

Cost Of Living Crisis Impact on Children



Barnardos

Because childhood lasts a lifetime

The National Picture



Two thirds of parents stated that they and their children have cut back or gone without some form of essential*.



Over one quarter of parents (28%) have cut back or gone without heat, and almost one in four (23%) have cut back or gone without electricity.

*Activities/entertainment for your children, Heat, Electricity, Food, Clothing, Transport, Medical appointments/medicines

Over one third stated they have had to cut back on clothes and alarmingly, one in six have cut back or gone without on medical appointments/medicines.



'In all my years with this service I've never seen so many families getting to the point of being cut off from electricity, having to make choices about what they are going to go with/without this week'

Barnardos staff

All it takes is for one cost to crop up or one thing to breakdown and they are tipped into financial crisis

Barnardos staff

The Barnardos Picture

The Solution

Hardship Fund. The Department of Social Protection should introduce a hardship fund



Social Welfare Payments. Benchmark social welfare payments in line with minimum essential standard of living measurements.

Fuel allowance and energy providers. Recently introduced extensions to fuel allowance should be continued next year and additional families should be able to benefit from it, for example, parents on working family payment.

