Reg Charity no. 1106024
Reg Company no.04587815





The Footprint Trust

Impact Report

2025-2026

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Introduction



The Footprint Trust is the leading charity tackling fuel poverty on the Isle of Wight. Since 2002, we have been helping people to keep warm and well at home. Offering tailored guidance delivered by a team of qualified Energy Guides, we reduce home energy and water use. Our impartial energy guidance is specific to the requirements of the client and their household.

Values:
Integrity - Compassion - Respect

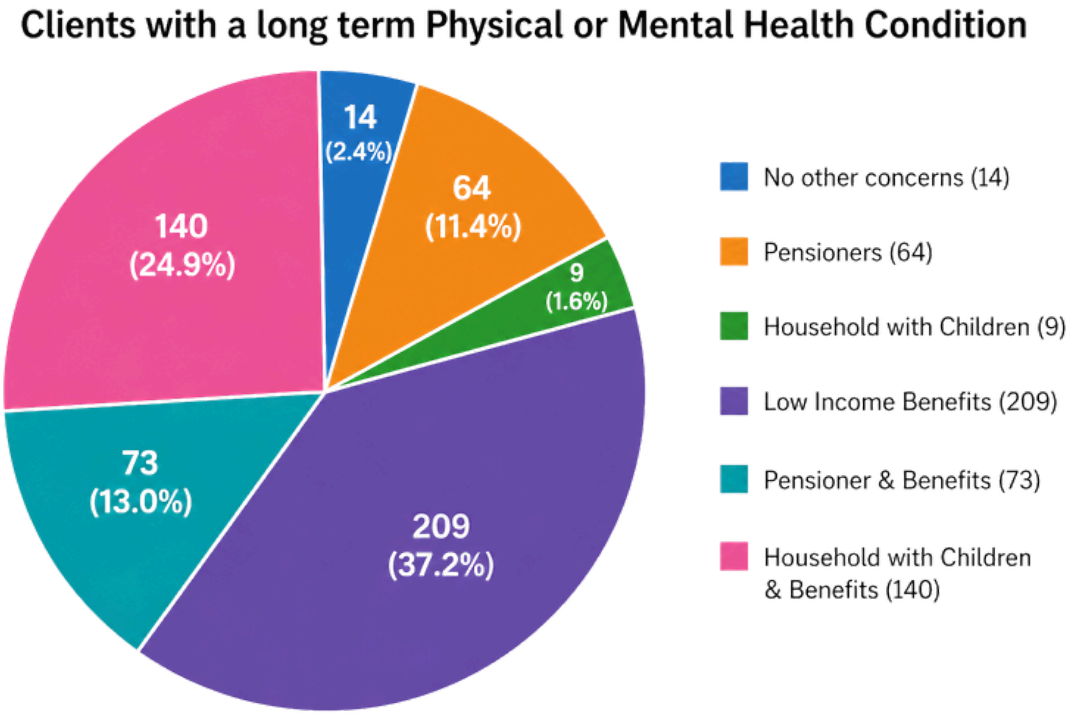
2025-26 Year in Review

The past year was a significant one for The Footprint Trust, as we worked to support households across the island in reducing energy costs and environmental impact. Our approach focused on providing practical help alongside tailored advice. This included home visits for those needing more in-depth support, as well as access to essential household items and energy-saving equipment to make day-to-day living more affordable. We also offered financial assistance to help households manage heating costs during difficult periods, ensuring people could stay warm when it mattered most. Education remained a key priority, with community talks designed to give residents the knowledge and confidence to better manage their energy use and reduce bills. Together, these efforts have helped lower carbon emissions while improving comfort and resilience at home. The outcomes achieved this year demonstrate the value of combining hands-on support, expert guidance, and community engagement.

"We have helped islanders to identify annual energy savings of around £750,000."



Who do we help?



Topics we cover:

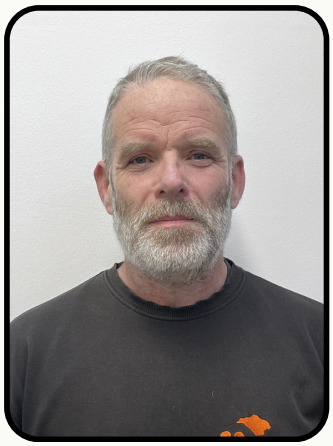


- Reduce water, energy and fuel bills
- Find energy efficient ways to cook and wash
- Tackle condensation
- Identify sources of heat loss
- Thermal camera survey
- Guidance for energy efficient grants
- Access additional support such as energy vouchers
- Support in billing disputes
- Overcome cold and damp
- Improve a home's EPC rating
- Understand and maximise heating systems

The Team



Laura Stichbury:
Manager



Kevin McNamara:
Assistant Manager



Steve Howes:
Senior Energy Guide



Bethan Curtis:
Administrator / Energy Guide



Marzena Turner:
Energy Guide



Petra Saunders:
Comms and Project Delivery Lead

Aims and Achievements

Island Wide Energy Guidance

Fighting Fuel Poverty

We have drawn attention to the cause of fuel poverty on the island and worked with other organisations to combat the impact on cold homes.

Outreach

Our Energy Team delivered 103 outreach sessions in various settings such as libraries, community groups and Foodbanks.

Home Visits

We provided 58 in-depth visits to people's homes, assisting in maximising heating within the home and reducing energy bills.

Phone Support

Our specially trained team gave bespoke information to over 531 households on the Isle of Wight.

Measures

We provided over £98,000 in tangible support including; low energy appliances and cooking items, energy saving items, emergency heating and energy vouchers towards utility costs.

Winter is Coming

Our annual event brought together over 20 help agencies from health, to food charities, and energy support. The event helped our community build resilience for winter and tackle the impact of low incomes.

Warm Homes Healthy Futures IOW

Working with RISS and Pan Together, we provided benefit application support and bespoke energy guidance to hundreds of households suffering with physical and mental health conditions made worse by cold damp homes.

SNG Foyer Home Visits

We visited 20 households of young people to help them set up their new home in the best way and provided warm packs to cut bills and maximise heating.

Energy Outreach Project

We engaged with hundreds of islanders at events across the island to cut utility bills and help lower the carbon footprint for the Isle of Wight.

Energy Talks

We provided 13 talks to a range of Health, Support, Wellbeing, Social and Community groups across the Island. Which helped people get to grips with utility bills and find better ways to cut costs.

Frontline Worker Training

The Trust trained 77 Frontline workers from various organisations to recognise and alleviate the main symptoms of fuel poverty.

Air Fryer & Low Cost Cooking

We provided low cost cookery classes to 299 people in various groups including Southern Housing residents, WI, Babybox, Learning Zone, Veteran's Outreach, People Matter and Pan Together.

Warmer Towns and Parish Councils

We have delivered outreach and in-depth guidance to help people struggling with high bills in Ryde, Newport & Carisbrooke, and Ventnor.

Resilience Project

We have reached vulnerable customers and promoted the Priority Service Registration and Updates to people with health conditions and living in vulnerable circumstances.

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Feedback & Case studies



Case Studies 2025-26

*Names changed to retain anonymity

Client Feedback 2025-26

96%	Feel better about managing energy or water bills
76%	Are better able to use heating system
89%	Have made or going to make changes
98%	Have been helped to cook or wash clothes in a cheaper way

Claire* has physical and mental disabilities, lives on ill-health benefits, and has a young child. None of the storage heaters in her social housing flat worked, leaving her reliant on one oil-filled heater. During a home visit, we confirmed the heaters were faulty and provided evidence that helped Claire secure a move from her damp flat on health grounds.

Claire said:
"I'm a single mum. I always come to you guys because you understand and are so helpful. You provided evidence for me that I sent to the ombudsman and it made a real difference."

Alfred* is an older man with physical disability and dementia. We provided energy casework and found his home had poor insulation and low energy efficiency. Advice included washing at 30 degrees, using an air fryer, and closing curtains at dusk. Alfred was also signposted to energy efficiency grants, benefits support, and the Priority Services Register.

Feedback from a Heat Smart Energy Talk for elderly residents:

Hazel* said:

"Thank you SO much for speaking to our coffee morning today. It was very interesting, we all learnt a lot. You are such a good communicator, everyone was relaxed and were able to ask questions. You explained clearly, standing charges and ways to save on energy bills. I look forward to inviting you back perhaps in the autumn. Very best wishes for all the work you do on the Island, it's valuable."

Air fryer demonstration Feedback

Peer Support Worker at Southern Housing Group, said: "We were thrilled to welcome Petra to deliver two fun and practical cooking courses for our residents. These sessions gave everyone the chance to learn, cook, and take home not just recipes - but the tools to keep making healthy meals."

Patricia* is physically disabled and lives with her adult son, who has mental health issues. They were struggling to heat their home with a heat pump costing £60 a week. During a home visit, we used thermal imaging to identify heat loss and advised them to request insulation improvements from their landlord. Energy vouchers were also provided.

Patricia said the vouchers "*were brilliant*" and helped with high winter energy costs linked to her dietary needs.

Daniel* contacted us because of high electricity bills. Although he was already a low-energy user, we found his immersion heater had been left on continuously. We downloaded the manual for his programmer and explained how to set heating times correctly.

Daniel said:
"Thank you so much. I was at my wit's end and could not work out what was going on. I now know I can make some more changes and reduce my bill."

Victoria* is a wheelchair user with physical health issues and a very low income. She had stopped using heating after prices doubled, leaving her home cold with condensation and mould. During a home visit, we gave advice on reducing mould, improving heat retention, and supplied an energy-efficient radiator. We also supported her to join the Priority Services Register and access benefit support.

Victoria said:
"My home is now warm, the heater you supplied heats my home to 19 degrees. I now feel better for the first time in Winter in a long time, the mould has gone and I feel so much better. You have made such a massive difference. I cannot say how grateful I am. Having you visit has made such a difference, thank you, thank you, you do such a great job."

Our Funders

We are grateful for the support from our funders

COMMUNITY FUND

Funded by UK Government

Household Support Fund

citizens advice

ISLE of WIGHT COUNCIL

WARM HOMES HEALTHY FUTURES

Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks

Newport & Carisbrooke Community Council

RYDE TOWN COUNCIL

Ventnor Town Council

SOUTHERN HOUSING

SNG Sovereign Network Group