

Fuel poverty

Ben Saltmarsh, Head of Wales, National Energy Action



LawWorks Pro Bono Conference: 30 June 2023

Gweithredu dros Gartrefi Cynnes
Action for Warm Homes

Everyone should be able to afford to keep warm and safe at home

We work in partnership to:

**Advocate and
Influence**

**Convene, Train
and Build
Capacity**

**Support
Households**



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Latest estimates

6.6 million

UK households in fuel poverty (Source: NEA)

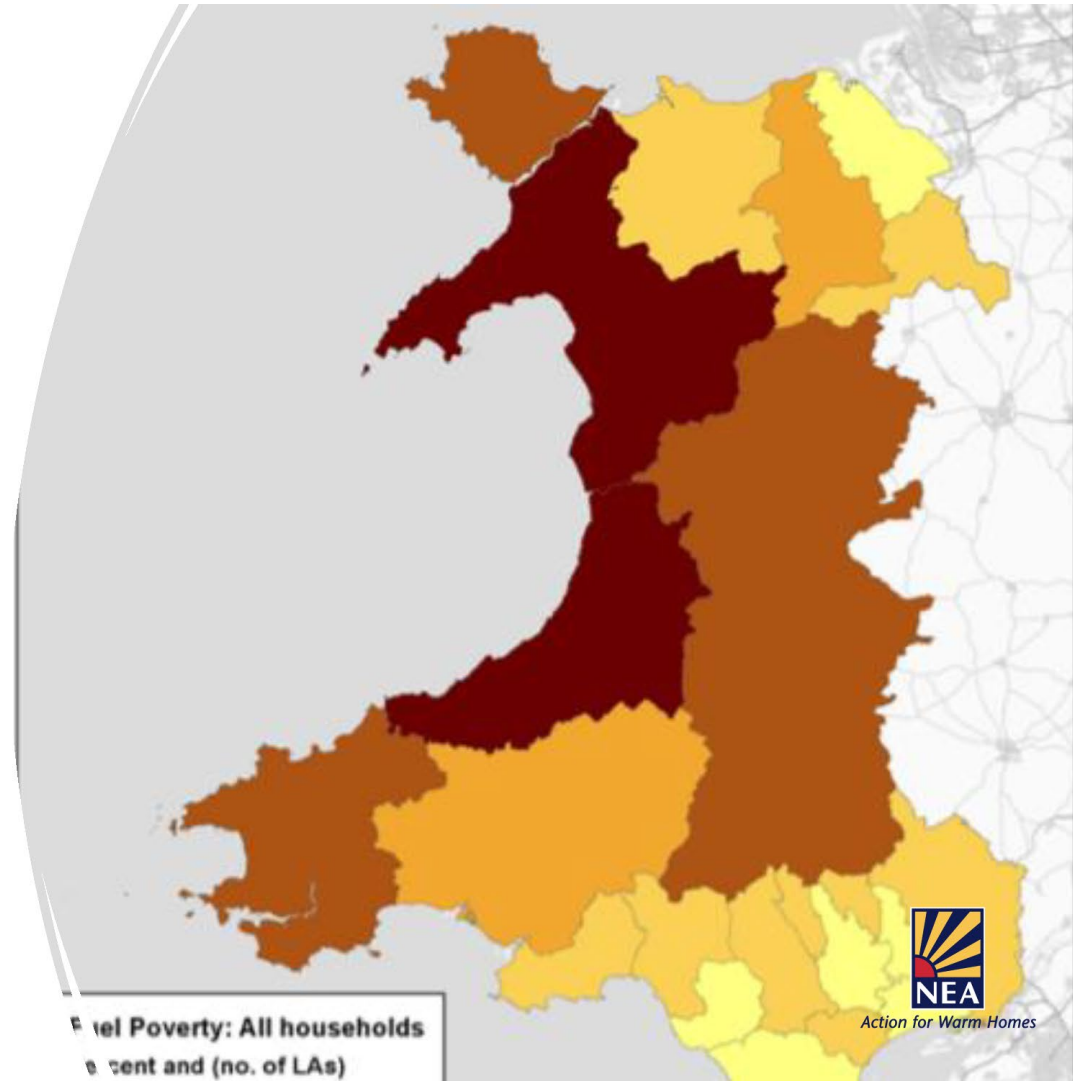
5.5 million

people behind on energy bills – up by 2.1 million compared to March 2022 (Source: Money Advice Trust)

In Wales:

614,000

households in fuel poverty (Source: Welsh Government)



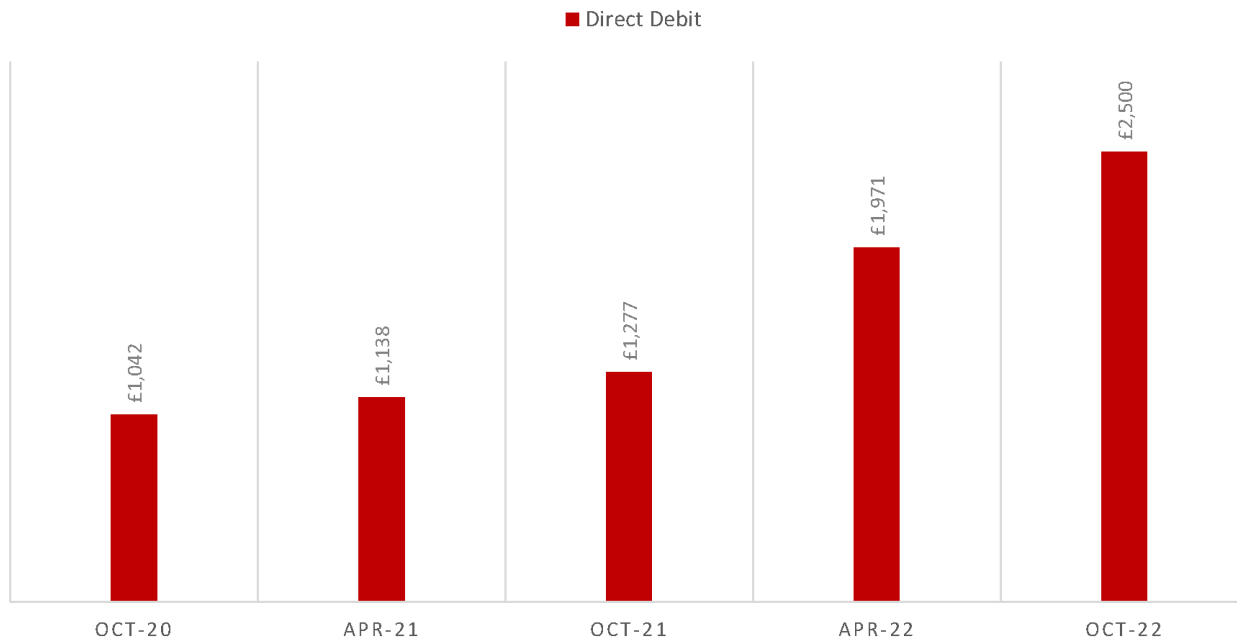
Soaring energy bills

Energy Price Guarantee: Average of £2,500/year.

It is:

- ***not*** a cap on your overall bill
- presented as a GB average, based on typical consumption
- variable by region and how you pay
- **DOUBLE** what it was last winter

AVERAGE ENERGY PRICES



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Prices falling but pain far from over

Bills set to be 2x historic average for rest of 2023

- Price Cap Q2 (Apr – Jun): **£3,280**
- Price Cap Q3 (Jul – Sep): **£2,074**
- Price Cap Q4 (Oct – Dec): **c. £2,098***
- Price Cap Q1 2024 (Jan – Mar): **£2,162***

**Source: Cornwall Insight*

Joint calls to:

- provide targeted support this winter
- help to repay energy debts
- introduce social tariff from April 2024



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Energy efficiency

Urgent need to accelerate improvement of energy efficiency in fuel poor homes



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Prepay



✓ **Suspension on forced installations of prepayment meters** – extended until Ofgem satisfied each supplier proven ready to act in accordance with new Code of Practice

Need to:

- ensure enforcement action is strong – reverse wrongful installs, compensate, fine
- strengthen licence conditions
- make prepay tariffs fairer – remove premium ✓
- reduce number of traditional PPMs in operation



Training



SHORT COURSES (CPD Certified)

- Changing Behaviour
- Dealing with the Energy Crisis
- Delivering Energy Advice
- Fuel Poverty and Health
- Introduction to Energy Efficiency
- Paying for Fuel
- Smart Meters
- Tackling the Cold
- Vulnerability in the Energy Market

QUALIFICATIONS (City & Guilds)

- Level 2: Fuel Debt Advice
- Level 2: Renewable Technologies
- Level 3: Energy Awareness
- Level 4: Decarbonising Homes

In-house, interactive webinars and supported e-learning options. Bespoke courses also available. **For more information, visit nea.org.uk/training**



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