



# Fuel poverty and transport poverty in the UK: a critical examination of their future evolution in relation to government policy.



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## THE POINT OF THE RESEARCH

- Critically examine the links between fuel poverty and transport poverty, impacting UK society since the 2007/08 recession.
- Research has shown that they are not being properly addressed by government policy.
- Seeks to make a methodological contribution to these phenomena, by looking at the connections between them and making appropriate recommendations.

## BACKGROUND

### Fuel Poverty

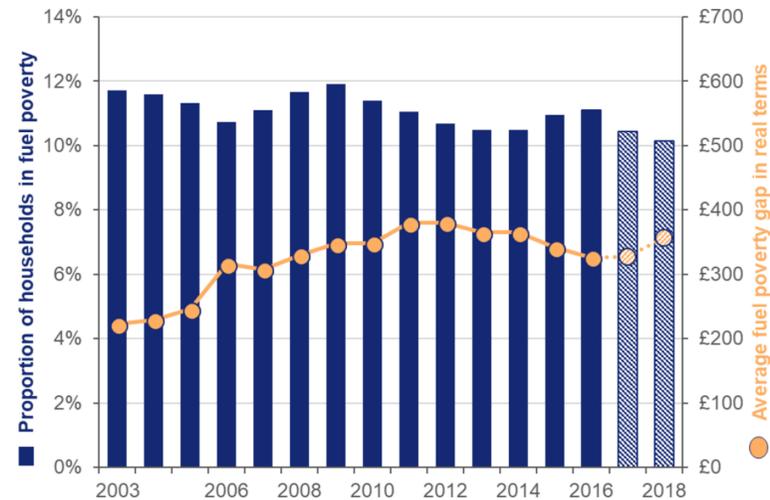
- Fuel poverty is the inability for a household to afford adequate warmth (Lewis, 1982).
- Fuel poverty in England has an official measure called the Low Income High Costs (LIHC) indicator, which factors in fuel costs, household income and the official poverty line (Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, 2018).
- It is estimated that 2.55 million households in England are living in fuel poverty (2016 data) (ibid.)

### Transport Poverty

- Transport poverty as a term has been used to raise awareness of the plight of individuals and households struggling to make essential journeys (Titheridge et al., 2014).
- Transport poverty is a socioeconomic phenomenon which is not clearly defined (Titheridge et al., 2014; Lucas et al., 2016).
- Transport poverty has not been formally adopted within UK Government policy (Sustrans, 2012).

## OBJECTIVES

1. Identify the causal mechanism of fuel poverty and transport poverty in the UK.
2. Identify the policy reform that is needed to eliminate fuel poverty and transport poverty in the UK.



Actual fuel poverty for England 2003-2016; projected fuel poverty for England 2017-2018

(Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, 2018, p. 74)

## METHODS

This research project has adapted a multiple and mixed methods approach, as the subject matter is heterodox. Methodology to include:

- Statistical analysis of secondary longitudinal data on fuel poverty and transportation.
- Semi-structured interviews with people working on fuel poverty and transport poverty, to be analysed using pattern analysis.
- Government policy analysis, to be compared to the outcome of the interviews.

## METHODS - INTERVIEWS

Ethics approval granted 30<sup>th</sup> Jan 2018.

Interviews took place between 8<sup>th</sup> Feb and 4<sup>th</sup> Dec 2018.

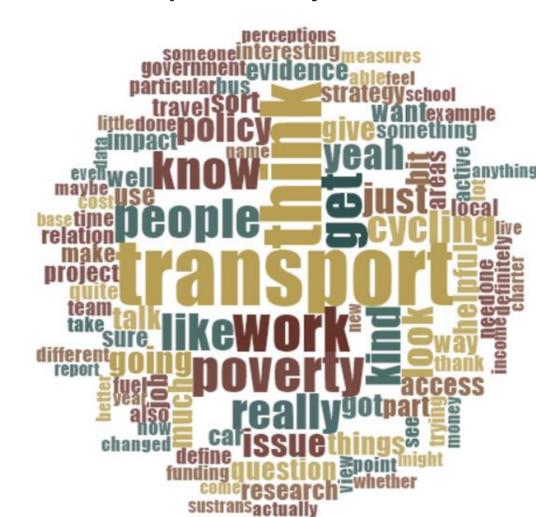
Fuel Poverty Interviewees	Transport Poverty Interviewees
Central government	Central government
Local/Regional government	Local/Regional government
Campaigning organisations	Campaigning organisations
Energy company	Transport Sector
	Academic/Consultant

## PRELIMINARY RESULTS

### Fuel Poverty Interviews



### Transport Poverty Interviews



## REFERENCES

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (2018) *Annual fuel poverty statistics report, 2018 (2016 data) England*, London, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, [online] Available at: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/719106/Fuel\\_Poverty\\_Statistics\\_Report\\_2018.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/719106/Fuel_Poverty_Statistics_Report_2018.pdf) (Accessed 13 July 2018).

Lewis, P. (1982) *Fuel poverty can be stopped*, London, National Right to Fuel Campaign.

Lucas, K., Mattioli, G., Verlingheri, E. and Guzman, A. (2016) Transport poverty and its adverse social consequences, *Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers - Transport*, pp. 1–13.

Sustrans (2012) *Locked Out - Transport Poverty in England*, [online] Available at: <https://www.sustrans.org.uk/sites/default/files/images/files/migrated-pdfs/Transport%20Poverty%20England%20FINAL%20web.pdf> (Accessed 26 January 2018).

Titheridge, H., Christie, N., Mackett, R., Oviedo Hernández, D. and Ye, R. (2014) *Transport and Poverty: A review of the evidence*, University College London, pp. 1–54, [online] Available at: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/transport-institute/pdfs/transport-poverty> (Accessed 7 March 2016).