

FUEL POVERTY

The progress we're making in eradicating fuel poverty in Scotland

OUR FUEL POVERTY Act is the most ambitious and comprehensive fuel poverty legislation in the UK, setting us on a course to eradicate fuel poverty and also provide greater help for people who need it most. Our upcoming fuel poverty strategy will set out how we will achieve this.

We are determined to end fuel poverty. Far too many households are still forced to choose between having the heating on or cooking their dinner. Scotland is among only a handful of European countries to define fuel poverty, let alone set a target to eradicate it.

What we've done so far

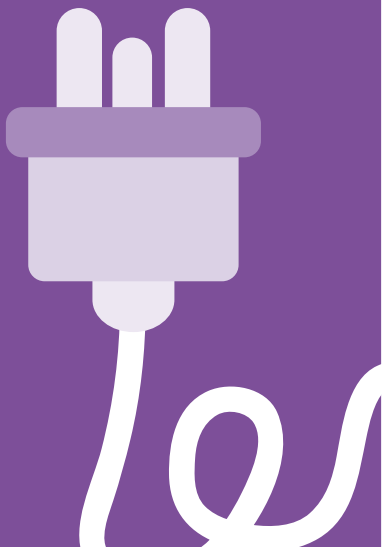
We have committed to make half a billion pounds available over the four years to 2021 to tackle fuel poverty and energy efficiency. This will mean that by the end of 2021, we will have allocated over £1 billion since 2009 through energy efficiency programmes to make homes warmer and cheaper to heat.

Since 2013, more than 135,000 homes throughout Scotland have benefited from our Home Energy Efficiency Programmes and since 2015, Warmer Homes Scotland has installed measures in over 18,000 homes.

Our award-winning

ACTING ON FUEL POVERTY

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Home Energy Scotland service provides a range of advice and support to those who are vulnerable to the adverse effects of living in a cold damp home and includes provision for home visits. The service can make referrals for income maximisation and energy supplier switching and also provide advice on how to use energy in the home more efficiently.

What we're doing

We published a draft fuel poverty strategy in June 2018. This sets out how we plan to meet the ambitious target in our Fuel Poverty (Target, Definition and Strategy) (Scotland) Act 2019.

This Act, which was passed unanimously by Parliament last year, is world-leading legislation to help tackle the root causes of fuel poverty and transform our homes to be warmer and more energy efficient.

The Act sets a new definition of fuel poverty, focusing on low-income households and targeting our resources at those most in need of support, no matter where they live in Scotland. The Bill includes a commitment to reduce fuel poverty to no more than five per cent of Scottish households by 2040.

The Act provides that we must publish a new, long-

term fuel poverty strategy. This will be published in September 2020 and will set out the approach that we will take to meet the 2040 target.

Read more: www.gov.scot/policies/home-energy-and-fuel-poverty/fuel-poverty/

