

The energy crisis in Colne Valley

ANOTHER WINTER CRISIS APPROACHES.

In Colne Valley:

- An estimated **32,345 homes** aren't energy efficient (EPC C).
- Around **7,300 homes** lack adequate loft insulation, and **7,400** require cavity wall insulation.
- There are **24 “energy crisis hotspots”** – neighbourhoods where below-average incomes meet high fuel bills.
- The **average bill** in these hotspots is **£2,470**.
- **12,880 homes** in hotspot neighbourhoods are rated inefficient.

THE NEED FOR AN URGENT INSULATION PROGRAMME

In response to the energy crisis, we've joined [United for Warm Homes](#) – a campaign powered by Friends of the Earth, calling for a national **street-by-street programme of free basic insulation measures**. Across the country, more than [170 groups](#) have already signed up to the campaign.

Across England and Wales, there are [almost 9,000 energy crisis hotspot neighbourhoods](#). In Colne Valley they make up 36.9% of all neighbourhoods. By prioritising these neighbourhoods for insulation, we can quickly leave those most in need with homes that are warmer and cheaper to heat. Basic measures – including loft insulation, cavity wall insulation, draught proofing and thermostatic radiator valves – should be the bare minimum we accept for all UK homes.

Research by the New Economics Foundation for Friends of the Earth calculated the [cost per household receiving these measures as around £1,300 to £2,500](#) depending on house type, with a **saving every year of around £490 to £720 per household**. Not all homes would require improvements, so average costs would be approximately £1,000 per home in any given area. In total, an England and Wales programme would cost between £15 and £25 billion. In addition, billions are also needed for deeper insulation measures for those unable to pay (e.g., solid wall insulation) and to fund the transition away from gas heating to electric. Friends of the Earth is calling for this programme to be kick-started using the Energy Profits Levy / Windfall Levy.

WHAT CAN MPs DO?

As part of the **United for Warm Homes** campaign, we're looking to work with politicians and discuss solutions to the energy crisis.

If you're interested in discussing the impacts and solutions to the energy crisis in Colne Valley and across the UK, please do get in touch by **replying to the email that this briefing was sent from**.