# CARC AGM

# Natalie Colah Energy Projects Lead

citizens

advice

## Why Energy Advice?

- Since the cost of living crisis begun in 2021, energy advice has become one of our biggest advice areas and this is also seen across the rest of England & Wales.
- Aside from Rent and Mortgage, energy (gas, electric & alternative fuels) is often the biggest expense for a household.
- This huge expense generates fuel poverty, where a household on a low income must spend a disproportionately high amount on energy. As a result, the cost of energy contributes to a budget deficit, spiralling to financial instability and debt.
- People are impacted by fuel poverty in other ways:
  - Physical and mental health impacts
  - Inhibits academic and social development in children
  - Creates difficult choices heat or eat.
- All of our energy projects are designed to address any emergencies and alleviate underlying causes of fuel poverty through energy efficiency advice and income maximization support.

### Projects breakdown

# Energy Advice, Outreach & Casework

- National Citizens Advice funded.
- Delivers energy & income maximization advice as a holistic offering. This includes help to deal with energy debt.
- Caseworkers provide additional support over a minimum of 3 appointments.
- Outreach workers attend community venues and events to provide light-touch advice.

#### Community Energy Advice

- Funded by the Energy Redress Scheme.
- Energy advice is given in the community to people who may struggle to access our mainstream advice channels.
- Advisers provide energy advice only, but can refer internally for a benefits check and other support via our wider team.





Outreach & Community Advice
Our work in the community enables us to:

- Reach residents who struggle with mainstream advice channels
- Engage and network with partner organisations
- Identify new opportunities to grow our offering in new geographic areas.

#### Meet the team!

# Energy Advice, Outreach & Casework

- Raquel
- Simon
- Mark
- Aija

#### **Community Energy Advice**

- Marc Huntingdonshire
- Hannah Fenland
- Natalie East Cambridgeshire

The majority of our energy advisers have achieved the NEA/City & Guilds Level 3 Award in Energy Awareness.

### Key statistics 1st April - 31st October 2025.

Project	Income Gains
ENERGY ADVICE PROJECT (WHD)	£197,02
CADENT	£303,78
ENERGY REDRESS	£55
TOTAL	£501,36

### What our clients have to say

Hi Marc, Thank you very much for the help! Absolute godsend!

Hi Natalie, I'm pleased to say [pension credit was successful]. Although its only a few pounds its helpful in so many other ways. Thank you so much for helping me go with it, without you I would never of tried.

Hi Mark, Thanks so much for the blanket it's wonderful!

'thankyou [Simon] this is life changing'

