

LEICESTER CITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD DATE

Subject:	Cost of Living and Fuel Poverty
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Leicester City Council (LCC) adopted an incident management team (IMT) approach to tackling the cost-of-living crisis. This presentation looks briefly at key elements of activity being undertaken, and outlines the Fuel Poverty Programme.

LCC have taken a whole council approach to the crisis, aligning with our Anti-Poverty strategy, coordinating activity across the authority, and ensuring that people are able to easily access support.

Cells across the authority have been addressing cost-of-living issues, providing support to citizens through a variety of workstreams, and highlighting broader issues within the core IMT meetings.

LCC also works closely with key external partners and community groups to provide wider support coverage and engagement.

Horizon scanning within cells allows upcoming issues to be recognised and where necessary addressed by IMT. Current upcoming issues include a likely increase in Council Tax, pressure on Commissioned Services, and pressure on Advice Services.

LCCs cost of living support offer continues to evolve, and remains accessible and robust.

LCC, working in partnership with National Energy Action (NEA), has introduced a Fuel Poverty Programme.

The impacts of fuel poverty on health are widely recognised, and Leicester has relatively high levels of fuel poverty. The Fuel Poverty Programme aims to tackle the issues at hand through three workstreams; an advice service, training, and education.

The Advice service has been soft launched within LCCs Housing Division. Further rollout of the service will be coming soon.

The Training workstream will extend the reach of the programme by embedding energy advice and qualifications into front line services and communities.

The Education workstream will raise awareness of energy efficiency at home and at school, initially targeting children in years 5-11 through tailored sessions delivered within schools.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is requested to:

Acknowledge the ongoing work undertaken around the cost-of-living crisis, and the introduction of the Fuel Poverty Programme.