

4 million

Fuel poverty

An average of 300-400 local older people die every year.

Shockingly, during the winter of 2014/15 920 vulnerable people died from cold weather related deaths in Dorset.

Mrs J, 75, has a boiler which is 26 years old and not working very well; she will use the Surviving Winter grant towards the cost of replacing it.

Both Mr and Mrs D, 74, have had cancer diagnoses in the last few months. Neither of them can tolerate the cold, so their heating is on 24 hours a day and they are struggling to pay the bills.

This winter there are more than four million UK households living in fuel poverty. Around two thirds are in rural areas.

The ratio of winter related deaths is higher in Dorset than most of the UK and the elderly are among the most vulnerable (the shire Dorset population has the largest proportion of older people in the UK). There are more heart attacks and strokes in the winter months.

People die because they can't keep warm in the winter. Hundreds of deaths occur in Dorset each year due to the effects of the cold weather on vulnerable people in rural and urban households.



'It sometimes felt like being sat in a prison because you are stuck in one room to keep warm. The Surviving Winter Appeal enabled me to put my heating on and gave me the freedom to sleep in my own bed as appose to the settee. Most importantly it stopped me from having to go back into hospital and helped me live a life in the winter.' Mrs Lyle



'It is shocking that many older people are at risk and often suffer in silence, having to choose between heating or eating. As little as £200 can save someone's life!' Valerie Singleton

If You Need Help

Dorset Community Foundation works in partnership with organisations such as Citizens Advice in Dorset to disperse the donations raised and offer additional support and help around fuel poverty.

For more information on the help available please ring 01929 775500 or contact your nearest Citizens Advice Bureau.

We would like to thank Ridgewater Energy for supporting the production of this leaflet.



Help older people in Dorset stay warm and safe this winter

An average of 300-400 local residents die during the winter months every year



An average of 300-400 vulnerable Dorset residents die every year because of the cold

They die unnecessarily because:

- They can't afford to keep warm
- The cost of fuel is rising
- Many people in rural Dorset are living in park homes or off grid
- The effects of the cold on existing health conditions

That could be someone dying in YOUR village or town due to the cold winter weather.

Would you like to help one of them? Somebody who is choosing between heating their home or eating a meal?

If the answer is yes, you could directly save someone's life. Your donation could help keep them safe and warm this winter.



Mrs H, 78 is only heating one room of her home because she has inefficient and expensive storage heaters.

Dorset Community Foundation's Surviving Winter Appeal collects your warm generosity and shares it with people in need.

The Surviving Winter Appeal is a simple way to help protect vulnerable people from the worst of the weather.

The money raised from the appeal will be used to support older people across Dorset this winter.

If you get the Government's Winter Fuel Payment but would rather give it to someone who needs it more, we can do that. If you don't get a Winter Fuel Payment, you can still make a donation.

Mr Y is a carer for his wife, who has been diagnosed with cancer several times over the last six years. She feels the cold more since her treatments. They are both of State Retirement Pension age and have a limited income.

Receiving a Surviving Winter grant last year has allowed them to pay the higher energy bills. This reduced the financial stress on them both; the worry about the expected energy bill was exacerbating her health issues. They were both so grateful to get this grant.

Make a donation

Online

at www.dorsetcommunityfoundation.org

BACS Transfer

Charities Aid Foundation Bank,

Sort Code: 40-52-40, Account Number: 00083897. Ref. SW

Cheque

Make a cheque payable to: 'Dorset Community Foundation' and write 'Surviving Winter' on the back. Please return your cheque and this form to: **Dorset Community Foundation, The Spire, High Street, Poole, BH15 1DF**

I would like to give (please tick):

£100 £150 £200 £250

Other (please specify) £ _____

Gift Aid

If you are a UK tax payer, Dorset Community Foundation can claim a tax repayment of 25p for every £1 donated as long as you pay income or capital gains tax at least equal to the amount claimed as Gift Aid in the tax year. Higher rate tax payers can claim additional relief.

Remember to notify us if you no longer pay an amount of income tax / or capital gains tax equal to the amount of tax we reclaim in your donation.

I confirm that I wish Dorset Community Foundation to treat this donation and all future donations as Gift Aid donations.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Please tick the boxes below to indicate ways for us to contact you.

Under new regulations we can continue to inform you of our work only if we have your explicit consent via the methods indicated below.

By Email _____

By Post (at the address above)

By Phone _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

www.dorsetcommunityfoundation.org

Tel. 01202 670815. Charity Number 1122113