past 24 months to your energy supplier?

NB this is voluntary, - if you don't want to say then please choose the '.../Prefer not to say' option.

3	More than £500		0.00%	0
4	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say		0.00%	0

NIView – QUESTION NEA5: Have you or a member of your household had to borrow money to pay for your energy use?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	YES, on one occasion		0.00%	0
2	YES, on more than one occasion		0.00%	0
3	NO		0.00%	0
4	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say		0.00%	0

NIView – QUESTION NEA5a: You answered 'Yes' to the previous question, - As such, we would be grateful if you would let us know how/where you borrowed money to pay for your energy use?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Borrowed money from family or friends		0.00%	0
2	Borrowed money from a bank or credit union		0.00%	0
3	Borrowed money from a payday lender		0.00%	0
4	Borrowed money via Credit-Card (i.e. went beyond normal usage of my credit-card)		0.00%	0
5	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say		0.00%	0

NIView – QUESTION NEA6: Did you or any members of your household adopt any of the following behaviours last winter, or within the last 24 months, due to the rising energy prices and the cost of living? Please tick all that apply

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Reduced use of central heating in your home.	0.00%	0
2	Sitting in a cold house wearing coats, blankets or using a hot water bottle.	0.00%	0
3	Skipped meals or reduced the amount of food consumed.	0.00%	0
4	Reduced use of hot water, including less frequent showers/baths or washing up with cold water.	0.00%	0
5	Relying on emergency credit between paydays.	0.00%	0
6	Using credit cards to pay for heating or other essentials.	0.00%	0
7	Spending time in heated public spaces like a library or community centre or on public transport.	0.00%	0
8	Using alternative heating sources (coal fire, fan heaters etc).	0.00%	0
9	NONE - None of the above	0.00%	0
10	Other - Please specify (Requires an answer if ticked):	0.00%	0

NIView – QUESTION NEA7: Has your health and wellbeing, or any member of your household's, been impacted by the rising energy prices and the cost of living?

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	YES	0.00%	0
2	NO	0.00%	0
3	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say	0.00%	0

NIView – QUESTION NEA7a: You answered 'Yes' to the previous question, - As such, please indicate how your, or a member of your household's health and wellbeing has been impacted?

Please tick all that apply.

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Mental health impacts.		0.00%	0
2	General physical health impacts.		0.00%	0
3	Deterioration of an existing health condition.		0.00%	0
4	Requiring more visits to a GP or Hospital.		0.00%	0
5	NONE - None of the above		0.00%	0
6	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say		0.00%	0
7	Other (please specify - particularly if you said None-of-the-above - Requires an answer if ticked):		0.00%	0

NIView – QUESTION NEA8: Has your, or any member of your household's quality of life been impacted by the rising energy prices and the cost of living?

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	YES		0.00%	0
2	NO		0.00%	0
3	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say		0.00%	0

NIView – QUESTION NEA8a: You answered 'Yes' to the previous question, - As such, please indicate how your, or a member of your household's quality of life has been impacted.

Please tick all that apply.

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	You and/or a member of your household have had to reduce (or stop altogether) going out for meals or getting takeaways		0.00%	0
2	You and/or a member of your household have had to reduce (or stop altogether) the number of times you go to sports clubs or have had to		0.00%	0

NIView – QUESTION NEA8a: You answered 'Yes' to the previous question, - As such, please indicate how your, or a member of your household's quality of life has been impacted.

Please tick all that apply.

	cancel any gym/ fitness memberships you have			
3	You and/or a member of your household have had to reduce (or stop altogether) going out to recreational activities (e.g. Cinema, Concerts or day trips)		0.00%	0
4	You and/or a member of your household have had to cancel subscriptions for streaming or entertainment services (e.g. Netflix, Disney Plus, Apple TV, Sky TV, Spotify etc)		0.00%	0
5	NONE - None of the above		0.00%	0
6	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say		0.00%	0
7	Other (please specify - particularly if you said None-of-the-above - Requires an answer if ticked):		0.00%	0

NIView – QUESTION NEA9: Are you worried about paying for your energy costs?

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	YES, I am worried about paying for energy at present.	0.00%	0
2	YES, I am worried about paying for energy in the coming winter.	0.00%	0
3	Yes, I am worried about paying for energy at present and in the coming winter	0.00%	0
4	NO	0.00%	0
5	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say	0.00%	0

NIView – QUESTION NEA10: What actions do you think the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive should take to tackle fuel poverty in Northern Ireland?

Please tick up to three (3) options, 1, 2, or 3 choices

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Develop and implement a new Fuel Poverty Strategy for NI.		0.00%	0
2	Set a statutory target to reduce fuel poverty.		0.00%	0
3	Introduce minimum energy efficiency standards (EPC) for domestic private rented properties.		0.00%	0
4	Provide greater financial assistance with energy bills for low income and vulnerable households, including emergency support.		0.00%	0
5	Expand schemes that provide financial support to improve the energy efficiency of homes.		0.00%	0
6	Commit to annual monitoring and reporting on Fuel Poverty rates.		0.00%	0
7	Implement recommended guidelines on tackling excess winter deaths.		0.00%	0
8	Provide extra support and assistance to transition those reliant on home heating oil to other heating technologies.		0.00%	0
9	Work with relevant organisations to extend the provision of energy efficiency advice and training.		0.00%	0
10	NONE - None of the above		0.00%	0
11	Other - Please specify (Requires an answer if ticked):		0.00%	0

POLL-SURVEY CLOSE: FINAL COMMENTS (optional):

Any further final comments, regarding this poll-survey, the "NI VIEW" questions, and/or current NI Energy issues and topics....? **If no comments - please leave blank**

Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
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KEY DEMOGRAPHIC DATA:

GENDER: Male or Female?

AGE-GROUP: 18-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, 65+ years.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR OCCUPATION?:

A - Managing Director/Senior-Middle Manager/Doctor/Lawyer, B - Junior Manager/Teacher/Small business owner, C - Clerk/Tradesman/Driver/Labourer, D - Unemployed/On Benefits, E - Retired/Housewife/Househusband, F - Student/In Full-Time Education/Training.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR COMMUNITY?

Catholic, Protestant, Other, No religion/prefer not to say

WHAT IS YOUR CONSTITUTIONAL POSITION REGARDING NI? Strongly Unionist, Slightly Unionist, Neutral, Slightly Nationalist/Republican, Strongly Nationalist/Republican

NI RESIDENCE AREAS: NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, WEST, BELFAST

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA - NI Region/Residence Area - by NI Political Constituencies:

Belfast/Belfast area - the 4 Belfast constituencies (North, South, East, and West) + East NI - North Down/Lagan Valley/South Antrim/East Antrim

North NI - Foyle/East Londonderry/North Antrim

South NI – South Down/Strangford/Newry and Armagh/Upper Bann

West NI - Fermanagh and South Tyrone/Mid-Ulster/West Tyrone

WHAT IS YOUR HOME TYPE?

House-Owned, Private Rental, Social Housing, Other

WHAT IS THE HEATING TYPE YOU USE IN YOUR HOME?

Coal, Electric, Gas, Oil, Other

MAIN POLL-SURVEY PROJECT RESULTS (Quantitative)

National Energy Action (NEA NI) – NI-Wide Attitudinal Poll: September 2024

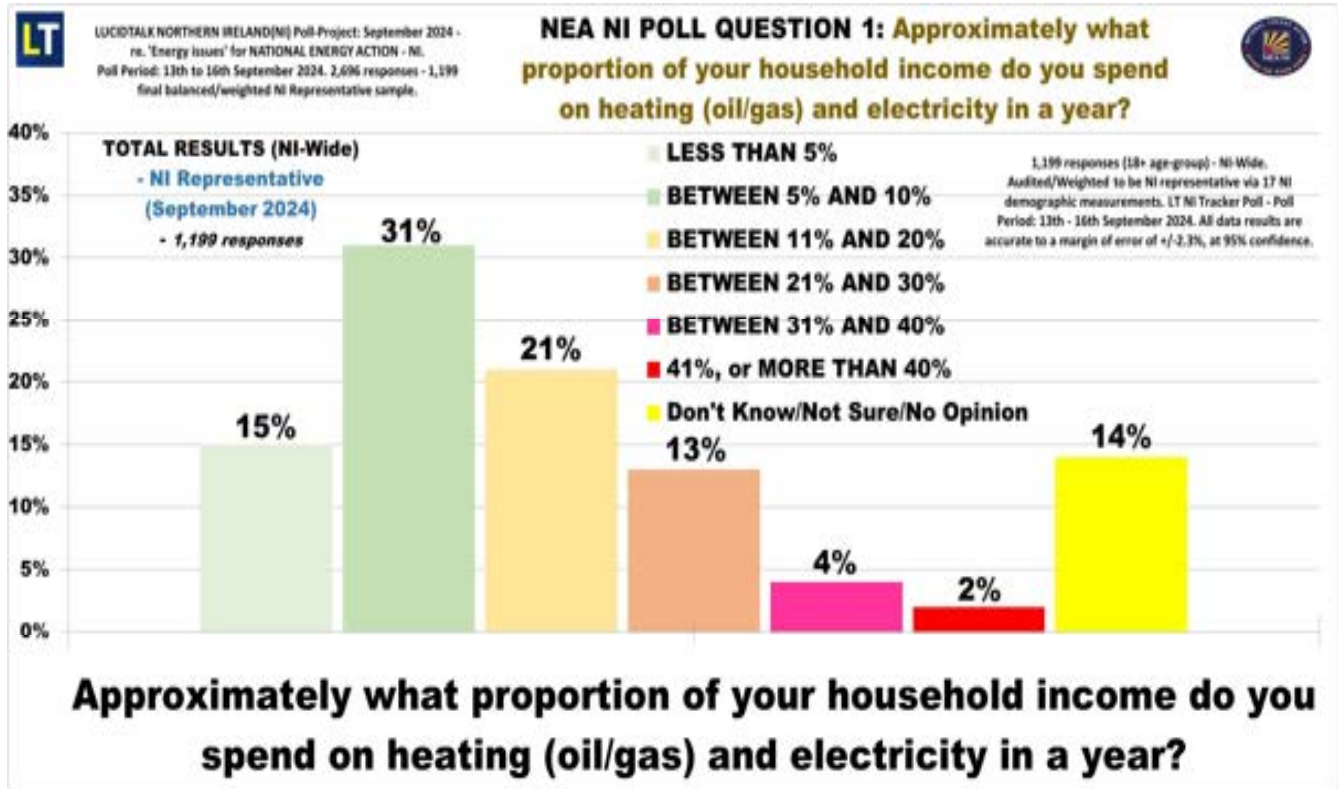
Question NEA1

NIView - QUESTION NEA1: Approximately what proportion of your household income do you spend on heating (oil/gas) and electricity in a year?

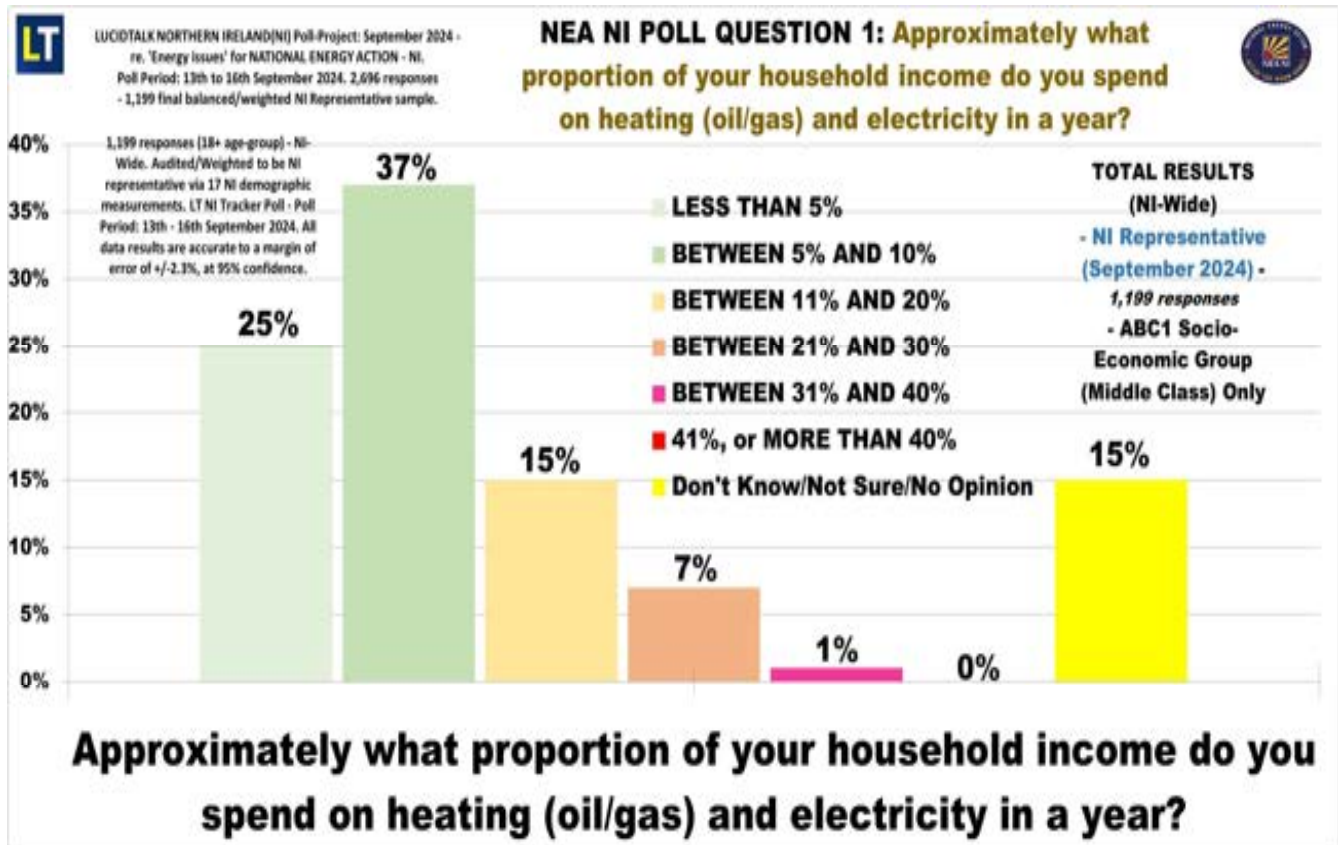
NI representative results: Weighted – NI Representative – Poll-Period: 13th-16th September 2024 – 2,696 responses – modelled into a 1,199 NI representative response dataset: Results are NI representative to within an error of +/-2.3%

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total					
1	Less than 5%	15%						
2	Between 5% and 10%	31%						
3	Between 11% and 20%	21%						
4	Between 21% and 30%	13%						
5	Between 31% and 40%	4%						
6	41%, or More than 41%	2%						
7	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say	14%						
Analysis	Minimum:	1.00	Mean:	2.89	Std. Deviation:	1.70	Modelled Sample	1,199
	Maximum:	7.00	Variance:	2.90	Std. Error:	0.04		
	Satisfaction Rate:	31.51					Total Responses	2,696

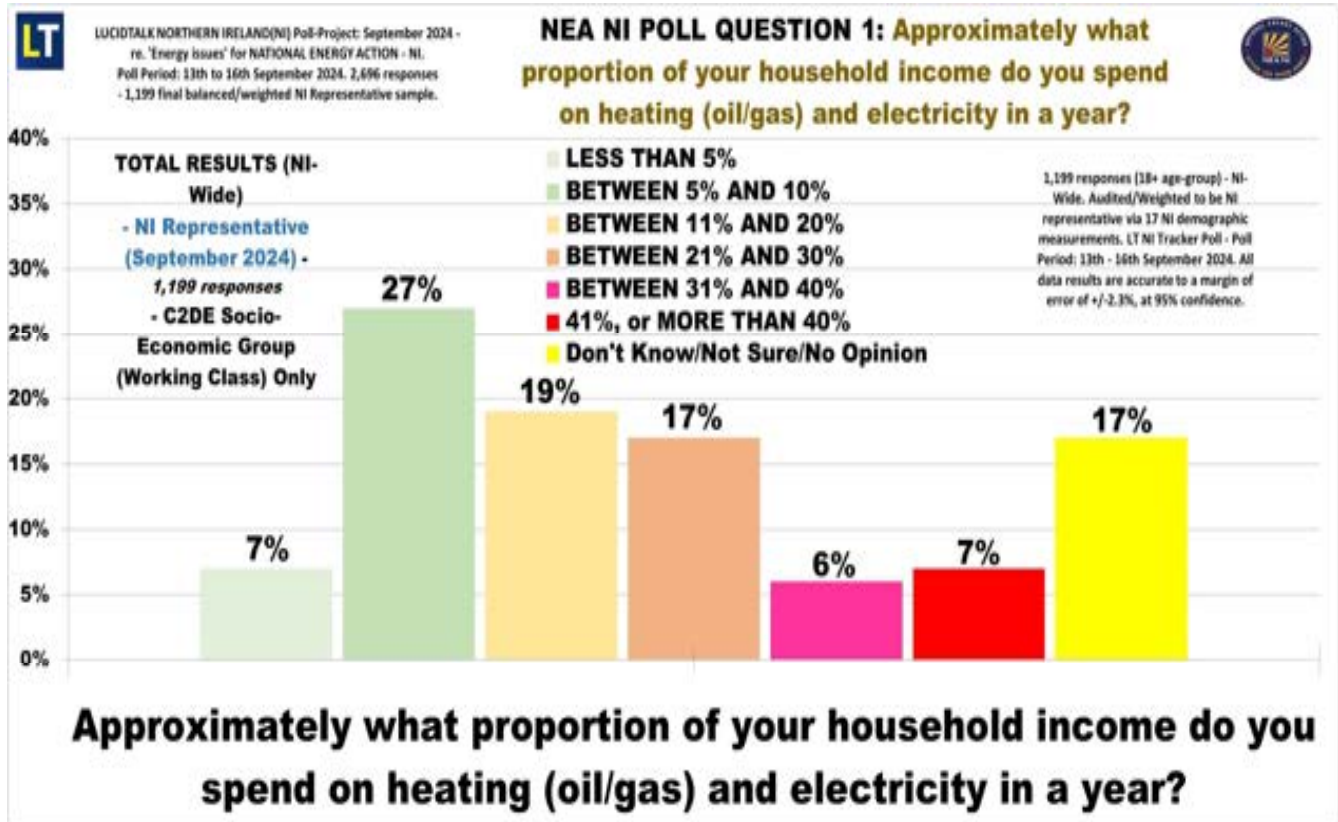
Question NEA1 – Total NI Results – Graphic



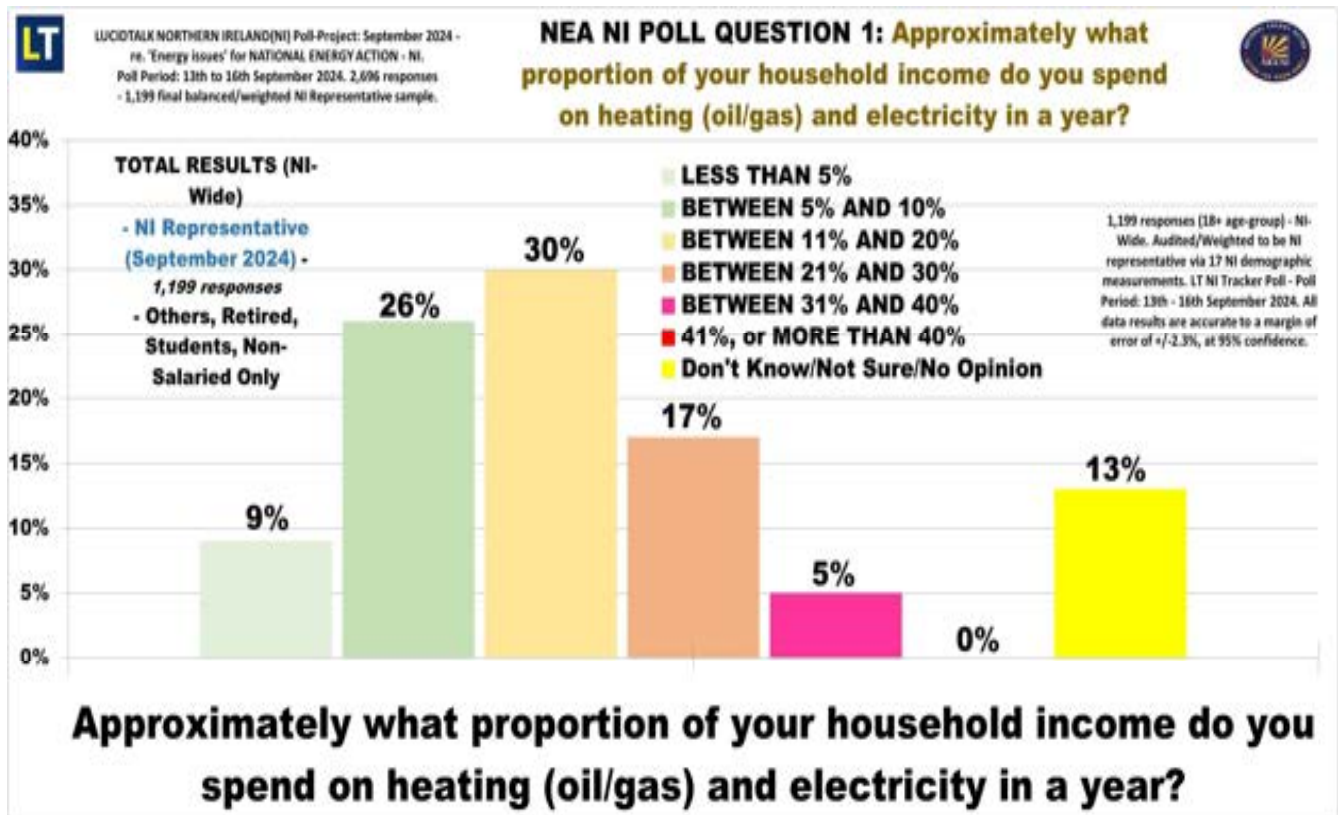
Question NEA1 – Socio-Economic Group: ABC1 (Middle Class) - Results Graphic



Question NEA1 – Socio-Economic Group: C2DE (Working Class) - Results Graphic












Question NEA1 – Socio-Economic Group: ABC1 ('Others') - Results Graphic



Question NEA2

**NIView - QUESTION NEA2: How do you pay for your heating and electricity?
PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY**








**NI representative results: Weighted – NI Representative – Poll-Period: 13th-16th September 2024
– 2,696 responses – modelled into a 1,199 NI representative response dataset:
Results are NI representative to within an error of +/-2.3%**

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total														
1	Prepayment Meter/Top up Card - Gas 	19%															
2	Prepayment Meter/Top up Card - Electric 	28%															
3	Monthly Direct Debit - Oil or Gas 	17%															
4	Quarterly Direct Debit - Oil or Gas 	5%															
5	Monthly Direct Debit - Electricity 	35%															
6	Quarterly Direct Debit - Electricity 	13%															
7	One payment - Oil or Gas 	49%															
8	Part-payment (monthly/quarterly) - Oil or Gas 	4%															
9	None of the above - Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say 	2%															
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Analysis</td> <td>Minimum:</td> <td>1.00</td> <td>Mean:</td> <td>4.74</td> <td>Std. Deviation:</td> <td>2.09</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Maximum:</td> <td>9.00</td> <td>Variance:</td> <td>4.38</td> <td>Std. Error:</td> <td>0.03</td> </tr> </table>		Analysis	Minimum:	1.00	Mean:	4.74	Std. Deviation:	2.09		Maximum:	9.00	Variance:	4.38	Std. Error:	0.03	Modelled Sample	1,199
		Analysis	Minimum:	1.00	Mean:	4.74	Std. Deviation:	2.09									
	Maximum:	9.00	Variance:	4.38	Std. Error:	0.03											
		Total Responses	2,696														

Question NEA3

NIView - QUESTION NEA3: At any point in the last 24 months have you gone without heating (oil/gas) or electricity as a result of not being able to afford the costs of your energy (e.g. unable to top up your oil tank, unable to put credit on a pre-payment meter or unable to pay a bill).

NI representative results: Weighted – NI Representative – Poll-Period: 13th-16th September 2024 – 2,696 responses – modelled into a 1,199 NI representative response dataset: Results are NI representative to within an error of +/-2.3%

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total																			
1	NO, never	 73%																				
2	YES, on one occasion - Electricity only	 1%																				
3	YES, on one occasion - Oil/Gas only	 8%																				
4	YES, on one occasion - Electricity and Oil/Gas	 1%																				
5	YES, on more than one occasion - Electricity only	 1%																				
6	YES, on more than one occasion - Oil/Gas only	 10%																				
7	YES, on more than one occasion - Electricity and Oil/Gas	 6%																				
Analysis	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Minimum:</td> <td>1.00</td> <td>Mean:</td> <td>1.77</td> <td>Std. Deviation:</td> <td>1.73</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maximum:</td> <td>7.00</td> <td>Variance:</td> <td>2.99</td> <td>Std. Error:</td> <td>0.04</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Satisfaction Rate:</td> <td>12.78</td> <td colspan="4"></td> </tr> </table>		Minimum:	1.00	Mean:	1.77	Std. Deviation:	1.73	Maximum:	7.00	Variance:	2.99	Std. Error:	0.04	Satisfaction Rate:	12.78					Modelled Sample	1,199
	Minimum:	1.00	Mean:	1.77	Std. Deviation:	1.73																
	Maximum:	7.00	Variance:	2.99	Std. Error:	0.04																
Satisfaction Rate:	12.78																					
		Total Responses	2,696																			

QUESTION NEA3: Answers to ‘Comments’ option within question

NIView - QUESTION NEA3: At any point in the last 24 months have you gone without heating (oil/gas) or electricity as a result of not being able to afford the costs of your energy (e.g. unable to top up your oil tank, unable to put credit on a pre-payment meter or unable to pay a bill).

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – To Answer option No. 8 ‘Any Comments’:

134 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

Comments?: (134)

1	Electric runs out very quickly
2	Even affording oil through housing scheme is a difficulty as you need to have the lump sum.
3	Too scared to turn on the heat. Last year I got stung over winter period. Holding out as long as possible before I have to turn on the heating. Currently 17 degrees in the house. Jumpers and warm clothes on with blankets where necessary.
4	I've deliberately not put it on to save money. I've fortunately been able to afford it. But would rather leave lights off, put an extra layer on etc.
5	I have paid for oil and electricity but I economise by not using it unless I have to
6	No but I've gone to forest to collect fallen wood for me fire.
7	Have cut back on heating so it's on much less
8	No but simply because we pace ourselves and don't overdo it
9	I have not gone without but I have made effort to ensure usage is far less than normal
10	In winter times some times I just top up my electricity and stay in bed most of the day...my granddaughter bought me an electric blanket..
11	No, but services have to be carefully rationed and other expenditures are sacrificed to pay for utilities.
12	Prices have been extremely high and last winter and spring were extra cold for a long period but thankfully prices have come down a bit now
13	I've been cold though
14	The energy companies have ripped the consumers and small businesses off the last few years in particular to pay their shareholders. It is in plain sight
15	Have boiler turned down and reduced usage by over 30% but still costs more than few years back. Rigged energy market hurts us all Inc business
16	I will switch off home heating completely between May/ June and September only using gas for cooking and showers
17	I avoid putting on the heating unless I really have to in order to economise.
18	I have economy 7 heaters (storage) and costs usually £50 a month, sometimes more and I have only 1 heater on in my whole flat.
19	I have noticed the rising costs and not put on heating and reduced use of electricity to try to keep bills from escalating
20	Had to use credit card

NIView - QUESTION NEA3: At any point in the last 24 months have you gone without heating (oil/gas) or electricity as a result of not being able to afford the costs of your energy (e.g. unable to top up your oil tank, unable to put credit on a pre-payment meter or unable to pay a bill).
QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – To Answer option No. 8 ‘Any Comments’:
134 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

21	The people who are in government haven't a clue about the hardships we are facing with heating fuel poverty along with food poverty that's affecting most of us these days.
22	I am very careful with it. House is never roasting, heating on for an hour a day and no more unless it's really freezing but we are used to it now and wear appropriate clothing
23	Heating only used in the winter months.
24	Had to borrow money from my elderly parents....
25	No but it's very noticeable
26	Couldn't afford oil ... so instead went to bed early.
27	Because I pay by monthly debit my suppliers have never let me be without supplies
28	Been close though
29	But have cut back use
30	We try to keep off the central heating as much as possible. (My wife and I bought throws for each of us 2 yrs ago) to keep warm.
31	I have just changed from oil to gás.Oil was always a expensive bill for me as my boiler was old.I do not know how much gas will cost yet as it is only installed and the winter will be the main indicator determining whether gas is cheaper.
32	We are, and always have been, frugal with use of fuel. We use blankets and hot water bottles, if we feel cool, but heat our home when it's really cold. We have not changed this habit.
33	When oil price was sky high i couldn't afford to save for a fill of oil , it was increasing faster than i could save up . Started buying coal again.
34	Have stayed in bed without oil heat, had clothes woolen hat, dressing gown, hot water bottle, electric blanket, and thermos flask for hot drinks to keep warm.
35	Oil prices were just out of control
36	Because I go out every single day and take long train journeys and walk around until bed time
37	Can't afford it. If rather eat than heat my house m l'm actually sitting here now with the flu and can't even afford tablets to help me get better
38	Our recent annual statement told us we had c£1k arrears yet we paid by monthly DD. As a consequence they have put our monthly bill up by 90%. Gangsters is a phrase that comes to mind.
39	I use less gas and electricity so I won't have to without
40	Wrapped up more and used less
41	Gas prices were astronomical last year
42	Yes gas heating was not put on at nights-the family just put on extra jumpers & blankets on the bed

NIView - QUESTION NEA3: At any point in the last 24 months have you gone without heating (oil/gas) or electricity as a result of not being able to afford the costs of your energy (e.g. unable to top up your oil tank, unable to put credit on a pre-payment meter or unable to pay a bill).

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – To Answer option No. 8 ‘Any Comments’:

134 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

43	I monitor the oil level so there are no surprises & can easily budget £ when more oil is required. The price per litre for say 1000 litres is less than for 500 litres - buy more for bigger discounts.
44	Had to use credit card for oil on one occasion
45	I restrict heating use to stretch oil
46	I'm lucky enough to be able to afford the extortionate prices but other items are sacrificed
47	Periods when oil was very expensive. Had to wait until pay day to cover the cost few occasions when oil had run out.
48	Heating oil is to expensive and we have to ration it so unless it's a really cold time we won't use it. We use hot water bottles and plenty of warm clothing.
49	Although we've never gone without gas or electricity we are definitely much more careful about our usage.
50	Appreciate I'm very fortunate
51	I live alone so dont use much
52	We have been able to make the payment but have had to make other sacrifices instead
53	Never, but I have had to limit the use of heating to reduce the heating bill
54	Use an electric heater on occasions rather than use my oil heating.
55	Last January
56	Frequently boil kettle in winter for hot water to wash with. Do not put heating on unless absolutely vital. Use extra blankets for heat or go to bed early in evening for heat.
57	But very close
58	Our house is heated by oil and we switch off when the weather is warm. In winter we use it sparingly.
59	Just afraid to use
60	While both my wife and myself are in receipt of state pension we have private pensions that add to our income.
61	All winter I was very careful about putting on the oil. Just did without at times to save what I had left in the tank.
62	We certainly restrict the amount of time we have heating on and use electricity because of the high cost.
63	I am allways conscious of need to economise on heating
64	Gas prices rise as soon as it gets cold. We bought halogen heaters to run because we couldn't afford gas
65	I have heating oil but sometimes have to wait till the spring to get a good price
66	I use as little gas and electricity as possible. I turn all appliances off at night, wear extra clothing during the day and go to my local gym to use their showering facilities.
67	Having said I've never gone without I certainly do not put heating on as much as I used to.

NIView - QUESTION NEA3: At any point in the last 24 months have you gone without heating (oil/gas) or electricity as a result of not being able to afford the costs of your energy (e.g. unable to top up your oil tank, unable to put credit on a pre-payment meter or unable to pay a bill).
QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – To Answer option No. 8 ‘Any Comments’:
134 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

68	Went without oil on several occasions. With a large family and the extortionate price of living something has to give.
69	But use oil central heating very very sparingly.
70	when the heating oil was so expensive we couldn't afford to buy any.
71	Never gone without, but have used it sparingly to save money
72	Have had to cut back on other things to cover fuel and electricity payments
73	Communal heating and lighting.
74	On economy 7...3thousand units every 2 months.....unsustainable.
75	Have chosen not to in order to save money though.
76	I had to borrow money to top up as I had no money.
77	I am careful and only turn on the heating if absolutely necessary
78	My gas was cut of in error . Took days to sort it out .
79	We just cut back like most people. I work from home a lot and during the cold weather I sit with a hot water bottle on my knee and a blanket round me.
80	Large payments for oil are difficult.
81	You have to be careful about budgeting for bills
82	I've turned the heating off rather than run up a bill I can't pay.
83	I regularly have to cut back on how long heating is on for during winter which is normally a couple of hours morning then same evening . Between these times we just put extra layers on .
84	I have a disabled son so heat and electricity is my top priority
85	I've used less gas to save money, but not gone without
86	While not being in the position of being unable to pay for energy, I have certainly limited my use of both electricity and gas and have gone without heat simply to be able to afford oil
87	Oil somewhat prohibitive to purchase in both large & small quantities. Had to wait until price of oil dropped.
88	Have been very careful about how I use gas and electric. Limit use of lights, wash once a week on shortest programme, don't use tumble drier, careful how I'm cooking, etc
89	A table lamp in the evening's for Electricity and the heating on a hour before going to bed .
90	No, but need to be careful. Use blankets, hot water bottle etc
91	Live within your means. I grew up poor drive a lorry for a living and pay my bills not relying on the state.

NIView - QUESTION NEA3: At any point in the last 24 months have you gone without heating (oil/gas) or electricity as a result of not being able to afford the costs of your energy (e.g. unable to top up your oil tank, unable to put credit on a pre-payment meter or unable to pay a bill).
QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – To Answer option No. 8 ‘Any Comments’:
134 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

92	Couldn't afford it so bundled up and did without
93	It wasn't easy but we managed it
94	prices have doubled and the energy companies are profiteering , and nobody's doing anything about it . not even the politicians , I ll not be voteint for my usual party next time round Independents .
95	Not personally, but I have a close relative who struggles to keep her house warm as well as meet other expenses due to a low pension typical for women here.
96	Recent change in income may affect this
97	I can afford to pay, but I have still cut back on heating as it's too expensive. If I didn't gas+electric would have been over 10% of take home pay and I've other bills.
98	Keep it on very low and only 7.00am until 8.30 am then 7.00pm until 9.0pm
99	April until October
100	I had to take out 3 loans from social security I'm still paying them back and not allowed anymore loans from them so don't know what's going to happen as I need oil now
101	Would to more often if I didn't turn it off.
102	We just " suck it up" and have to pay exorbitant cost
103	Although I have nit had to go without, I do ration the heating.
104	We have left the heating off later in the year and switched it off earlier to save money.
105	When my fixed rate mortgage went sky high I had to do without electric , oil and gas heat frequently. Fortunately I received a lump sum from something and I am and will be able to have modest heat
106	We sometimes choose not to have the heating on.
107	My monthly Direct Debit (electricity) has got so high in the last year, I have to limit the time I can put on my heating, because I do not want to it get any higher.
108	All the rooms in my home are usually at less than 10°C during the winter.
109	While we haven't gone without it, we've used it a lot less, even when it's cold, and have used a heater a lot rather than turn on the heating
110	But I use minimal heating as work long hours and am not in the house often
111	I've not gone without because of running out of money, but I don't turn on the heating until it's so cold that there's no alternative.
112	Not so much gone without, but had to have heating on frost prevention levels only to cut costs.
113	No problems paying bills. Also have solar electric since 2013 and solar water heating since 2011 which is very useful.
114	No, but got REALLY close

NIView - QUESTION NEA3: At any point in the last 24 months have you gone without heating (oil/gas) or electricity as a result of not being able to afford the costs of your energy (e.g. unable to top up your oil tank, unable to put credit on a pre-payment meter or unable to pay a bill).

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – To Answer option No. 8 ‘Any Comments’:

134 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

115	I reckon our household income is average. Our energy expenditure is back now to levels of 3/4 years ago. I Estimate our proportion of income for energy is less than my parents paid in 1960's. We do not need the pensioners heating allowance. I know we are fortunate.
116	Due to reduced income. Sick since October 2023. Awaiting PIPS application. No benefits.
117	I cut down the use to prevent going without.
118	I earn a good enough income to afford it.
119	I do however keep the thermostat at 18°. This is in part to reduce costs but also for environmental reasons.
120	Sit in the freezing cold because our politicians are apparently saving the planet. Their policies are pricing ordinary people out of affordable energy. Of course it doesn't affect the politicians because they award themselves salaries well above the average salary.
121	Just hadn't the money to pay the bill
122	Used less voluntarily
123	Gas too expensive
124	I have, however, restricted shower times and heating in my household.
125	By never having to do this my family have had to do without other things
126	Can light pot belly to heat living room and have heating on less
127	I cannot afford to buy oil in bulk so I have rigged up a small tank on the ground and fill it as I can afford with drums filled up at a garage forecourt and brought home in the boot of my car.
128	Had to wait until payday to top up gas
129	Although we turn in the heating sparingly and turn every appliance not being used off
130	Have only just got a dwelling so have not gotten to that stage.
131	Wearing a coat on to keep warm and
132	Never gone without but make savings in putting on the oven
133	Anyone going without isn't prioritising their £ Heat, electric and food always before luxuries
134	Low wages + Rising Costs. The company's always increase prices during the hardest of months. Monetary gain/profit over human trauma

Question NEA4

NIView - QUESTION NEA4: Are you currently in, or have you at any time in the past 24 months been in, debt to your energy supplier?

NI representative results: Weighted – NI Representative – Poll-Period: 13th-16th September 2024 – 2,696 responses – modelled into a 1,199 NI representative response dataset: Results are NI representative to within an error of +/-2.3%

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total																			
1	YES, currently in debt	4%																				
2	YES, have been in debt at some time in the past 24 months	7%																				
3	NO	87%																				
4	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say	2%																				
Analysis	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Minimum:</td> <td>1.00</td> <td>Mean:</td> <td>2.89</td> <td>Std. Deviation:</td> <td>0.43</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maximum:</td> <td>4.00</td> <td>Variance:</td> <td>0.19</td> <td>Std. Error:</td> <td>0.01</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Satisfaction Rate:</td> <td>62.84</td> <td colspan="4"></td> </tr> </table>		Minimum:	1.00	Mean:	2.89	Std. Deviation:	0.43	Maximum:	4.00	Variance:	0.19	Std. Error:	0.01	Satisfaction Rate:	62.84					Modelled Sample	1,199
	Minimum:	1.00	Mean:	2.89	Std. Deviation:	0.43																
	Maximum:	4.00	Variance:	0.19	Std. Error:	0.01																
Satisfaction Rate:	62.84																					
		Total Responses	2,696																			

Question NEA4a





NIView - QUESTION NEA4a: You answered 'Yes' to the previous question, - We would be grateful if you would tell us approximately the amount of debt you are in, or were in, at any time in the past 24 months to your energy supplier?

NB this is voluntary, - if you don't want to say then please just choose the '.../Prefer not to say' option.

NI representative results: Weighted – NI Representative – Poll-Period: 13th-16th September 2024 – 2,696 responses – modelled into a 1,199 NI representative response dataset:

Results are NI representative to within an error of +/-2.3%





Only asked of those who answered 'Yes' to Options 1 or 2 of Question 4 i.e. 11% of the 'Total Respondents'.

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	up to £100	 3%	
2	£100 to £500	 6%	
3	More than £500	 2%	
4	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say	 0%	
Analysis	Minimum:	1.00	Mean: 2.01
	Maximum:	4.00	Variance: 0.51
	Satisfaction Rate:	33.64	Std. Deviation: 0.71
		Std. Error: 0.05	
		Modelled Sample	1,199
		Total Responses	2,696

Question NEA5

NIView - QUESTION NEA5: Have you or a member of your household had to borrow money to pay for your energy use?

NI representative results: Weighted – NI Representative – Poll-Period: 13th-16th September 2024 – 2,696 responses – modelled into a 1,199 NI representative response dataset: Results are NI representative to within an error of +/-2.3%







Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	YES, on one occasion 	8%	
2	YES, on more than one occasion 	14%	
3	NO 	76%	
4	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say 	2%	
Analysis	Minimum: 1.00	Mean: 2.80	Std. Deviation: 0.56
	Maximum: 4.00	Variance: 0.31	Std. Error: 0.01
	Satisfaction Rate: 59.86		
		Modelled Sample	1,199
		Total Responses	2,696

Question NEA5a

NIView - QUESTION NEA5a: You answered 'Yes' to the previous question, - As such, we would be grateful if you would let us know how/where you borrowed money to pay for your energy use? PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY

NI representative results: Weighted – NI Representative – Poll-Period: 13th-16th September 2024 – 2,696 responses – modelled into a 1,199 NI representative response dataset: Results are NI representative to within an error of +/-2.3%.

Only asked of those who answered ‘Yes’ to Options 1 or 2 of Question 5 i.e. 22% of the ‘Total respondents’. NB the % total is more than 22% in this question, as it was a ‘Tick all that apply’ type question.

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total					
1	Borrowed money from family or friends	 17%						
2	Borrowed money from a bank or credit union	 4%						
3	Borrowed money from a payday lender	 1%						
4	Borrowed money via Credit-Card (i.e. went beyond normal usage of my credit-card)	 6%						
5	None of the above - Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say	 1%						
6	Other (please specify - answer required if ticked):	 See Qualitative Results below						
Analysis	Minimum:	1.00	Mean:	1.92	Std. Deviation:	1.35	Modelled Sample	1,199
	Maximum:	6.00	Variance:	1.83	Std. Error:	0.06		

QUESTION NEA5a: Answers to 'Other' option within question

NIView - QUESTION NEA5a: You answered 'Yes' to the previous question, - As such, we would be grateful if you would let us know how/where you borrowed money to pay for your energy use? PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – Answers to option 'Other': 10 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)











Other (please specify - answer required if ticked): (10)

1	I don't know if this counts but had to use the emergency money from my supplier
2	Foolishly borrowed from a loan shark.
3	Loan shark
4	£5 lend me a fiver from budget energy
5	I lent money to family member
6	Borrowed top up credit off my provider.
7	Social fund budgeting loan
8	Borrowed £5 from supplier paid back next topup
9	Overuse of credit cards
10	Lent money to pay for oil

Question NEA6

NIView - QUESTION NEA6: Did you or any members of your household adopt any of the following behaviours last winter, or within the last 24 months, due to the rising energy prices and the cost of living? PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY

NI representative results: Weighted – NI Representative – Poll-Period: 13th-16th September 2024 – 2,696 responses – modelled into a 1,199 NI representative response dataset: Results are NI representative to within an error of +/-2.3%

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total																
1	Reduced use of central heating in your home.	 70%																	
2	Sitting in a cold house wearing coats, blankets or using a hot water bottle.	 36%																	
3	Skipped meals or reduced the amount of food consumed.	 9%																	
4	Reduced use of hot water, including less frequent showers/baths or washing up with cold water.	 27%																	
5	Relying on emergency credit between paydays.	 11%																	
6	Using credit cards to pay for heating or other essentials.	 12%																	
7	Spending time in heated public spaces like a library or community centre or on public transport.	 8%																	
8	Using alternative heating sources (coal fire, fan heaters etc).	 36%																	
9	NONE - None of the above	 21%																	
10	Other - Please specify (Requires an answer if ticked):	 See Qualitative Results below																	
Analysis	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Minimum:</td> <td>1.00</td> <td>Mean:</td> <td>4.20</td> <td>Std. Deviation:</td> <td>3.14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maximum:</td> <td>10.00</td> <td>Variance:</td> <td>9.88</td> <td>Std. Error:</td> <td>0.05</td> </tr> </table>					Minimum:	1.00	Mean:	4.20	Std. Deviation:	3.14	Maximum:	10.00	Variance:	9.88	Std. Error:	0.05	Modelled Sample	1,199
	Minimum:	1.00	Mean:	4.20	Std. Deviation:	3.14													
Maximum:	10.00	Variance:	9.88	Std. Error:	0.05														
							Total Responses	2,696											

QUESTION NEA6: Answers to 'Other' option within question

NIView - QUESTION NEA6: Did you or any members of your household adopt any of the following behaviours last winter, or within the last 24 months, due to the rising energy prices and the cost of living? PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY
QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – Answers to option 'Other': 50 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

Other - Please specify (Requires an answer if ticked): (50)

1	We actually spent much more on heat because my wife suffered a stroke and became very susceptible to the cold. We could afford it though.
2	Left lights off when not needed.
3	skipped cooking for cold food
4	Added more insulation
5	Electric blanket
6	Reduced use of tumble dryer
7	Shower in work
8	Added lining to all curtains and adopted other measures to avoid having to use the heating as much
9	stay in bed longer
10	Whatever way I could when desperate!
11	Turned of unused radiators
12	Heat one room. Go to office to work rather than work from home and have to heat house
13	I have had to take early retirement due to health issues and have a reduced income. While living costs increases
14	Reducing consumption in other ways
15	Stayed in bed with curtains pulled to survive.
16	Combining use of heated clothes airer as a heat source
17	Spending longer in work for the heating
18	Monitored electricity usage, turning off appliances
19	Spending more time at work for the warmth
20	Bought oil when price was low
21	Conscious of increased oil and electricity charges encouraged or household to reduce usage and also be more environmentally friendly.
22	Reduced use of some rooms to focus heating into a few smaller easier to heat rooms
23	Going to bed at 6.00pm to keep warm
24	pit up curtains over doors




NIView - QUESTION NEA6: Did you or any members of your household adopt any of the following behaviours last winter, or within the last 24 months, due to the rising energy prices and the cost of living? PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY
QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – Answers to option ‘Other’: 50 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

26	Logs for log burner
27	Went to Spain for two months to save money of winter fuel bills!
28	Living and sleeping in the same one heated room only. Using an electric blanket instead of turning the heating on.
29	Going to bed early to avoid heating home
30	Burned timber
31	Wear more layers of clothing.
32	Several households in our family rotated so that we would each gather in one house at a time to share the burden of energy costs/only heat one house at a time
33	Visiting friends/relatives more often to share energy
34	We don't use central heating at all, but have a multi fuel stove
35	Turned the thermostat down
36	but cut use-climate change
37	Not water bottles
38	Thermostat is set lower in spring/summer to 15° and Autumn/Winter around 17°-21°
39	Use blankets to keep warm
40	3 loans from social security still paying them back
41	Reduced use of electricity also
42	A) Do try to keep central heating thermostat as low as possible; and B) Always pay for oil on my credit card (as I'm in a loyalty points scheme with the card provider, which I wouldn't get paying by direct debit) - but I ALWAYS pay off the card's balance in full each month.
43	Choosing to work in office for heat
44	A heated throw and an electric blanket are my best friends. Also, am timing my showers. Knitting rugs to cover a very cold floor.
45	Overdraft used
46	Turned thermostats down a little
47	We always turn radiators off in the rooms we are not in .
48	Just was more aware of on and off times for the boiler.
49	Turn down thermostats in unused rooms
50	Use log burner stove more regularly with wood I have cut down so there is zero cost

Question NEA7

NIView - QUESTION NEA7: Has your health and wellbeing, or any member of your household's, been impacted by the rising energy prices and the cost of living?

NI representative results: Weighted – NI Representative – Poll-Period: 13th-16th September 2024 – 2,696 responses – modelled into a 1,199 NI representative response dataset: Results are NI representative to within an error of +/-2.3%








Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	YES	 31%	
2	NO	 59%	
3	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say	 10%	
Analysis	Minimum:	1.00	Mean: 1.84
	Maximum:	3.00	Std. Deviation: 0.56
	Satisfaction Rate:	42.02	Variance: 0.32
		Std. Error: 0.01	
		Modelled Sample	1,199
		Total Responses	2,696

Question NEA7a

**NIView - QUESTION NEA7a: You answered 'Yes' to the previous question, - As such, please indicate how your, or a member of your household's health and wellbeing has been impacted?
PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY**

NI representative results: Weighted – NI Representative – Poll-Period: 13th-16th September 2024 – 2,696 responses – modelled into a 1,199 NI representative response dataset: Results are NI representative to within an error of +/-2.3%

Only asked of those who answered 'Yes' to Question 7 i.e. 31% of the 'Total Respondents'. NB the % total is more than 31% in this question, as it was a 'Tick all that apply' type question.

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total					
1	Mental health impacts.	 21%						
2	General physical health impacts.	 13%						
3	Deterioration of an existing health condition.	 14%						
4	Requiring more visits to a GP or Hospital.	 5%						
5	NONE - None of the above	 1%						
6	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say	 0%						
7	Other (please specify - particularly if you said None-of-the-above - Requires an answer if ticked):	 See Qualitative Results below						
Analysis	Minimum:	1.00	Mean:	2.18	Std. Deviation:	1.33	Modelled Sample	1,199
	Maximum:	7.00	Variance:	1.77	Std. Error:	0.04		
							Total Responses	2,696

QUESTION NEA7a: Answers to 'Other' option within question

NIView - QUESTION NEA7a: You answered 'Yes' to the previous question, - As such, please indicate how your, or a member of your household's health and wellbeing has been impacted?

PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – Answers to option 'Other': 21 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

Other (please specify - particularly if you said None-of-the-above - Requires an answer if ticked): (21)

1	Stress of heating home. Keeping you g child warm. I will sit in a cold house if child isn't with me
2	Careful with food and shopping costs.
3	Less money to enjoy treats
4	Forgo a holiday to pay for it
5	Just bearing it
6	Feeling stressed generally about cost of food
7	Stress and anxiety
8	Stress, poorer quality food
9	Worry about financial impact
10	Just the concern of how to pay to keep afloat
11	Worry and concern about the future ability to provide heat and food
12	Increased workload to earn more money to pay for increasing bills
13	I started married life with no central heating so know how to manage. it does get you down after a while as I'm not as young as I used to be and life is supposed to improve as you get older.
14	Disabled son's health has deteriorated, impact on my mental health
15	Constant worry. No WFA more worry.
16	Wmt to buy first home, can't afford to
17	constantly worrying about the local tempreure
18	You cannot explain why to kids who don't know what the situation is to sacrifice one thing to ensure another
19	I have a lung condition plus anxiety. Both worsened
20	Run down immune system, more colds and coughs
21	Living in a colder house

Question NEA8

NIView – QUESTION NEA8: Has your, or any member of your household’s quality of life been impacted by the rising energy prices and the cost of living?

NI representative results: Weighted – NI Representative – Poll-Period: 13th-16th September 2024 – 2,696 responses – modelled into a 1,199 NI representative response dataset: Results are NI representative to within an error of +/-2.3%








Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	YES	44%	
2	NO	50%	
3	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say	6%	
Analysis	Minimum:	1.00	Mean: 1.66
	Maximum:	3.00	Variance: 0.34
	Satisfaction Rate:	33.21	Std. Deviation: 0.58
		Modelled Sample	1,199
		Total Responses	2,696

Question NEA8a

NIView - QUESTION NEA8a: You answered 'Yes' to the previous question, - As such, please indicate how your, or a member of your household's quality of life has been impacted. PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY

NI representative results: Weighted – NI Representative – Poll-Period: 13th-16th September 2024 – 2,696 responses – modelled into a 1,199 NI representative response dataset: Results are NI representative to within an error of +/-2.3%

Only asked of those who answered 'Yes' to Question 8 i.e. 44% of the 'Total Respondents'. NB the % total is more than 44% in this question, as it was a 'Tick all that apply' type question.

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total																	
1	You and/or a member of your household have had to reduce (or stop altogether) going out for meals or getting takeaways	 34%																		
2	You and/or a member of your household have had to reduce (or stop altogether) the number of times you go to sports clubs or have had to cancel any gym/ fitness memberships you have	 15%																		
3	You and/or a member of your household have had to reduce (or stop altogether) going out to recreational activities (e.g. Cinema, Concerts or day trips)	 32%																		
4	You and/or a member of your household have had to cancel subscriptions for streaming or entertainment services (e.g. Netflix, Disney Plus, Apple TV, Sky TV, Spotify etc)	 24%																		
5	NONE - None of the above	 1%																		
6	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say	 1%																		
7	Other (please specify - particularly if you said None-of-the-above - Requires an answer if ticked):	 See Qualitative Results below																		
Analysis	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Minimum:</td> <td>1.00</td> <td>Mean:</td> <td>2.61</td> <td>Std. Deviation:</td> <td>1.41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maximum:</td> <td>7.00</td> <td>Variance:</td> <td>1.99</td> <td>Std. Error:</td> <td>0.03</td> </tr> </table>						Minimum:	1.00	Mean:	2.61	Std. Deviation:	1.41	Maximum:	7.00	Variance:	1.99	Std. Error:	0.03	Modelled Sample	1,199
	Minimum:	1.00	Mean:	2.61	Std. Deviation:	1.41														
Maximum:	7.00	Variance:	1.99	Std. Error:	0.03															
								Total Responses	2,696											

QUESTION NEA8a: Answers to 'Other' option within question

NIView - QUESTION NEA8a: You answered 'Yes' to the previous question, - As such, please indicate how your, or a member of your household's quality of life has been impacted.

PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – Answers to option 'Other': 63 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

Other (please specify - particularly if you said None-of-the-above - Requires an answer if ticked): (63)

1	Kept a stream of netflix. Don't pay for TV licence as can't afford to have ariel fixed and child would stream netflix quicker than TV
2	Visitors have commented it's cold in my home which prevents visits. Isolation.
3	Reduced use of hot water
4	The general misery of living in a cold house
5	skipping buying clothes
6	Had to buy chainsaw to cut wood
7	Didn't go on holiday this year
8	Changed brands of groceries I buy
9	I had to take a food delivery job for extra income
10	Reduced the frequency/number of charities I donate to.
11	Buy cheaper versions of food items.
12	All luxuries are cancelled as non-essential for survival.
13	Less money for the future/savings
14	Housemate is on benefits and has had to drastically cut back on expenses with the rising costs
15	less weekend breaks
16	I haven't done any of the above.....for many years.... cause I've not been able to afford them...
17	Discount shopping only, ie yellow stickers
18	Never buy branded food products anymore has to be store brand only to be affordable
19	Only use the car once a week for shopping. No days out etc
20	Cut down on food and clothes shop.
21	Cancelling other subscriptions
22	Cheaper weekly food options, Cut out luxury foods like desserts etc, Less new clothes
23	Don't go out to gyms cinema, clubs and don't subscribe to sky Netflix etc

NIView - QUESTION NEA8a: You answered 'Yes' to the previous question, - As such, please indicate how your, or a member of your household's quality of life has been impacted.

PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – Answers to option 'Other': 63 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

24	Reduce our shopping for food and household items
25	Mental health has suffered due to worry about making ends meet
26	Less travel
27	Charity donations, union membership fees, book subscription
28	Reduce trips away
29	I don't have any money for sky TV apple or them things
30	I don't measure quality of life in any of the above ways. Having to hand over ludicrous sums of money to energy companies of course limits disposable income but it's also extremely dispiriting, irritating, feelings that impact life quality
31	Increased anxiety about energy (electric and gas) usage and installing electronics/thermostats to keep better control.
32	Have been quite cold at times, necessitating a changed lifestyle.
33	Working extra hours to make up the shortfall to pay bills
34	Also cut back on the food we buy.
35	Cancelled kids extra curricular activities due to cost
36	Husband has had to reduce his fishing time. This has impacted his mental health and everyone in the household has suffered as a result.
37	Wearing more clothes to combat cold
38	Changed shopping habits
39	Reluctant to turn up the heat.
40	The buying of quantity of food.
41	Over the past 3 years subscription fees have been dropped from local leisure centre and TV, retained 1 subscription but expect it to go in November
42	Cook less, so less washing to do as the gas is too expensive. Quality of meals has been reduced
43	I couldn't afford streaming services anyways never had them unless a free offer then stop them before payment. Much prefer heating and some food to live it's just existing now
44	The more we spend on inflated energy (well assisted by Government) the less we have left to pay for other "" essentials)
45	Cut back on daily vitamins etc
46	Reduced spending on holidays
47	House less warm during the day
48	My wife has had to go back to Full time employment as a result of the cost of living.

NIView - QUESTION NEA8a: You answered 'Yes' to the previous question, - As such, please indicate how your, or a member of your household's quality of life has been impacted. PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY
QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – Answers to option 'Other': 63 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

49	My house is 1-2C colder in heating season, and I eat cheaper food e.g. less meat
50	Can never afford to do any of the above
51	Impacted our Mental Health.
52	Tv licence- being Threatened warrant fine
53	Feeling inadequate and angry due to high fuel costs (having to use heated blankets in evenings/having to carry logs and coal into the house.
54	Less holidays
55	Just less money in my pocket and more money to the Rip off Electric & gas companies
56	Are economical all the time
57	Led to anxiety about finding money to pay energy bills.
58	Cancelled subscriptions eg hello fresh, makeup and wine club,
59	Working extra to keep dept free
60	I am a pensioner and have to keep working
61	Being cold more of the time, trying to use less heating
62	Going to bed early to save on heating costs
63	Sourcing cheap/alternative wood supplies for log burner

Question NEA9

NIView - QUESTION NEA9: Are you worried about paying for your energy costs?

NI representative results: Weighted – NI Representative – Poll-Period: 13th-16th September 2024 – 2,696 responses – modelled into a 1,199 NI representative response dataset: Results are NI representative to within an error of +/-2.3%

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total																		
1	YES, I am worried about paying for energy at present	9%																			
2	YES, I am worried about paying for energy in the coming winter.	37%																			
3	YES, I am worried about paying for energy at present and in the coming winter	11%																			
4	NO	39%																			
5	Don't Know/Not Sure/Prefer not to say	4%																			
Analysis	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Minimum:</td> <td>1.00</td> <td>Mean:</td> <td>3.08</td> <td>Std. Deviation:</td> <td>1.10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maximum:</td> <td>5.00</td> <td>Variance:</td> <td>1.21</td> <td>Std. Error:</td> <td>0.02</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Satisfaction Rate:</td> <td>51.89</td> <td colspan="4"></td> </tr> </table>	Minimum:	1.00	Mean:	3.08	Std. Deviation:	1.10	Maximum:	5.00	Variance:	1.21	Std. Error:	0.02	Satisfaction Rate:	51.89					Modelled Sample	1,199
	Minimum:	1.00	Mean:	3.08	Std. Deviation:	1.10															
	Maximum:	5.00	Variance:	1.21	Std. Error:	0.02															
Satisfaction Rate:	51.89																				
		Total Responses	2,696																		

Question NEA10

**NIView - QUESTION NEA10: Which of the following actions do you think would be most helpful for the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive to take to tackle fuel poverty in Northern Ireland?
PLEASE TICK UP TO THREE (3) OPTIONS, I.E. 1, 2, OR 3 CHOICES**

**NI representative results: Weighted – NI Representative – Poll-Period: 13th-16th September 2024
– 2,696 responses – modelled into a 1,199 NI representative response dataset:
Results are NI representative to within an error of +/-2.3%**

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total													
1	Set a statutory target to reduce fuel poverty	34%														
2	Introduce minimum energy efficiency standards (EPC) for domestic private rented properties	21%														
3	Provide greater financial assistance with energy bills for low income and vulnerable households, including emergency support	49%														
4	Expand schemes that provide financial support to improve the energy efficiency of homes	51%														
5	Commit to annual monitoring and reporting on Fuel Poverty rates	13%														
6	Implement recommended guidelines on tackling excess winter deaths	15%														
7	Provide extra support and assistance to transition those reliant on home heating oil to other heating technologies	26%														
8	Work with relevant organisations to extend the provision of energy efficiency advice and training	15%														
9	NONE - None of the above	6%														
10	Other - Please specify (Requires an answer if ticked):	See Qualitative Results below														
Analysis	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Minimum:</td> <td>1.00</td> <td>Mean:</td> <td>4.32</td> <td>Std. Deviation:</td> <td>2.43</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maximum:</td> <td>10.00</td> <td>Variance:</td> <td>5.91</td> <td>Std. Error:</td> <td>0.03</td> </tr> </table>		Minimum:	1.00	Mean:	4.32	Std. Deviation:	2.43	Maximum:	10.00	Variance:	5.91	Std. Error:	0.03	Modelled Sample	1,199
	Minimum:	1.00	Mean:	4.32	Std. Deviation:	2.43										
Maximum:	10.00	Variance:	5.91	Std. Error:	0.03											
			Total Responses	2,696												

QUESTION NEA10: Answers to 'Other' option within question

NIView - QUESTION NEA10: Which of the following actions do you think would be most helpful for the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive to take to tackle fuel poverty in Northern Ireland?

PLEASE TICK UP TO THREE (3) OPTIONS, I.E. 1, 2, OR 3 CHOICES

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – Answers to option 'Other': 258 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

Other - Please specify (Requires an answer if ticked): (258)

1	Send the illegal immigrants home and save millions for the local people
2	Cap profits made by energy providers
3	Reintroduce insulation schemes for all properties over 20 years old, not means tested
4	Call it out for what it is, proxy wars to hike prices supported by global industry. Capitalism in effect.
6	Our house has an epc of 99/101 it costs aprox £50 a year in electric and £150 to heat it with hot water for free when heating is on
7	Price cap energy costs.
8	Provide more affordable energy
9	Return to direct rule.
10	Scrap standing charges on gas and electric
11	price cap
12	Abolish green Levy's as they put up costs
13	More regulation on price of heating and electricity
14	There is a need to ditch the Net Zero targets and the renewable energy which is driving up bills (they claim the opposite but that's not true). There is a need to explore Nuclear energy to provide reliable cheap energy.
15	Realise a lot of people burn wood and coal to keep warm. At least you can store ahead of time.
16	Cap energy prices
17	Provide grants for more energy efficient boilers for everyone.
18	Reinstate the winter fuel allowance which was withdrawn by UK government
19	Stop energy companies from price gouging
20	Doesn't matter what I say, Stormont is a disgrace and couldn't organise a drink up in a brewery. The assembly members are probably the biggest waste of money to everyone else in the country
21	Help working families more
22	Campaign to tax energy companies profits more
23	Put an appropriate windfall tax on energy companies who all have made billions out of peoples misery in recent years ., that's what should be done and put that in your poll findings .. it isn't even an option to tick here

NIView - QUESTION NEA10: Which of the following actions do you think would be most helpful for the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive to take to tackle fuel poverty in Northern Ireland?

PLEASE TICK UP TO THREE (3) OPTIONS, I.E. 1, 2, OR 3 CHOICES

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – Answers to option ‘Other’: 258 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

24	They should take full control of all energy it should be government run only greedy fat cats are profiting of people who can't afford their bills
25	Abandon some of the insane net zero crap and focus on putting money back in people's pockets
26	Public enquiry into pricing of energy
27	Tackle the rigged energy market. More renewables
28	Retrofitting support
29	Restore winter allowance for pensioners
30	We seem to live in a world were people feel entitled, I rem the days of no central heating and single pane windows. If somebody is cold put on a coat
31	Help all families working poor
32	Develop/support widespread conversion of domestic premises to renewables & lower energy consumption measures.
33	Teach people to budget and cut there cloth accordingly
34	Cap price increases and tax excessive profits
35	People who have worked over 40 years to get a voucher
36	If prices surge in winter, a price guarantee scheme that guarantees the first 1800kWh of electricity and the first 6000kWh of gas are pegged at an affordable price. Excessive users can pay the market value beyond that.
37	Provide grants luke the rest of the UK for solar panels so households can be less dependent on fossil fuels and reduce bills.
38	Reform the electricity market so that end consumers aren't ripped off
40	Introduce social tariffs for pensioners and vulnerable
41	Government to control/own gas and electricity companies. Both are making profits at expense of customers
42	Generate more electricity to make energy cheaper.
43	Reduce costs for every person not just those on benefits. I don't get any benefits and cannot afford to eat out or go on holidays change car etc. those on Benefits are able to eat out get dla car go on holiday something wrong somewhere
44	Encourage more drilling and fracking to reduce energy costs
45	How much profit do the providers gain versus the Govt charging taxes? le is them being privatised the better option?
46	I am an OAP, i do not qualify for pension credit or any other benefits. I am just above the level set. I am still poor
47	Put a cap on charges by energy firms- they are making huge profits while people, especially pensioners and low income earners suffer...

NIView - QUESTION NEA10: Which of the following actions do you think would be most helpful for the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive to take to tackle fuel poverty in Northern Ireland?

PLEASE TICK UP TO THREE (3) OPTIONS, I.E. 1, 2, OR 3 CHOICES

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – Answers to option ‘Other’: 258 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

48	Force energy companies to reduce their prices
49	Get more economically inactive into work to earn higher household income to improve ability to comfortably pay energy bills
50	Lobby energy companies to keep prices down. Some elderly live in large houses which they can't afford to heat , so provision of green energy schemes would be helpful... cheap solar batteries etc
51	Influence energy price cap
52	reduce price
53	Invest massively in transmission and wind turbines and we'll be free of fossil fuels altogether
54	Set a cap on energy prices
55	Honestly, they would all be effective, but what is the point in ticking any of them? What's the point when we have a cardboard cut out of a government? Nothing will change, we'll just continue to deteriorate.
56	Find ways to stop providers raising costs
57	Set price for oil and electricity so as the big companies can't make millions
58	Lobby the government more to implement a windfall tax on the multi million pound profit energy firms.
59	Introduce a solar / wind feed-in tariff.
60	Reduce the exorbitant taxes and charges by the government, and costs by the power companies themselves who gain obscene profits.
61	Im just above the u/c cut off point so don't have the extras. This should be looked at.. also the increase in the night rate of electricity shot up from 7p a unit to 18p a unit last rise . Its really bad for people who took the advice and got new "smart" clean energy storage heaters. .i know of people who dare'nt turn them on . This is never ever mentioned . (The increase in night rate vs day rate)
62	Better regulation of energy sector
63	Less tax on oil and gas
64	Would be good if stormont could increase tax on energy suppliers and oil/petrol suppliers
65	Publicise and educate the community in financial planning for expected Higher spending months of the year and to take responsibility for themselves. Tighter scrutiny and heavier penalties for those that dodge paying for electricity.
66	Retain the winter fuel allowance for pensioners.
67	Increase financial threshold for winter fuel payment
68	Energy companies large profits should be taxed and this used to help customers with bills
69	Explore development and provision of district heating schemes and combined heat and power schemes
70	Many Unemployed should not get heating help as many on 30 to 40k in benefits

NIView - QUESTION NEA10: Which of the following actions do you think would be most helpful for the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive to take to tackle fuel poverty in Northern Ireland?

PLEASE TICK UP TO THREE (3) OPTIONS, I.E. 1, 2, OR 3 CHOICES

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – Answers to option ‘Other’: 258 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

71	Tax the utilities and use the money to reduce everyone’s bills
72	Gas is very cheap now no need for high prices to the end user
73	Do something to help all families not just the ones on benefits - from what I can see the lower end of working families not on benefits (like us) are really struggling & do not get any help but just turn the heat off & freeze instead
74	Encourage greater number of providers to encourage competition to push down prices
75	All of the above
76	Switch the emphasis to renewables. I have geothermal heating, PV panels and, solar panels.so now fuel problems and no carbon footprint.
77	become less reliant on buying foreign energy and invest in a nuclear capability to produce energy (France an excellent example)
78	Tackling the cost of fuel is beyond the NI government’s control however the most vulnerable i.e the elderly need help with fuel costs. I don’t think people need educated on how to save energy it’s common knowledge. I think the only solution is address the energy providers who are crippling people
79	I wish politicians remembered its the people who work on average salaries who pay for all the support for everyone else but get nothing in return. I would love to insulate my property but I can't afford it, but I help pay for the scheme for those on less to no income. It's not fair.
80	Price caps for energy
81	Greater tax on energy companies to invest in renewable energy
82	Price grouping by energy firms who are making billions
84	Support solar panel and battery installations along with dynamic pricing to avail of electricity when it is cheap.
85	Order energy companies to reduce their standing charges
86	People should be paid a decent wage for the work they do. A wage that they can live on
87	Provide grants for solar panels
88	Cap energy supplier charging at lower levels for heating oil and electricity. Reduce taxation on electricity/heating oil.
89	TAX the greedy profiteers
90	Proper regulation of energy suppliers - price caps, caps on profits. Or bring energy supply back into public ownership. Start green renewable energy projects & supply energy from these via publicly owned energy Cos with price controls.
91	They need to robustly challenge energy companies profiteering in £bs whilst continuing to increase energy prices
92	Nationalise all amenities.
93	Harsh restrictions on price rises by energy companies.
94	Address the root cause of the problem which is energy companies ripping people off to make huge profits

NIView - QUESTION NEA10: Which of the following actions do you think would be most helpful for the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive to take to tackle fuel poverty in Northern Ireland?

PLEASE TICK UP TO THREE (3) OPTIONS, I.E. 1, 2, OR 3 CHOICES

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – Answers to option ‘Other’: 258 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

95	Reverse the winter payment decision
96	I live on a street with a Lpg system run by Calor Gas. We cannot change provider unless the entire street agree to change. An opportunity that only comes around every two years. We are trapped effectively in a monopoly as there are roughly 50 houses and no way to get the majority to agree to change because there is no collective, community group to tackle it and we are only given a few weeks notice before each chance comes around.
97	Control energy company profits
98	There should be a minimum energy standard for all homes in Northern Ireland, not just privately rented.
99	Transparency on global energy prices and caps.
100	Place price caps on what energy companies can charge.
101	Social tariffs for heat & electricity for low income households
102	Demand energy companies to lower prices, they can afford to, what with record profits in the last 2 years
103	Cap energy company profits and/or tax higher.
104	More help is needed for those just working and living on the breadline. I work in retail and its a kick in the teeth paying out free £49 vouchers to people and your meter is beeping at home and you're not entitled to help. Some collect their benefits on a monday and are in every month with free fuel vouchers. Some dont speak english and some are in with their winemark bags and claiming free fuel.
105	Cap prices
106	Empower the regulatory body to enforce price cap
107	Nationalise the energy providers!
108	tackle the profiteering of the big oil companies who under pay tax and make huge profits
109	Pay enter fuel allowance
110	Stop energy companies ripping us off and making excessive profits
111	Government needs to force energy companies to reduce prices as the profits are excessive. Government should be building nuclear power stations to reduce dependence on gas for generating electricity. Wind and solar are not enough
112	Bring energy prices down to an affordable level. Oil companies are making huge profits at the expense of the people.
113	Lower energy prices by reducing expensive green energy schemes that make no difference to global emmissions.
114	Cap the amount energy companies charge or tax them more and give every household £ back. It cannot just be given to those on benefits. 60 % of them people are bluffers
115	Elderly are most affected by the cold and being retired I spend more time in the house. All forms of heating should be subsidized. It should not be means tested.
116	Use statutory powers to reduce excessive profiteering

NIView - QUESTION NEA10: Which of the following actions do you think would be most helpful for the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive to take to tackle fuel poverty in Northern Ireland?

PLEASE TICK UP TO THREE (3) OPTIONS, I.E. 1, 2, OR 3 CHOICES

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – Answers to option ‘Other’: 258 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

117	Lobby for greater taxation of energy companies and press for the cessation of renewable tariffs being still pegged to natural gas price!
118	Bring the price of fuels down ! Government has far too big a cut of it
119	Scrap the net zero madness and spend the millions in areas where it's actually needed.
120	The Assembly needs to be less anti-green in terms of approving solar farms and off-shore wind banks by addressing the environmental constraints and removing the red-lines which restrict the Planning Authority and slow down the approval process.
121	Re-introduce winter fuel payments for pensioners.
122	Reduce the reliance on a benefit system that means people are better off by not working and support those who are struggling who try to remain work.
123	Bring back winter fuel payments to pensioners
124	Stop subsidy to energy companies by UKG. Record profits mean capitalism is the real issue. Failure if government policy to rectify.
125	Reduce the price of electricity which is magnitudes more expensive than the USA
126	Stop excessive profits causing poverty. Cap the dividend or share them.
127	tax the energy companies or get them to reduce prices and stop fleecing everyone
128	Although I know because of this Westminster government there will be no money for our government to implement any of these
129	Tell people to get their priorities right. Stop spending money on drink, drugs and gambling and look after their families instead. It's not the government's responsibility to heat people.
130	A blanket reduction of all taxes on all fuels. Grant the shell gas license in the Sperrins and the Pennines. Expand gas/oil exploration in North Sea and off NI's north coast. Build nuclear power stations throughout the UK - one for every region. We need cheap energy because cheap energy saves lives, lowers costs and increases the quality of life amongst the living. Any scheme that involves increasing public expenditure cannot work because the country is already in debt - we're broke - so the solution must be cheap energy. We should not be taking out more loans in order to cater for current costs which are self-inflicted, so we need cheap energy.
131	cap the cost of home heating fuel by oil/gas companies
132	Tax on energy companies. Money used to reduce bills
133	Give the heating allowance to pensioners which helps a lot. Strange MPs get it but we don't
134	Take steps to address low pay
135	Windfall tax on profiteering energy companies used to reduce energy costs for customers.
136	Cap the costs that energy companies can charge.
137	Greater regulation of energy companies

NIView - QUESTION NEA10: Which of the following actions do you think would be most helpful for the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive to take to tackle fuel poverty in Northern Ireland?

PLEASE TICK UP TO THREE (3) OPTIONS, I.E. 1, 2, OR 3 CHOICES

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – Answers to option ‘Other’: 258 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

138	Stop taking money off people. Improve wages and our standard of living will Improve. Take a windfall tax off the energy companies to pay for it all. Stop trying to use people's lack of money to pay for astronomical energy costs as a way to introduce Net Zero targets. Look at China and India's co2 emissions, they're building a new coal plant every week! Wake up.
139	Close Stormont down and give the money it costs to run it to vulnerable people
140	Encourage energy companies to revise their pricing given the huge profits being made
141	Fund alternative energy sources such as wind and wave and let NI become energy independent
142	Get energy retailers to introduce a social tariff.
143	Ensure all new properties are energy efficient and literally have built in energy saving measures.
144	Restore the Heating Allowance for ALL Pensioners
145	Tax the rich!
146	Challenge the greed of the energy companies
148	Carry out investigation into heating oil companies and their pricing strategies
149	Tax heavily, the energy/oil companies for excessive
150	Reinstate winter fuel payment.
151	Actually try utilising wind and water resources we have here to reduce dependence on imported energy
152	Nationalization of all energy providers
153	Limit the profits that energy suppliers can make
155	Remove VAT from domestic energy
156	Tell the fuel companies to stop gouging us!
157	I think those relying on welfare benefits for heating should be allocated an amount of credit with their fuel provider and not given cash payments and so avoid not having access to heat/energy
158	Put pressure on UK gov to reduce prices / profits
159	price cap
160	Work with energy companies to retrofit existing homes with insulation, solar panels, air source heating piv, and heat reclaim systems with a repayment at similar cost to what we are already pay for energy.
161	Reduce the cost of oil as profiteering appears to be massive?
162	People adapt and make adjustments to maintain the level of care they need Phone is 5 yr old, car is 20 tr old that I can maintain myself But speaking to a girl recently that had previously blown up her last car through not servicing it.....
163	Encourage use of solar panels and increase feed in tarrifs

NIView - QUESTION NEA10: Which of the following actions do you think would be most helpful for the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive to take to tackle fuel poverty in Northern Ireland?

PLEASE TICK UP TO THREE (3) OPTIONS, I.E. 1, 2, OR 3 CHOICES

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – Answers to option ‘Other’: 258 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

164	Provide support for households to transition to clean energy sources (eg solar panels)
165	Stop letting the energy companys make massive profits and dodge tax
166	Introduce strict legislation to cap price hikes from energy companies to completely prevent corporate profiteering
167	Cap prices. Abolish vat on fuel
168	Invest heavily in renewable, solar and air energy
169	Make gas widely available to replace oil
170	Top up low pensions, often received by women and those who have looked after others (unpaid carers).
171	Developing an energy strategy to combat fuel poverty and climate change
172	Introduce cheaper discounted prices for fuel for families and individuals on lower rate incomes that the fuel providers subsidise along with government.
173	For people using metering top up services should never be penalised for using this method of service
174	Stop sending unspent money back to the chancellor - invest it in insulation schemes.
175	Legislation to curb energy companies' charges.
176	Target the energy providers for unscrupulous rises in unit costs whilst they enjoy ridiculous profits.
177	I have solar panels which reduce my bills. I think government should be fitting these for everybody
178	Start fracing for oil and gas so less reliant on imports
179	stop the net zero madness
180	Instead of asking the working Taxpayer to stomp up more money for :'' Benefits'' why dont Govt address the monstrous Profits the energy compnies are creaming off us ?????
181	Reduce VAT
182	Cap the energy companies.
183	More green energy
184	Better regulation of energy providers who are capitalising on people's in ability to pay
185	Impose cap on energy providers prices
186	Full move away from fossil fuels to each home generating their own energy. Instead of rewarding greed & profiteering
187	Changes to the failed regulator are needed. Basing prices on the most expensive generation costs whilst provider make record profits is insane. On top of that we are being asked to subsidise the same "green" energy despite companies making massive profits off it.
188	It is an issue for Westminster

NIView - QUESTION NEA10: Which of the following actions do you think would be most helpful for the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive to take to tackle fuel poverty in Northern Ireland?

PLEASE TICK UP TO THREE (3) OPTIONS, I.E. 1, 2, OR 3 CHOICES

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – Answers to option ‘Other’: 258 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

189	Stop the rush to net zero, wind farms and solar farms are not green and not the answer. We should be changing cars and oil to biofuels.
190	Apply cap on the profits of energy providers
191	Scrap net zero. Drill for our own British oil in the north sea
192	Insulate all housing stock to a high standard
193	Renewable local sources of energy to establish steady supply
194	I don't think Stormont is capable of anything useful.
195	Renationalise electricity supply & cap prices. Privatised Cos in the energy sector are price rinsing the consumer.
196	Restore universal entitlement of WFP.
197	Tackle energy company greed
198	Tax big energy companies on their massive profits to ensure customers are not being ripped off.
199	reduce the cost of oil and gas.
200	Reduce fuel company profits by letting them cover the cost gap
201	It's well past time that government/local government told private energy companies that they are not allowed to increase fuel anymore...
202	Prevent big companies making a fortune out of fuel, but rather set a limit on their profit which would keep prices down
203	Lobby government to scrap VAT on energy and get rid of the green levies. Build a nuclear power station in Northern Ireland.
204	Educate the public that the energy they use from fossil fuels leads to climate change.
205	cap on the energy companies profits. Prices going up but also profits, doesnt fit the narrative we are being told
206	Ensure costs of oil and gas as well as electricity are better regulated
207	They are totally useless - the words piss up and brewery come to mind
208	Insist that all new homes are fitted with solar technology for electricity and for water heating.
209	Hit the energy companies' profits and bonuses
210	Set an energy price cap this is reflective of Average annual incomes
211	Nationalise the energy companies. Or at a minimum force them to lower their prices. They are making record profits and continue to raise prices. Meanwhile the rest of Europe is seeing prices fall
212	Support those that are working. Between fuel, child care costs and mortgage rates we are crippled and get no help. Everything has went up but wages as a public sector worker are not matching.

NIView - QUESTION NEA10: Which of the following actions do you think would be most helpful for the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive to take to tackle fuel poverty in Northern Ireland?

PLEASE TICK UP TO THREE (3) OPTIONS, I.E. 1, 2, OR 3 CHOICES

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – Answers to option ‘Other’: 258 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

213	Energy price caps
214	Just reduce energy bills for ALL households as they are ridiculously high
215	Seek was to reduce the overall cost of energy instead of throwing money at the suppliers
216	Nationalise energy companies and tax profits.
217	Get people to accept responsibility for themselves and stop Elon handouts!!!!
218	Restore pensioner £300
219	More renewable such as solar, air source, tidal & hydro
220	Force the energy suppliers to reduce the charges
221	Make energy affordable.
222	Cut energy company profiteering. Nationalise aspects of energy provision
223	Implement and subsidise more sustainable energy sources.
224	Reinstate winter fuel for all pensioners under 20K income
225	Retrofitting homes.
226	Force energy companies to charge fairly and tax them on windfalls
227	Ensure energy suppliers keep costs in line with other parts of the UK. In my own house, we are currently paying at least £1500 per year more for fuel and electricity than many other parts of the UK. Northern Irish prices are always significantly dearer! The Assembly need to address this as a matter of urgency.
228	Introduce minimum energy standards for NIHE properties
229	Lower the cost associated with fuel across the board
230	Set limits on how much energy providers can charge as current energy regulator not working.
231	Cap the price of fuel.
232	Strategies to reduce the cost of energy
233	Green energy grants/loans
234	Implement an energy cap and charge higher rate of tax on all profits made by energy suppliers.
235	Stop changing the people to pay for silly green energy policies.
236	set a maximum price, energy companies are ripping people off.
237	Move to green technology ASAP. Subsidise Solar panels on all suitable homes. Solar panels on car parks. Upgrade the electricity network to enable more energy supply from wind. Become self sufficient in energy so as not dependent on imports and global market prices. No fracking, this is not a solution.

NIView - QUESTION NEA10: Which of the following actions do you think would be most helpful for the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive to take to tackle fuel poverty in Northern Ireland?

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QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – Answers to option ‘Other’: 258 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

238	Cap the prices the energy providers can charge
239	Cap energy prices
240	Widen the number of fuel types that can be used to drive down the price. Allow for burning of fuels eg peat, coal, etc.
241	Consider babies and the elderly in the case of a harsh and severe winter
242	nationalise energy suppliers
243	Bring back winter fuel payments for pensioner..& stop funding illegal immigrants in hotels...
244	Make energy firms reduce prices of they have high profit
245	Make better use of fossil fuels to reduce cost of electricity and spend less government funding on wind and solar power which are not cheap nor reliable,
246	introduce more providers into the Electricity Market such as Octopus Energy or Eon as Power NI prices are substantially above the wholesale prices of gas which sets the KWH prices, would like a breakdown of how much renewable energy is a component of my bill and why I see no reduction from renewables as the wind is free.
247	I don't think the assembly can do anything. Labour government should tax the high profits the energy companies are making and relocate the money to take the pressure off the general public
248	Introduce a cap on the amount per unit that gas / oil and electricity providers can charge consumers.
249	Bring pricing in line with rest of the UK - our gas is still much more expensive
250	Introduce a special low cost electricity tariff for the elderly and sick
251	Put a cap on the amount of profit energy companies can make
252	Tax the fuel companies better, they make obscene profits
253	Force electric companies to reduce there charges for electricity as Northern ireland electric isn't generated by gas or oil yet the prices are set by oil and gas prices
254	Petition the government to change the energy market away from setting prices related to wholesale gas prices and allow real competition and allow renewables to help combat price fluctuations. The sun and wind aren't affected by middle east conflict or big businesses profiteering
255	Work with partners to speed up the adoption of renewable methane and hydrogen so we are less reliant on international market fluctuations. Introduce more segregated gas networks to guarantee revenue for renewable gas companies so they know they have a route ti market. Adopt more battery storage solutions so they can be charged at low prices and discharged at high prices.
256	Push Westminster for Windfall tax on oil/gas giants making huge profits and return that to customers.
257	All the Energy Companies have massive increases in their profits and I would like the Government to Tax them on that Profit to help pay for those who need help to heat their Homes
258	Introduce price caps.

FINAL COMMENTS SECTION – Voluntary comments:

POLL-SURVEY CLOSE: FINAL COMMENTS (optional):

Any further final comments, regarding this poll-survey, 'Fuel Poverty' in NI, and/or current NI Energy issues and topics....? If no comments - please leave blank

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – FINAL COMMENTS (Voluntary): 319 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Open-Ended Question	100.00%	319
2	NI government needs to commit to retrofitting homes to improve thermal performance and reduce fuel poverty. Funding is available from the UK decarbonisation fund and this should be ringfenced for this purpose rather than just being included in overall funding.		
3	"Cost of living crisis' utter nonsense. Planned and executed by those in power.		
4	Poverty needs to be tackled in N Ireland. Regulation over costs and support for those on oil to manage to pay over time period with the housing oil scheme.		
6	We minimise oil by using coal and supplementing with wood gathered from our trees. Any moves to ban open fires would put greater pressure on us as more income would be needed for heating we also invested in solar panels which keep electricity costs down		
7	We live in a rural area and rely on oil for heating. Also the price of electricity is going up and up. Last quarter bill was £40 more and less energy was used		
8	Before COVID no problem. Paying for that huge scam.		
9	Government assistance is needed for all homes to make the transition to solar energy, reducing the cost of heat pumps, community wind energy etc.		
10	The Green agenda has pushed to costs for everyone. Government more worried about environmental targets rather than people health. Uk produces low emission the US and china wont change if it affect their people. Green technology is still not matured enough to make it cost effective or cheap enough for normal people		
11	While we are relatively well off in terms of income, we find the gas bills daunting at times and we have already been saving since May for the Christmas period gas bill.		
12	Electric or gas you can't budget ahead of time for. Renewable energy is not working.		
13	Home heating grants should not be means tested. Middle class income for. It mean there is the money to heat proof your house(which is very expensive. Got quoted five thousand pounds for new cavity wall insulation recently). Just means more money spent on oil and electricity and this the environment is worse off.		
14	Bring these private energy suppliers into public ownership		
15	This place (NI) does not work. We are being failed by a British government who don't want us, yet we're chained to them & it's only harming people here. Even devolution isn't working because we need fiscal autonomy which we presently don't have		
16	Is anyone monitoring the cost of energy & the profits from energy industry Falling prices in Europe rising prices in uk		
17	An amount that a couple or a single person need to live on should be set (go up yearly with inflation).		
19	Instead of making people beg for help or answer 243 questions could the government not set an amount say the real living wage currently 25k app anyone less than this income should automatically get winter fuel allowance or tax the energy company's whose profits have increase x8 fold ceo's earning 7million pounds a year plus bonus and pension .Labour have abandoned the working class.		

POLL-SURVEY CLOSE: FINAL COMMENTS (optional):

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QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – FINAL COMMENTS (Voluntary): 319 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

20	Thank God for my electric blanket..last winter I couldn't afford much gas to heat my flat. And the damp and condensation was running down the walls..some of my skirting bored was black with mould..
21	No hare brained Assembly ideas please that end up being a horrendous waste of money creating pointless jobs with ridiculous salaries. Making certain that retail prices rise and fall with wholesale prices, then enforcing laws around price gouging or fixing, is all that is necessary.
22	I have recently made good in my financial and work life but ten years ago as a single father I loved my kids coming to see me - (obvious reasons but the other reason was I could also turn the heating on) I was on an average wage but courts insisted I pay crazy money in maintenance payments even tho I had 50% custody of my kids. Single fathers on average wage would fall through any safety net proposed today.
23	Changed from heating oil to coal last winter because of the cost of heating oil and the house itself isn't insulated enough for heating oil
24	Profits made by energy companies should be controlled by government
25	Promote sustainable energy in all new build
26	Government should reinstate WFA to more than those entitled to Pension Credit. At least to those with income up to £10K above PC limit, but preferably to those with income up to £15K above the limit.
27	We can afford oil - but old habits die hard - we still economise
28	Keep fossil fuels as they are more effective than the green climate change scam. Ideally the UK should go nuclear as it provides clean cheaper energy
29	This poll is useless as it does not go to the crux of the issue the energy companies ripping people off and the shareholders and fund holders who are milking the system whilst energy, water and other utilities and sewerage systems falling apart. Also look at the IT companies using data centres using 21% of electricity use in Ireland .. please improve your polling as it is shameful you are not looking into these issues where the real problems lie. Thank you
30	I honestly have to think about selling my home , because of heating costs , I'm disabled and alone most of the time , I can't manage on a work pension WHICH they take of my sick money !!! My private work pension is deducted from my sick money !!!! Providing me with basic basic living !!! Coal or food ,oil or food .
31	I'm ok, but I'm aware of friends and extended family that are not. The UK has failed us in the North. It hasn't worked and won't work.
32	Fuel costs need to be reduced to the same rates as other European countries
33	The oil price has reduced from a peak of \$125 per barrel in 2022 to around \$70 a barrel now. Energy prices are not rising so why all the gas lighting? Answer, the gas lighting is to hide the cost of Net Zero which increases energy bills. Net Zero is a scam pure and simple, more people are waking up to it.
34	Why should somebody who never worked a day in their lives get extra, the welfare state was set up to help those who need it. Many don't need it but take, take , take, the North of Ireland is full of spongers
35	Work needed by Stormont to reduce fuel poverty across the province.
36	At some stage you have to realise all working families are struggling , working poor is real
37	NI food prices are one of the most expensive in Europe, that's applies too to oil and electricity prices when compared to rest of the UK not to mention Europe, with GPs absent for the last 4 years, dentists only private and

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QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – FINAL COMMENTS (Voluntary): 319 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

	very long waiting lists for any treatments most vonurable are living from week to week, robbing Peter to pay Paul, its staggering and disgusting with all the promises (empty words) from each MLA that absolutely nothing is changing for the better only deteriorating further while citizens suffer on a daily basis. There is no trust left in any Stormont politicians, I have been longer enough in this country to witness total destruction caused by each of them, pull the plug and maybe at least we will have cheaper electric and groceries and choice of them(not much in the shops to choose from atm) in pair with England.
38	My electric is with power ni and I think it's expensive for 1 radiator to be on in the hallway for £50+ a month in the whole flat.
39	il am not sure what difference it makes to 'implement ' guidelines on reducing winter deaths, and setting a statutory target re fuel poverty but I know there is so many ways to eliminate the problem which could include these measures and also introduce a national home-scheme to reduce fuel use and carbon emissions. A significant tax on the obscene fossil fuel profits made while the majority of population struggle with rising bills
40	Food prices are a worry at present.
41	The costs associated with heating the home, especially when the weather is against you, as it has been for a while now, is beyond most people's abilities to be able to afford. I took advice last year and invested in a few oodies for myself and my family to try to ensure that nobody is facing hypothermia and associated illnesses!
43	Governments should not have to subdsise heating/energy costs for individuals. Instead, the should compel energy companies to reduce their rates. Energy companies make insane levels of profits. Energy costs do not have to be so high. They are artificially inflated.
44	Pensioners like ourselves don't qualify for benefits, but we're not well off. We'll suffer a lot during the winter months, no help for us anymore. It's sickening the amount of money the Lords get for 1 day sitting, more than our pension for the week. Disgraceful!!
45	Re-instate the Winter Fuel Payment
46	Central government need to take action on price gouging which has become prevalent in the energy sectors.
47	Fuel poverty not only effects people on benefits it's everyone although those on benefits are looked after better have more money to spend on doing things that I cannot afford new car. Holidays. Eating out or takeaways. Very unfair system
48	I volunteer for local charity and demands on our funds have increased from families looking help with heating during winter months
49	Hit the energy suppliers (electricity, gas, oil etc) with an excess profit tax. They are making vast amounts of profits while people suffer.
50	Disgrace the winter fuel allowance has been discontinued.
51	Taking away the pensioners heating allowance will have dreadful consequences. It was the easy option to go for the most vulnerable in society. Most elderly Will suffer in silence rather than beg for a handout, although they have worked all their lives contributing towards their pension
52	Even people with a consistent income currently worry about fuel bills. They only go up and show no signs of returning to pre Covid levels. Politicians don't care and do nothing. NI Assembly is virtually useless on fuel costs.
53	There is little that can be done!

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QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – FINAL COMMENTS (Voluntary): 319 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

54	No Government help in Northern Ireland for domestic solar panels, heat pumps (if gas available then no help for heat pumps). No help for domestic renewables. No fixed price electricity schemes as in other parts of UK. No help for replacing inefficient oil boilers.
55	I have worked for 45 yrs to provide a decent home for myself and my family and worry about spiralling energy costs. Our local Government could do more to help those in low incomes. By providing grants to help with insulation and solar energy .
56	Insulated houses still need heating which is why just improving insulation will not work in isolation....
57	Improve energy efficiency in all homes in NI.
59	When I answered that I went without gas heating - that was meant to be coal but there was no option for that.
60	Yes stop MP's allowance for heating/fuel etc
61	It shouldn't be happening in the 21st century or we going backwards
62	My husband and I are very lucky to be in a position that we can afford to pay for our gas and electricity. It is much harder for our adult children who are just starting their careers and hoping to buy their own houses soon.
63	I would say we use oil, coal & electricity equally. While the price of oil goes up and down & is low presently this is not the case with electricity. This year throughout the summer we have been using our coal fire often. Our electricity is generated by oil I believe.
64	People need to be more frugal with their use of fuel, and also curb spending generally. Other than that, the government needs to tackle and outlaw the obscene profits made by the fuel companies themselves.
65	Increasing the tax threshold to the equivalent of "a living wage" and withdrawing the fuel allowance from pensioners on the higher rate of tax would help redistribution of wealth. However the windfall profits of energy companies should be tackled as a priority and household Bill's reduced.
66	Excessive profits from the oil companies and electricity providers.
67	Winter Fuel Allowance for Pensioners removed by Starmer is unjustified by any reasonable justification.
68	Government tax on fuel is a big issue
69	Stop over taxing pensioners why does tax band not always equal the same rise as the triple lock this lowest band was always above the basic pension now falling further behind with pensions increasing therefore pensioners who never paid tax now have to pay Disgraceful after paying tax and NI contributions all ones working life
70	We need help to heat our homes. This new government promised people should not go without heating. Now they have told us all lies
71	The lack of competition for energy suppliers is criminal. The behaviour of these companies is verging on corrupt. We presently have no alternative but to pay the ridiculous bills they make up. Shouldnt be allowed.
72	People who dodge payment for fuel are responsible for the excessive prices others are forced to pay.
73	cutting the winter fuel payments for pensioners is not acceptable, todays pensioners are our parents, they worked hard to raise us, feed us and cloth us, our government should be looking after pensioners better than this

POLL-SURVEY CLOSE: FINAL COMMENTS (optional):

Any further final comments, regarding this poll-survey, 'Fuel Poverty' in NI, and/or current NI Energy issues and topics....? If no comments - please leave blank

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – FINAL COMMENTS (Voluntary): 319 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

74	Keir stammer is my most hated person in my life...evil stupid man
75	Reduction in overall costs needed so energy companies should be forced to reduce mass profits with only an acceptable percentage allowed so everyone benefits as tackling fuel poverty is unfathomable if based on certain limits of income.
76	I am able to cope with the energy costs at present, but being on a fixed income, if those costs continue to rise, then I will probably seek ways to reduce the use of heating when possible. If the energy costs are to rise and the winter is bad, then there will be people who cannot cope with paying their bills and they need help.
77	God help us if we are relying on Stormont to help us with anything. We could probably freeze first.
78	Stop supporting the war and let the world settle down
79	I believe the wording of the first question ignored the option of paying for electricity every quarter by cash or card payment.
80	I can't stress enough that families not on benefits are also feeling the pinch & are really struggling as well!!!
81	There are no grants in NI to assist home owners / landlords / tenants to invest in renewable energy sources. Why ?
82	secondary schools need to have basic cookery skills, money management and budgeting on the curriculum. People need to be advised re proper clothing for cold weather. I am aware of people who wear t-shirts and pour out heat, and complain about the price of heating. The same people live on delivered take-out food and then complain about the cost of living. IT MAKES ME ANGRY!! I have never had a delivered takeout, I wear warm clothes in cold weather. My nutritious meals are home cooked. My taxes are paying the benefits of wasteful extravagant people, who expect the state to provide everything.
83	Really disappointed that many people who need it will not receive help with heating this winter
84	Fuel poverty is a major problem for society. As an environmentalist living in a carbon neutral eco house it doesn't affect me personally. So my input to this poll may not be representative and may skew the findings.
85	The price of fuel is scandalous. The green brigade are pushing ahead, and aren't worried about those facing fuel poverty. They bang on that green energy is cheaper, but it's not.
86	We're retired and own our home. We can heat the house. Our children are struggling with increased costs and are cutting back to keep afloat
87	The N.I. assembly is forced to implement tax raising schemes, the proposal of removing discounts on rates will only ending up costing the most vulnerable tenants as the landlords and housing association will pass on any increase in costs to the tenant. We need government's help to improve our homes to a better efficient standard.
88	The elderly need adequate heat as a right.
89	Reinstate winter fuel allowance. Why was this not in questionnaire? Suggests bias and flawed survey.
90	The governments removal of the winter fuel benefit for most pensioners will cause misery for many this winter. More people than ever will now be worried about paying fuel bills.
91	Rising prices, given the global market, is disgraceful. Labour should be ashamed of themselves.
92	Too many people getting fuel allowance that don't need leading to changes hurting those who do need it

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QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – FINAL COMMENTS (Voluntary): 319 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

93	The oil and gas companies and their shareholders are benefiting from the increased pricing and are being allowed to get away with it. They are making huge profits that are not being reinvested but siphoned off to enrich the shareholders.
94	I have gas a Multi stove and a pellet burner so hedging my bets
95	Energy efficiency deep retrofits, coupled with solar pv batteries and heat pumps, hold great potential to reduce peoples bills and should be supported. Also Vehicle to Grid technologies would enable EV owners to take advantage of low prices when wind and solar generation is plentiful plus make money by supporting the grid by exporting power when renewable power is in short supply.
96	I strongly disagree with the annual heating payment for pensioners being done away with. This could/will result in many deaths...
97	The winter fuel payment should be wholly means tested. Too many well off pensioners get money which should go to those on low pension income.
98	Life is about priorities.
99	UK government are forcing the people to pay for ridiculous energy schemes which everyone knows are based on lies. Use our natural resources, including fracking, to lower prices, and scrap the crazy net zero rubbish
100	All new builds should have mandatory solar panels and top grade insulation. So many new estates and council houses going up and not a solar panel on any one of them. We would still be skint but at least we would be warm.
101	My wife and I are both disabled and are not able to work to earn any more money so we have make do with what we get on our pension and it's not enough to live on properly. We've both worked since our teens and paid all our dues and now we have to depend on the charity of others to keep us alive. Not much of a life now, is it?
102	My home is a small terraced house. I have zero heating costs
104	The cost of heating over the coming winter is causing stress within the household. We will have to adjust our lifestyle in order to pay energy bills.
105	Why are energy prices no longer capped? They used to be. These were taken away during covid when nobody noticed. Why?? Why are energy companies allowed to make huge profits? Why are their senior management on millions a year salary? This is ridiculous and nobody is asking these questions or looking for these answers. Why?
106	I don't pay a huge proportion of my income on energy. However I don't want to fall into significant debt or see my direct debits increase a lot so I am careful in my usage and use the heat more when my kids are staying.
107	This poll will have biased results if all the answers are collected online via lucid talk surveys. You really aren't going to catch a lot of people suffering from fuel poverty - I don't think these groups will necessarily have signed up to an online poll in great numbers. But maybe you are allowing for this, or collecting data via other channels, just wanted to point it out. It's an important topic and great that you're looking at it.
108	Very frustrated that the government took away the pensioners fuel allowance. I am 67 and still have to work part time to pay for energy bills etc
109	I use multiple methods of heating. Logs every day. Oil for maybe an hour in the morning. If it wasn't for a stove my house would be like an ice box .
110	Ofgem needs shaken up. Just like Ofwat & telecoms sector there has been regulatory capture by major industries. Open door between main generators/TSOs and senior management of regulators. To extent customer protection &

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	oversight has been lost. More Tory corruption - walks like a duck..... Legal moves must be made to claw back pensions for most outrageous offenders.
111	Fuck the DUP
112	All new housing should have Nordic insulation standards.
114	I felt some of the questions didn't drill down to the real heart of cost of heating homes and the questions that did get close to the real reasons,the answers were not appropriate
115	It is so unfair to remove the winter fuel allowance for pensioners
116	Better insulation to reduce consumption
117	Low cost sensors should be used to monitor heating for vulnerable people.
118	New builds should have solar and homes for sale should have solar before going on the market. Social housing should also have it installed.
119	While my household has been resilient with multiple working adults contributing to bills, I have family who have struggled. My 90 year old Grandmother feels cold all the time so has high energy usage all year. Family support and 'gifts' of gas top ups are how she managed through winter 2023 even with the winter fuel payments. It is likely she will not qualify this year even though her total income is less than £15k and energy is here greatest outlay.
120	There is no "energy crisis!" unfortunately it's "energy greed", the energy companies have showed record profits in the last 2 years extorting millions from the populace. I don't believe the government should give money to these companies in the form "energy relief", demand they lower prices
122	Everyone is struggling with costs and those just above the cut off for benefits are struggling the most. No help but have to pay full rent/mortgages. More help needs given to working families to keep them in work
123	Promoting renewable energy end overall energy efficiency should be key priorities.
124	Executive and Westminster to spend more money on energy saving schemes by spending less on migrants; send them back or stop the boats but stop wasting much needed cash especially for pensioners on illegally immigrants
125	I think a heating or energy "Token" scheme should be introduced by the government to help everyone who is in danger of entering fuel poverty.
126	For the payment of oil options it was had to pick as which did ordering though and oil club best fit, one payment or part payment as get multiple orders a year.
127	I am lucky in that my income is enough to heat my home. However, in terms of keeping less well off people warm and also preventing CO2 emissions, we need a huge investment in renewable energy.
128	fuel poverty is more to do with prices inflated to ensure huge profits rather than any other cause.
129	Fuel poverty is a serious issue for very many people. Something has to be done to relieve the burden
130	Profits for energy companies should be limited
131	Policy should be driven by energy efficiency first and include supporting of community renewable energy production initiatives.
132	I want to install PV Solar Panels, but want higher payments for generating electric

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133	It's a disgrace that oil companies are recording billions in profits and are not held to account by governments. Instead we have schemes to assist people paid for through our taxes and as a result social projects are negatively impacted. We need taxes on multi national companies.
134	Like so many of these surveys, the real reason for expensive energy - the so-called Green taxes- are completely ignored.
135	Personally do not need winter fuel payment but am worried for those who do. Stormont should draw up plans in the event of an unusually cold winter.
136	Adopt schemes for insulating & providing solar panels. Every new house must have solar panels fitted by law.
137	It is a disgrace that the most vulnerable in society are being targeted. Means testing is a disgrace. My wife and I have worked all of our lives and paid into society, making provision for our old age. Now we find that we are being targeted as a funding source by the government.
138	Why aren't NI heating oil prices tracking downwards alongside reducing prices at the petrol and diesel pumps?
139	Legalisation of cannabis and the growing of hemp as a fuel source as well as other hemp related materials, the tax from the sales would go a long way in reducing poverty and raising revenue
140	The lose of the the universal £200 will have a big impact on me..
141	Taxation of energy companies, getting rid of standing charges... limiting profits and putting money back into the exchequer, and providing subsidies for the vulnerable.
142	Energy companies are reporting rocket profits while the rest of us struggle to pay for essentials. These companies should be taxed more to recycle that money back to government to spend or cap prices so people can afford it.
143	Stop the greed of all suppliers
144	Large energy companies need to be held to account for there massive hikes in energy prices which has lead to through the roof profits as well has ludicrous bonuses to their bosses and probably government members who facilitate this robbery. The net zero myth needs to be dropped as all it is set up for is to filter taxpayers money into the pockets of the rich and again those who facilitate it at government level.
145	This is not going to be addressed or sorted as successive governments are more interested in keeping the wealthy on board and funding wars
146	As pensioners we will suffer with fuel poverty with the removal of heating allowance
147	Wood burners aren't mentioned. Insulation of houses should be a priority.
149	There's always money for booze.
150	Benefits are a short term solution. Better insulation and grants to move to more efficient systems such as solar panels and heat exchangers are essential
151	We are forced to budget carefully to keep a minimum level of expenditure on heating, clothing and food and forego items or pleasures we enjoyed in the past as retirement savings are being depleted rapidly.
152	Ban estimated bills.

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153	By removing the winter heating allowance from pensioners the Labour government are putting lives at risk. REMOVE THE HEATING PAYMENT FROM MP's
154	The government aren't responsible for fixing everything
155	think there needs to be more education on energy conservation, perhaps also lower electricity tariffs for off peak usage
156	As pensioners who both have modest private pensions supplementing our state pensions, my husband and I are being cautious about energy consumption. I can't imagine how hard this winter will be for pensioners who are less comfortably off than ourselves.
157	Our Executive should be working for us not being the lapdog of Westminster begging for handouts
158	We cut back on holidays, did not fly away this summer as usual.
159	House envelope efficiency is the single most important factor for energy. Some house type will simply never be energy efficient and should be replaced
160	Indigenous fuel sources should be used instead of importing the vast majority from abroad, the prices of which fluctuate too much affecting the lowest incomes the most.
161	Excessive profiteering from energy companies, set maximum profit %, and a windfall tax or refund on excessive profits
162	The cost of oil and gas and electricity goes up our bills go up that day. But when it comes down the big company's are very slow to pass on the reduction. The government must put law in place to make sure they pass on the saving straight away and put a fuel and energy cap in place to stop them charging too much it's ridiculous because once fuel goes up everything else goes up too.
163	There was options missing on how to alleviate fuel poverty. Solar panels with batteries or water heater should be installed with financial assistance.
164	No
165	1. The only people who get help are the ones on benefits, what about those who have made the most contributions and get nothing in return? How encouraging do you think that is for young people entering the workplace? 2. STOP using high energy costs and low wages as an excuse to implement Net Zero/Climate policies. Every single thing you are doing is eroding the middle class and moving us towards a 3rd world country. WAKE UP!
166	Regarding payment for my oil and electricity I prefer to pay by cash when I order my oil and receive my electricity bill
167	It would be a great help if people could pay in to oil suppliers on a weekly or monthly basis to build up credit in the warmer months
168	Stormont haven't the balls to take radical steps needed to transform our energy market
169	National government have never been serious about tackling the obscene profits made by energy companies at the expense of customers.
170	I think it's a disgrace that politicians who claim money for their energy bills can take the winter fuel grant of pensioners who have worked and paid into the country Pension credits are extremely hard to apply for and only the very poor can get it

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171	Financial assistance for the elderly & less well off would be appreciated & it would be cost effective to the state in the long run.
172	Coldest summer for 10 years increases the problem of heating the home
173	A social tariff for both gas and electricity would be hugely helpful to poorer households. (and be 'green') Standing charges are way too high, and impact the poorest households the hardest. There needs to be standard Winter heating assistance for the poorest households, now the energy prices are so high and the CoL payments have been stopped.
174	My house stands alone on a high hill facing winds most of the time and can be colder because of that I suffer arthritis which needs heating on a lot.
175	The removal of the winter fuel payment from pensioners who are just above the threshold for pension credit was a big blow
176	As always with lucid polls, the so called survey is an attempt to justify certain pre-judged positions and the questions are leading and loaded.
177	We are v lucky that we can just afford rising prices. I'm conscious many others cannot
178	Ensure all homes are built or adapted with energy saving in mind.
179	Pensioners who need to use savings to pay for heating have no way of topping them up. As savings deplete anxiety grows. Restore the heating allowance for ALL pensioners....pensions are very poor to begin with. The "old" State pension is much less that the "new" State pension.
180	Tax the energy companies, with obscene profits and bonuses, they can afford it
181	Energy efficiency is the solution to tackling fuel poverty. Retrograde peoples homes, reduce their bills and reduce the UK's carbon footprint.
182	ABC council are not interested in EPC certificate at bt62 1wf . Houses built without floor insulation. Made complaints but had push back all the time. Possible under the cosh from builder .
183	The greed of energy companies is immoral and unfortunately governments do nothing to protect energy users
184	Plenty of people use small supplementary electric heaters, but not because they are forced to by heating costs, as suggested in one of your questions. They are simply handy convenience heaters.
185	Many elderly do not need addition winter help with fuel costs Needs to be a focus to help these in fuel poverty across the age span Landlords should have properties with a minimum energy rated to promote responsible renting
186	The NI Executive needs to start making hard decisions on finances, support payments etc., rather than providing support payments to those on low income. The economy must be strengthened so that work pays sufficient to live on. The Executive should not be subsidising businesses who pay low wages. Target setting usually ends up as a distorting factor, with those being measured manipulating the system to circumvent poor results - such as hospitals having waiting lists to go on surgery lists so the lists appear smaller and waiting times appear shorter. Work must pay at least a fair living wage. There is little to encourage people to work. There must be a fair taxation system. The government can't keep squeezing the middle.
187	Could homeowners apply for interest free loans to install, insulation, solar etc to help with the initial outlay, or have a grant system a lot of people want to improve their home but need a bit of financial assistance

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188	People need more help
189	People really shouldn't expect to be able to wear shorts and a t shirt all year round with the house boiling. I grew up in the seventies. Houses were often cold in the winter time, we knew we had to wear more clothes to keep warm and it was better for the environment using less gas/oil.
190	Cut the massive profits of the suppliers .
191	Those on oil need additional yearly help!!!
192	We have an open fire which we use and is linked to heating system. We will probably burn wood peaat and coal to supplement heating home.
193	No
194	The need is immediate for numbers of people in different contexts. I'm retired. Don't get full State Pension and can't claim Pension Credit. Pensions need to be increased. Tax the rich.
195	I think it is wrong to allocate payments according to solely those on benefits. Tax payers who work, save and provide for an emergency should not be penalised and made to support those who chose not to provide for themselves/their families. I am fully in favour of giving help to those unable to work due to disability or age but am increasingly frustrated at seeing those who won't support themselves being bolstered in their sense of entitlement by taxpayer handouts and emergency funds due to poor money management.
196	It's only less than 5% as I got a substantial rise in income this year. And even though I can now probably afford it better, the anxiety remains
197	Would like to see more home insulation grants available to everyone regardless of their financial circumstances.
198	The energy companies are making massive profits at the expense of the people.
199	The huge increase in mortgage prices has reduced my expendable income by around 70%. I think these essentials, housing and heating, need to be a priority for our government, as they each have a knock on impact on everything else, including health and security.
200	Need to move to more efficient installation of houses and provide funding to do so, it cannot be just those on low incomes and those receiving housing benefit who are covered. Would like to consider a heat pump but not when it is going to cost thousands.
201	DIFFICULT TO JUDGE BUT MONEY IS BEING SPENT ON NON ESSENTIALS.
202	The most effective way to lift people out of fuel poverty is to lift them out of poverty. Increase tax thresholds to take people out of taxation. Increase the threshold for pension credit, to enable more low-income pensioners to qualify for energy support. Increase the minimum wage. End zero-hours contracts, hire & rehire.
203	I believe all new build homes should have solar panels installed as part of the building control/ planning permission
204	I am a 91 year old pensioner but have sufficient pensions to live comfortably; how ever I cut down on energy use because of need to lessen use of fossil fuels; I grew up before central heating; why are new houses being built without solar panels etc. as obligatory? I have donated government fuel grants previously to NEA
205	The need for people to be taught how to use their income properly.. I see it everyday the coffee shop visits followed by the food bank experience and I live in a rural area!

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206	Even households not in fuel poverty need support to transition to cleaner energy sources.
207	I have little faith in the Assembly making any progress in dealing with fuel poverty given their shambolic record in delivering the cash for ash programme, the civil service having their fingers badly burned and the UK government lack of faith in local politicians being able to manage any such scheme moving forward.
208	There needs to be a focus from the Executive on rural areas as currently they only have the choice of oil central heating or open fires. There is limited supply of natural gas and very limited provision of renewable sources of energy.
209	Yes, I believe Electricity & Oil should be Nationalised. A Government is meant to protect and serve its people, not allow them to be extorted by greedy energy companies.
210	We have too many people here who want life handed to them. It's not a myth that we have a percentage of people who have no intention of working and get it handed to them.
211	Continue to give pensioners the winter fuel allowance for one more year.
212	begs the question if twenty years ago we were all using inefficient household appliances and lighting ect and now we are all using energy efficient appliances and lighting (usinfg less electricity) how come the costs to the consumer have gone up rather than down ????????????????????
213	-
214	Prices of energy are going up in the North, but in the Republic they are actually falling, whilst energy costs in Europe are far more affordable.
215	The cap on the price should be brought back and at a lower rate
216	Energy companies need to be vigorously regulated
217	The real problem is that we have too many living in energy inefficient homes. We have refused to consider higher density apartment living or district heating schemes like those in other European countries. Home heating shouldn't be such a financial burden on individuals. We need to rethink the individualistic and inefficient society we have become.
218	More work needs to be done to insulate homes. This would both reduce household expenditure on heating costs and help to protect the environment.
219	The Executive need to concentrate its resources on reorganising those areas of devolved administration where it can make a difference.
220	We need to decrease our dependence on oil & gas , switch to renewables & actively encourage better home insulation for everyone's sake & we need to get a move on !
221	An excellent poll Thanks for arranging this
222	Nationalise all UK energy companies
223	I think there needs to be more accountability of the oil/gas companies. My aunt lives in France and she got a letter telling her that her costs are coming down due to the reduction in price for oil/gas, yet, over here we're being told that the prices are rising and we will have to pay more?? These companies are making billions of pounds in profits each year and I don't think the government is doing enough to bring them to account.

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224	My wife and I have both two pensions, yet we are finding it very hard to save for even a weekend away.
225	Just managing at present, we are both 70+ with small work pensions so fuel costs are a big portion of our income. Thank goodness we don't have to pay rent.
226	Question of what's torment can do, should ask about regulation whether it's effective for the people. Costs continually go up and we have no competition. Everybody leads from sse pricing.
227	Would be better if super rich didn't get grants
228	In GB the councils are able to help their constituents. Belfast live reported it for the first time about NI and I got in touch with alliance cllr in south down and they knew nothing about said they would let me know still waiting no surprise as I've been to many parties they're are same don't care be it MLAs MPs CLLRs that's all parties.
229	Delay the drive to net zero. Use our own gas and oil, stop importing
230	Greater government investment in renewable energy would help lower costs and with the climate crisis. Lower income households need more support generally.
231	Cost of living is self inflicted by government net zero madness
232	Politicians need to stop lying, misleading the Public, The obscenity of 100's of Millions of Taxpayers money be spent on the climate hoax is a national disgrace.
233	Would be good to see government support/grants for home owners to insulate other parts of their homes not just the lofts.
234	Oil and energy companies have never before made as big profits They are pushing beyond reasonable limits. Government should take control and set up their own companies to supply at sensible levels. How did so much go into private ownership where shareholders milk the system and invest outside the country avoiding tax
235	I think this survey and its format further encourages a begging bowl mentality and self Promotion of this said Charity. Dad buy common now
236	We recognise we are lucky not to be adversely effected by losing the winter fuel allowance.
237	Some of your choices don't work for a user of an alternative heat source
238	I have noticed through conferences/events involving older people than heating costs sometimes gets pushed down the list of what is important. Many seem to have a top 7 of: Food and clothing Electric, telephone and internet Car and transport Providing financial support to family/ g./children Pets Supporting a church, going out for entertainment and eating out Hobbies For many older people heating a house 24,/7 they are often away from is the last thing on their minds until the snow and ice appears For an active older person heating a Holidays
240	Reduce general dependency on foreign fuels that are prone to substantial and rapid fluctuations in price - i.e. increase provision of renewable electricity. Introduce grants in NI for heat pump installation, on a par with those available in GB.

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241	Support (not temporary measures) should be in place to enable as many homes as possible to transition to alternative forms of energy. All rented housing stock should be made as energy efficient as possible as a matter of urgency.
242	We are stymied by the decision made by the Labour Government and if the executive wants to pay all pensioners the winter fuel payment they have to find the money themselves. Revenue raising options have been avoided thus far!
243	Until we embrace green energy and individual homes generating the majority of their own energy, fuel poverty and fuel worry will never be resolved.
244	Privatisation of power has clearly been a complete failure as all it has led to is massive price increases and a poorer service.
245	This is the third time I have received this survey in two days.
246	Tax the huge energy companies, means test the super rich, give help to the people who are most in need.
247	Tax the energy companies
248	I have my house up for sale so I can move to a smaller and easier to heat house. My mum Who lived with me moved into the gold because she was really cold here
249	Scrap net zero
250	Although it doesn't apply to us we are opposed to the practice of private landlords in forcing tenants to use a pre-paid meter.
251	I sit in a cold flat, and wonder, how on earth has our society got to the point where the majority of people can't heat their homes. The most vulnerable suffer the most (pensioners, sick and/or disabled people, people on a low income) but even healthy people in full-time work are struggling to pay the high heating bills. We need to eradicate fuel poverty. It's fundamental that we all have warm homes.
252	Cheaper energy will improve the mental and physical health of many, reducing the burden on the NHS, it shocks me that there isn't enough awareness of this among ministers.
253	Solutions were found during the Pandemic and the Tories friends got very rich at the expense of the rest of us. Labour need to remember their roots and why they were formed in the first place, to represent the interests of the working classes.
254	Until the government takes steps to tackle the greed of energy companies, we will see fuel poverty.
255	There is no such thing as fuel poverty. The issue is people not using their available funds properly.
256	I think it's a disgrace for government to withdraw the winter fuel allowance for pensioners. It was a means of topping up their payments to ensure they could cope with the winter. Shame on them!
257	Provide advice how to cook food efficiently and advise on more efficient cooking equipment eg air fryers
258	There seems to be a developing trend towards raising fuel/energy costs in the winter when it's needed the most & dropping in the summer.. Government/local government should be taking energy/fuel suppliers to task & tell them that this can't be done... Energy companies are 'getting away with it' & worse, they're allowed to....

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259	Corporate company's appear to have no government restraints can make massive profit while elderly freeze. Why should we finance that from our taxes whilst corporate companies and the bank run amok with no government restraints
260	People shouldn't be struggling (and some dying) to afford to heat their homes while the companies are making huge profits every year.
261	It's not just low income families that need support both my husband and I work in minimum wage jobs and are barely scraping by but there's no support for us!
262	Some of the cost cutting options like not going to sports club or gym were not applicable as we never used those, the questions should probably include that as an option.
263	Grants for solar panels, wind production, rain harvesting would be beneficial
265	Winter fuel payment should not have been taken away from everyone there is a big difference to someone getting 15k per year so not entitled to pension credit and someone getting 30k pension although this does not impact me as I'm not anywhere near pension age I think it's a disgrace considering what stormont spend money on each year just because the UK government removed it stormont should have found away to help pensioners on low incomes that do not receive pension credit just because they worked saved and have a small private pension
266	I think pensioners deserve the winter fuel payment. My Dad worked until age 76, he's now 80 and gets no help! He's had a heart attack and bowel cancer in the past year.
267	Schemes should be introduced to support households to insulate and help towards replacement windows
268	The oil suppliers in Northern Ireland work as a cartel, whereby they do not pass on the fall in price of oil to the customer. The home heating supply industry in Northern Ireland needs to be regulated to stop this happening.
269	10% to 15% of population are in tough times. Everyone else is doing okay and many compared to even two generations ago are in luxury but do not know it!
270	Help the workers!!!
271	Support on individual solar panel installation Support those who want to move to more stainable heating systems
272	Reinstate the winter fuel payments for all pensioners
273	Fuel costs will rise and fall... insulating homes, ie cavity walls, windows and roof space as well as draught proofing cavities etc. will in the long term be more efficient.
274	I am a reasonably high earner and thus in a very fortunate position
275	Upgrade building code to higher standards for insulation
276	Very good survey, but Q10 could have had an option to 'put pressure on the energy Cos to reduce costs to the consumer'.
277	Heating costs as well as high cost of living prices are just out of order.
278	Maybe the executive can cut something themselves to support the pensioners etc , IE: their chauffeur driven cars etc etc etc But no they won't

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279	Although I could only choose three top options of the actions Stormont should take, I would like them to act on all of them
280	Challenge energy companies on pushing prices up at a time when the costs are actually falling
281	Treat thr elderly and vulnerable better. It's so scary for them.
282	Wider roll out and investment in wind solar and tidal energies is badly required
283	People are being ripped off by the greed of energy companies and politicians ridiculous net zero targets making energy totally unaffordable for everyone but higher earners.
284	Watch what profits energy companies make this winter to see if they could have kept energy costs down or are they more interested in making massive profits from every single one of us if so tax them hard & ring fence that money for energy support to the vulnerable & elderly who need heat the most.
285	Energy efficient grants should be available to a wider rang of households.
286	Students from low income families have been shut out of supports for fuel, optical and dentists. Disgraceful!
287	Stormont are a reactive government, not proactive. They have failed and continue to fail the people of Northern Ireland.
288	Updated information on new technologies for heating homes should be widely available plus cost benefit analysis of same.
289	Encourage people to use less Heating wear clothes or use blankets increase insulation in homes
290	Look to taxing the producers or policies to increase their funding of sustainable energy sources.
291	More investment into state owned green energy required to combat reliance on private suppliers profiteering.
292	It is time Northern Irish prices for fuel, electricity, insurance and so many other necessities were reduced to be in line with the rest of the UK. We pay so much more for everything and yet our wages are lower in comparison.
293	People in France and Spain being told their energy prices are going down while ours are going up 🙄
294	Puy a cap on energy bills so people can afford it
295	Rather than mitigate bedroom tax storming should mitigate the loss of winter fuel payment to less well off pensioners
296	Minimum standards for insulation in all newbuilds.re efficiency. Learn from the best in Europe and implement . Invest in renewable so not exposed to market fluctuations....whatever the cause of these.
297	I'd have ticked all the recommendations if I could. It's a disgrace that so many are in such difficulty.
298	Yes has I've already stated stop forcing the people of the UK to pay for nonsense green energy
299	There should be a financial incentives to install heat pumps and solar PV like the rest of the UK and Ireland

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300	Many churches provide “meetings “ for older people to attend during the week and if these opportunities were expanded and supported , especially during Winter months, they would provide warm spaces and companionship for many living on their own.
301	I think the decision to pull the £300 for pensioners was quite wrong and it should be reinstated at the earliest opportunity.
302	More regulation for independent oil suppliers.
303	People need more options to heat their homes rather than those which are they are expected to use more funding must be given to renewables and heat pumps etc In order to incentivise change
304	British Labour Party actions in relation to Pensioners and winter heating allowance is a disgrace.
305	Babies and old people Will Die This winter according to a leading Paediatric Consultant speaking on The View last year, due to this crass government decision.
306	fuel poverty is just another symptom of rising and unchecked income inequality. no politician or political party seems willing to discuss this issue, never mind enact policies that could reverse the trend.
307	Fuel poverty has been made worse by the governments strategy of focusing on wind and solar energy - substantial subsidies given to these commercial energy firms and these subsidies added to our fuel costs. Fossil fuels being ignored when the rest of the non western world are still using and their energy costs are substantially lower - India, China etc.. Whereas UK, Germany etc has the most expensive electric cost in the world and we wonder why a specific number of our population cannot afford to heat their houses therefore most likely creating more deaths due to cold than being too warm - cold is the biggest killer of people in the world - not heat. UK has just given £11.5 Bill to the rest of the world for climate change yet cannot provide £1.5 bill to help the old remain warm. The reason for fuel poverty in UK etc is non logical thinking - fuel poverty being driven by wrong priorities not human need to survive now. . However, this comment will be totally discounted as does not fit current government thinking or funding!!!!
308	It's crazy how over the last few years, everything is more expensive. Its hard as you don't have any control over it. Plus I thought Green energy was supposed to be cheap, reliable and low cost....
309	why do we not see more intervention from the consumer council on Electricity Prices in comparison to the UK mainland. NI Electrical suppliers are charging us far too much
310	Fuel poverty is avoidable, if the government appropriately tax the wealthy
311	There is an urgent need for a strategy to move away from fossil fuels which must be led by government. Time is of the essence - continued reliance on fossil fuels is an existential threat to civilisation and to the future of humanity. Help must be given to households to switch to renewables, and this work must be given the very highest priority by governments.
312	So many clueless politicians are trying to encourage people to retrofit their homes with Heat Pump systems which are an expensive joke in regards to their output and running costs...idiots.
313	Local government have performed terribly regarding fuel poverty. I have zero faith in the current executive.
314	A lot of people I know are prioritising smoking, alcohol and drugs before food and energy costs This cannot continue to be a “crisis” if that’s where £ is going first
315	Prior to my mother passing away in 2013 due to a medical condition she was cold all the time. The hottest day of the year mum’s hands and feet were cold. It was a condition called Pernicious Anaemia. We had no choice but to have the gas hearing on. Before this current energy crisis our quarterly gas bill was approximately £700. We were both working full time in well paid jobs but it was a struggle and there seemed to be a never ending cycle of price hikes which were never queried. I worry now for those elderly people living on their own who are now going to have

POLL-SURVEY CLOSE: FINAL COMMENTS (optional):
Any further final comments, regarding this poll-survey, 'Fuel Poverty' in NI, and/or current NI Energy issues and topics....? If no comments - please leave blank

QUALITATIVE ANSWERS – FINAL COMMENTS (Voluntary): 319 Responses (from 2,696 Respondents)

	to decide whether to heat their homes/eat/ look after their health and with this particular illness these things are interrelated. Not every pensioner is IT savvy and even if they were a 24 page booklet with 230 questions is ridiculous and could probably be argued has deliberately designed to discourage application.		
316	Financial assistance for Energy related issues is much less than the grants available in mainland UK.		
317	All of those who worked, paid tax and national insurance should get support from the government in their golden years!		
318	There wouldn't be so much fuel poverty if there was a fair trading market for oil and electricity wasn't priced by the government watchdogs in a stupid way that prevents competition.		
319	Boiler scrappage schemes for low income households to transition to gas need increased. But it would also be helpful to incentivise higher earners by giving them a partial grant supported by an interest free loan to install theirs. It has the added benefit of helping create more green growth jobs and deliver a just transition.		
			answered
			319

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