



Damian Hinds
MP for East Hampshire

27 October 2010

One in Twelve Local Households are in ‘Fuel Poverty’ According to Figures

Answers to Parliamentary Questions tabled by local MP Damian Hinds reveal that in the last year for which local figures are available, there were around 3,400 (8% of the total) households in the East Hampshire constituency classed as in ‘fuel poverty’. Nationally, the number of fuel poor households has been on the increase, rising by more than a third between 2006 and 2008.

A household is classed as being in fuel poverty if more than 10% of household income is spent on fuel.

Damian Hinds said:

“The rise in the number of people living in fuel poverty is very concerning. These are mostly elderly or vulnerable people. I am pressing for measures to be brought forward to help mitigate fuel costs, in particular the Green Deal, which is expected to make a significant impact by helping people insulate their homes and cut their bills. Local organisations, such as the Greening Campaign, do a great job both to raise awareness of insulation, and helping local people with the practicalities through their Energy Efficiency Assessments for homes.”

Terena Plowright, national director of Greening and the spark behind the original Greening Petersfield said:

Fuel Poverty must be tackled as this does not just affect people’s spending power but also their health and their basic comfort. Small changes can often make a big difference and local Greening Groups are pulling together to support local education and information on ways to help households across their area. The Green Deal will add to the opportunities for everyone and we must grasp this with both hands.

ENDS

For further information, please contact Ed Condon on 0207 219 7057 or Damian’s office through Damian.Hinds.MP@parliament.uk