

APPROACH TO FUEL POVERTY IN THE UK

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FUEL POVERTY

"A household is in fuel poverty if, in order to maintain an acceptable level of temperature throughout the home it would have to spend more than 10% of its income on all household fuel."

CAUSES OF FUEL POVERTY

- POOR THERMAL EFFICIENCY OF DWELLINGS
- LOW HOUSEHOLD INCOME
- HIGH FUEL PRICES

UK APPROACH

- ERADICATE FUEL POVERTY BY 2010 FOR VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLDS
- ERADICATE FUEL POVERTY FOR ALL HOUSEHOLDS BY 2016 (2018 IN SCOTLAND)

UK FUEL POVERTY FIGURES

- SCOTLAND 23.5% (543,000) 2005/06
- ENGLAND 12.0% (2,500,000) 2006
- WALES 21% (250,000) 2006
- N IRELAND 34% (240,000) 2006

LEVELS OF FUEL POVERTY IN NORTHERN IRELAND

- 2001 - 27%
- 2004 - 23%
- 2006 - 34%

PARTNERSHIP APPROACH

- DFP - FINANCE & BUILDING STDS
- DSD - HOUSING & SOCIAL SECURITY
- DETI - ENERGY
- DHSSPS -
- DOE - AIR QUALITY
- DEPT. OF EDUCATION - CURRICULUM
- DARD - RURAL INCOMES



STRUCTURES

- INTER-DEPARTMENTAL GROUP
- FUEL POVERTY ADVISORY GROUP
 - KEY INTEREST GROUPS

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- 98% OF HOMES NOW HAVE FULL CENTRAL HEATING –
82% GAS OR OIL
- 78% OF HOMES HAVE WALL INSULATION
- 95% OF HOMES HAVE LOFT INSULATION
- 86% OF HOMES HAVE DOUBLE GLAZING

TACKLING POOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- EPB DIRECTIVE
 - BUILDING REGULATIONS
 - CERTIFICATES
- NIHE SOCIAL HOUSING HEATING PROGRAMME £20M 2007/08
- WARM HOMES – PRIVATE HOUSING HEATING PROGRAMME £20M 2007/08
- NIE ENERGY EFFICIENCY LEVY PROGRAMME £6M p.a.

Tackling Poor Energy Efficiency

- **ENERGY SAVING TRUST**
- **DETI's RENEWABLE ENERGY FUND**
- **ADVICE PROGRAMMES FROM A RANGE OF BODIES**
- **ALL ABOVE INCLUDE INSULATION & HEATING CONTROLS**

MAXIMISING HOUSEHOLD INCOME

- DSD - BENEFITS UPTAKE CAMPAIGN
- DSD - WINTER FUEL PAYMENT
- DEL - HELPING UNEMPLOYED
TO RETURN TO WORK
- ADVICE ON BUDGETING – VARIOUS SOURCES

FUEL PRICES

- SINGLE ELECTRICITY MARKET IN IRELAND – NORTH & SOUTH
- LIBERALISED ENERGY MARKET IN UK

ROLE OF RENEWABLES

| | | |
|-------------------|---|-----------|
| SOLAR THERMAL | - | PROGRAMME |
| SOLAR PV | - | PILOT |
| SOLAR VENTILATION | - | PILOT |
| HEAT PUMPS | - | PILOT |
| MICRO – CHP | - | PILOT |
| WOOD PELLETS | - | PILOT |

FUTURE

AFTER ENERGY EFFICIENCY WORKS
17% OF HOUSEHOLDS WILL REMAIN
IN FUEL POVERTY UNLESS
ACTION IS TAKEN TO INCREASE INCOME
AND REDUCE FUEL PRICES.

REQUESTS

- FINANCIAL INCENTIVES FOR SUSTAINABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENT
- POLICIES TO DELIVER THIS
- REDUCED OR ZERO RATE VAT FOR ALL ENERGY EFFICIENCY WORKS
- ERDF FUNDING FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY WORKS THROUGHOUT EU