

## Notice of Motion

### Warm Banks for Moray

#### Preamble

Many this winter are expected to choose between eating or heating, and there are real fears that people will freeze at home as bills are unaffordable for many.

The recent energy price guarantee price places a limit of £2,500 on household energy bills, this figure is still more than double the level of bills for households last winter. People fear they will not be able to turn on their heating.

It has been estimated that the number of UK households in fuel poverty could more than double to 12 million in January. The End Fuel Poverty Coalition said 42% of households would not be able to afford to adequately heat and power their homes from January, even with the energy price guarantee.

Meanwhile, with inflation climbing hitting costs of food and fuel and recession looming there are significant strains on struggling households.

1. The council notes that heat banks are a response to the crisis to ensure those unable to heat their homes can keep warm and safe elsewhere.
2. The council therefore requests a report with further background to:
  - i) Help identify public buildings in the area which could be used as warm spaces for public access during the winter. This could include libraries and community centres.
  - ii) Explore how the Council could work alongside partner organisations to look at the possibility of making use of their spaces, as well as encouraging organisations in the private and third sectors to do the same.

Proposer: Councillor Van Der Horn

Seconder: Councillor Lawrence