

# Winter Fuel Payment cut



# What is the situation?

- Winter Fuel Payment is £200 or £300 (if you're over 80) tax free payment
- Winter Fuel Payment has been cut for those not on:
  - Pension Credit
  - Universal Credit
  - Income Support
  - income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
  - or income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- This cut will save the Government around 1.4 billion a year.

# Why are we worried?

Energy Price cap Oct- Dec: £1,717

- This is a 10% increase from July's
- Around £100 less than last year

January 2025 cap is projected to be £1,762

- 3% increase from October's cap.
- £166 less than last year (£1,928)

Older people could have £600 less this winter

# Why are we worried?

Three particular groups of pensioners totalling about 2.5 million people:

01

Those on low incomes who just miss out on Pension Credit,

02

Those with high energy needs because of disability or illness,

03

The approximately 1 million older people who don't receive the Pension Credit for which they are eligible.

**This winter will be the hardest**

# What is the situation?

Over the course of winter 2023-2024, Age UK polling found that:

- Almost half (48%) of people aged 60+ were still worried about their ability to heat their home and 45% were worried about paying their bills.
- Close to a quarter, or around 3.7 million, also reported cutting back on food and groceries.

# What is the situation rurally?

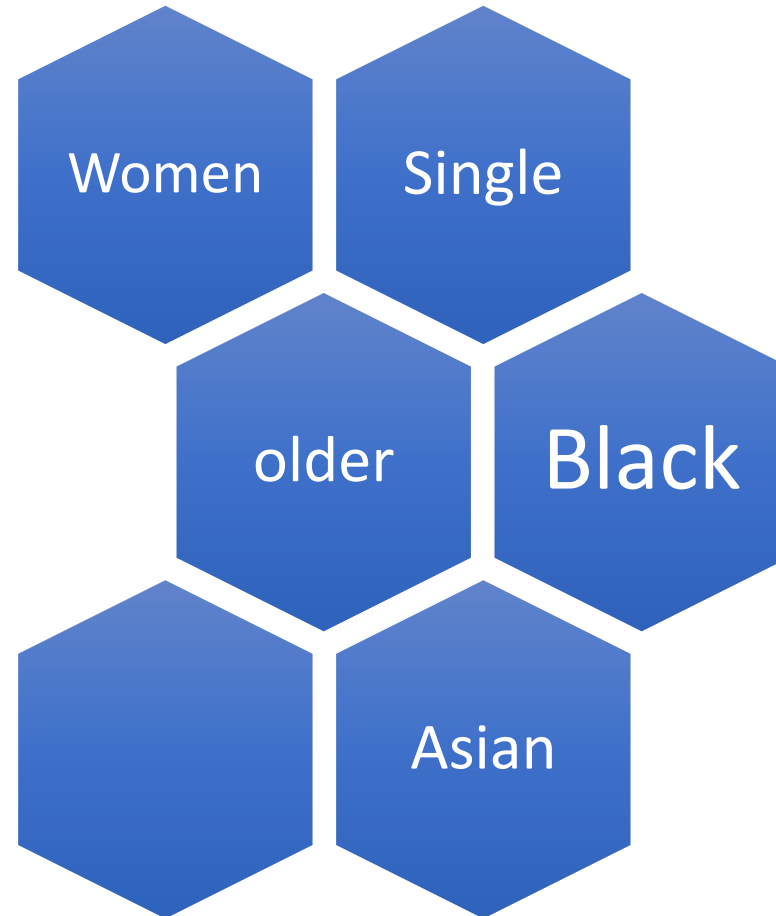


“Living in a rural community where we are subject to power cuts from overhead power lines, we use the heating allowance to purchase coal for our open fire. Having already lost my free TV licence, I feel that the loss of the heating allowance is a further loss to losing other allowances like free prescriptions, of which I have many due to heart and eyesight problems.”

“I suffer from MS with poor mobility and incapable of moving much can get cold easily. I have to rely on LPG for heating which is more expensive than town gas. It cost me £180 per month all year. So extra help is essential as my small private pension is now taxed . I am not eligible for Pension Credit but do get DLA (PIP) but nearly all this is used to pay for a car which is essential because of living in a rural area”

“They already can’t afford fuel in their car if it’s a 5 week month. Not getting the winter fuel allowance means either using money for heating or fuel for a car. They live in a rural area with no direct public transport links. They are already using a food bank. They are just above the threshold for pension credit and live alone.”

# Why are we worried?



# Where are we at?



560,000 signatures



Written to the Chancellor (twice! And had a response)



MPs are showing support – over 30 meetings



Debates, PMQs and votes, Early Day Motion, London Assembly Motion



Hundreds of pieces of media



Stunt/hand in



Judicial review – Unite and in Scotland



# Where are we at?



No mitigations in the Budget



Household Support Fund has been extended

# How can you get involved

Share the  
petition!

Write and  
meet your MP

Storytellers

