Reducing fuel poverty and improving winter warmth
Why is this issue important for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly?

Whole community
Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly are in top 3 local government areas for homes without central heating

Households affected by fuel poverty in Cornwall and in Isles of Scilly

- 10.4%
- 14.4%
- 22.4%

36,000 households
83,000 people

- experience poor health due to a lack of warmth

Personal costs

Around 300 more people die each winter compared to the summer months

Annual local NHS costs
Cost to England is £1.3bn

£13m

Notes
1. ONS (2011), 2011 Census: KS403EW Rooms, bedrooms and central heating, local authorities in England and Wales
2. DECC (2015) 2013 sub-regional fuel poverty data: low income, high costs indicator
3. ONS (2014), Excess Winter Mortality, 3-year average
12. DECC (2015) 2013 sub-regional fuel poverty data: low income, high costs indicator
13. ONS (2011), 2011 Census: KS403EW Rooms, bedrooms and central heating, local authorities in England and Wales
14. Based upon a study by Cornwall Council/Public Health done in 2015 using the Hospital Admission Winter Wellbeing Model
15. Cornwall Council and Council of the Isles of Scilly

What is being done locally to address this issue?

A huge difference mentally and physically, I am able to function and keep my independence and continue giving back to the community with my volunteer services

We have a problem with damp in the property and being so cold had made it worse and aggravated my daughter’s asthma

My wife is paraplegic and it was very difficult with no hot water or heating. After help we were very grateful as my wife bathes every day as I do

I can now think, because you freed up my money as it was all going on coal. I have completed my CV and am going to apply for jobs. I couldn’t face this when I was so cold. I lived in my fleece and pyjamas

Fuel poverty is avoidable and it contributes to social and health inequalities

Marmot Review

Our aim
To reduce Excess Winter Deaths by one third by 2020, to below 200 a year

Winter Wellness 2014/15 - Over 30 partners worked together to deliver common outcomes of reducing fuel poverty, improving health and progress to work

A study showed that energy efficiency interventions in lower income communities reduced

- 27%
- 38%
- 50%

GP visits
Days off work
Days off school

£13m

Social Return on Investment saves £3.39 for every £1 invested

Return on Investment saves NHS £2.09 for every £1 invested

Estimated 75 hospital admissions avoided last winter, saving NHS £48,600

Why invest?

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Since 2011 Winter Wellness multi agency partnership achievements:

- 4,500 households helped (10,000 people)
- 675 hospital admissions prevented
- 900 households helped through Winter Wellness Emergency Fund
- 283 households remain in work and progress towards work

Partnerships

Winter Wellness Partnership includes Cornwall Council, VCS, housing associations, Cornwall Community Foundation, Inclusion Cornwall, Council of the Isles of Scilly and the NHS

Local advice and support

Community Energy Plus Freephone advice line 0800 954 1956
Winter Wellbeing Helpline 0800 954 1956 and www.cornwall.gov.uk/winterwellbeing
Public Health 01872 327977

Notes
2. PHE (2015) Cornwall Health Profile 2015
5. ONS (2014), Excess Winter Mortality, 3-year average
6. ONS (2011), 2011 Census: KS403EW Rooms, bedrooms and central heating, local authorities in England and Wales
7. DECC (2015) 2013 sub-regional fuel poverty data: low income, high costs indicator
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Evidence

The Marmot Review, Cold Weather Plan, Fuel Poverty Strategy and BRE Health Impacts of Cold Dwellings all document the impact of cold homes and fuel poverty on housing, health and wellbeing