



We published a new report: “How to survive during the winter?” The “impossible choices” faced by older people following changes to the Winter Fuel Payment.

The report – [available on our website here](#) - is based on direct testimony from over 30 community organisations we support who are working with thousands of older people in some of the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods across Great Britain.

The report finds that some of the most vulnerable older people in Great Britain face ‘impossible choices’ around heating or eating and are uncertain how “to survive the winter” as a result of the decision. We also heard about the “catastrophic” and immediate impact of the decision to means test winter fuel payments, including higher levels of stress, anxiety and worse mental health at the uncertainty of whether older people will be eligible. Our partners were clear about the need for the UK and Scottish governments to reverse these plans, and only introduce them when a thorough equality impact assessment is done.

Please do share the report on [LinkedIn](#) and [X](#) if you can.

We have also launched a [Winter Appeal](#) to urgently raise £250,000 to provide vital support for thousands of older people who need it the most.

We know that older people may have to make impossible choices this winter – with our collective help, we can do all we can to make sure their health isn’t made worse.

Best wishes

Max Rutherford

Director of Programmes, Policy and Public Affairs.