

Nicola Hesketh  
Project and Information Coordinator

**Our Ref: FOI3720/NH/02**  
**Please ask for: Nicola Hesketh**  
**Direct dial: 01827 709 587**  
**E-mail: FOImailbox@tamworth.gov.uk**

[name and address redacted]

18<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Dear [name redacted]

### **Freedom of Information – Request for Information**

With regards to your recent enquiry for information held by the Authority under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Please find the information you requested below with reference in the box to your original enquiry for clarity where multiple answers are required.

#### **Details of Your Request**

- Any data the authority holds on (i) the prevalence of fuel poverty in the area and (ii) the characteristics of the households affected
- Details of any local programmes or initiatives intended to address the problem of fuel poverty in the authority (links to relevant web pages would be sufficient)

#### **The response to your request as follows:**

- **Tamworth Borough Council's Private Sector Stock Condition Survey 2010 estimated that there were 2,550 (10.3%) dwellings in fuel poverty in Tamworth compared to approximately 13.2% nationally based on the findings of the EHCS 2007, as reported in the Annual Report on Fuel Poverty Statistics 2010, published by the Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC).**

**(ii) The highest proportionate rate of fuel poverty was found in the private rented sector at 17.5% (510 households) compared with 9.4% (2,040 households) in the owner occupied sector.**

**1,960 households (77% of the households in fuel poverty) were households with incomes below £10,000 per annum, with the remaining 590 (23%) having incomes above £10,000 per annum. This means that the rate of fuel poverty in the 4,540 households with an income below £10,000 was 43%.**

**In Tamworth fuel poverty was found in 1,270 households (49.8% of households in fuel poverty) where a benefit was received, compared with 1,280 households (50.2% of households in fuel poverty) where occupiers did not receive benefit. This means that 17.9% of households in receipt of benefit were in fuel poverty.**

- **Home Energy Advice Tamworth (HEAT) is a Tamworth Borough Council service available to all residents, regardless of tenure, to assist with improving homes to make them warmer, help reduce fuel costs and improving health and wellbeing by providing advice and guidance to households that are experiencing fuel poverty.**

The service provides a dedicated freephone line, text number and email address to residents of Tamworth so they can speak to trained advisors and be offered energy efficiency advice, referral to relevant agencies for funding or energy saving measures and lifestyle advice targeted specifically at those in fuel poverty. It also provides trained workers to carry out home visits where needed, to give face to face energy advice.

<http://www.tamworth.gov.uk/save-money-your-fuel-bills>

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Project and Information Coordinator,  
Tamworth Borough Council,  
Marmion House,  
Lichfield Street,  
Tamworth,  
B79 7BZ

Details of Tamworth Borough Council's internal review and complaints procedure are attached, in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

Yours Sincerely

Nicola Hesketh  
Project and Information Coordinator