

Fuel Poverty Action Annual Report

AGM 10 September 2019

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Trying Times

When Fuel Poverty Action was founded in 2011, we tried to look ahead to the end of the decade. We had been told that by that time, the impacts of escalating climate change would be undeniable and devastating even in countries of the North, like the UK.

Now we are here, and it is happening. At the same time, more and more people are suffering from cold homes and hunger, as a result of low incomes, high prices, and poor housing. FPA, which has always fought for energy that is *both* affordable *and* environmentally sustainable, is increasingly a resource for those who are determined to confront these twin crises together.

For years Fuel Poverty Action has been working with fuel poor people, pensioners, migrants, people with disabilities, single mothers, and residents of housing estates (both social and private) to understand what can genuinely make an impact on energy bills and carbon emissions - as opposed to “solutions” which create false hope. We work with people fighting over insulation, fuel prices, construction standards, housing policies, heating systems and more, seeking to bring grassroots voices to where they can influence policy.

Increasingly people and organisations are seeking ways to transition to a sustainable economy in a fair way – a way acceptable to those who can least afford to pay the price of climate change (and have done the least to cause it). “*Just Transition*” is now being advocated everywhere, as the imperative that it is.

This year has seen an accelerated push within FPA to understand more, absorb more expertise and experience, and formulate coherent demands. This is an ongoing process and a good part of our work has been devoted to such debates. We are also responding to requests to pass on what we have learned so far. Requests

are pouring in from a wide range of places -- from local tenants associations and trade union councils to the Economic and Social Committee of the EU Commission.

So, we continue to be hyperactive and are told repeatedly that we “punch way above our weight”. We also continue to lack the resources needed to meet the many demands. However, we believe nothing is more urgent than this work.

The Year -- Overview

On top of FPA’s ongoing work of advising and supporting people who ask for help in dealing with their energy providers, there have been five additional strands of work throughout the year:

1. The campaign to ensure that District Heating (DH) - now being rolled out on a massive scale - does not leave residents cold through outages or high prices.
2. The SCIN campaign for Safe Cladding and Insulation Now - with residents at risk from flammable and/or toxic insulation and cladding, or from inadequate insulation.
3. The fight for social housing to be genuinely affordable, warm, safe and managed in a way that is accountable to residents.
4. The fight for energy to be produced renewably and not by fracked gas or other fossil fuels.
5. The fight to ensure that whatever happens to energy prices, in the light of green policies and international developments, people can afford to heat their homes and to keep cool enough in the summer.

1. District Heating

“District Heating”, or “Heat Networks” work like a central heating system with one boiler or heat source for a whole building, estate, or district. This system is being heavily promoted and subsidised by the UK central government and by the Mayor of London, on the grounds that it will help to reduce carbon emissions. With a £320 million injection from public funds, District Heating (DH) is expected to expand to meet up to 17% of heat demand in homes by 2050.

Backing Up DH Residents

Such communal systems have the potential to bring down bills and carbon emissions - and in some places they do. In others, they have proved disastrous with sky high prices, constant break-downs, no hot water, overheating, and terrible customer service. Leaseholders in addition can face five-figure capital levies. Residents on heat networks are caught in a monopoly and cannot switch.

Except for metering and billing, heat networks are unregulated. In the absence of legal protections, we have helped residents use every possible resource to get their problems solved, from the media to the Heat Trust to going straight to BEIS -- the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. This has led to

improvements in some places, and we've been told by industry insiders that our campaigning has made a difference to the quality of *new* heat networks.

Following years of residents' outrage and pressure from campaigns, this year has seen a crucial development - the government has accepted that the industry must finally be regulated. However, the struggle is not over, as existing regulations on metering and billing are widely ignored, and in any case regulation will not address fundamental problems with the way DH is financed and developed..

This year FPA have continued to offer practical advice and support to residents at the sharp end, eg:

- Hillingdon - in one block residents suffered 13 outages in six months.
- Poplar - "maintenance" costs have inexplicably multiplied.
- Waltham Forest - a tenant moving into a new social housing block could barely afford to put his heating on for one hour a day.

In Southwark, councillors have publicly acknowledged "near-constant heating breakdowns and leaks" threatening the health and safety of people of all ages, including a new-born baby. The heat networks serving 17,000 flats are old and hard to repair. On the large Aylesbury Estate many residents are in temporary accommodation, with few legal rights, despite being classed as "vulnerable".

In light of this we have regularly been invited by Southwark Group of Tenants Organisations (SGTO) to attend or speak at meetings, and have highlighted their situation to the GLA and BEIS. We also produced a dynamite moving graphic documenting outages on the estate. Residents won a promise that the council would pay for extra electricity costs when heating went down. However this has not been implemented. One tenant for instance, a full time carer for her disabled son, kept meticulous records of how her heating bills doubled during outage periods -- but struggled to even obtain from the council the correct form to complete for compensation.

"We have developed a fantastic partnership in which FPA have always been available for us to consult, bringing expertise from supporting other social tenants. FPA not only have knowledge but offer skills and different angles for campaigns, such as visualising data - something we had never explored before. FPA have attended tribunals with us and leaseholders and guided them to help them organise. They have supported us in many ways through press releases, peer to peer support, asked for our input into consultations, and contributed to consultations we have shared."

- *Rhiannon Hughes, Southwark Group of Tenants Organisations*

Contributing on Policy

Meanwhile we've been very active on DH at a policy level. The two bodies we have been most involved with this year have been:

1. BEIS
2. The GLA and the London Mayor, in relation to the London Plan.

1. For a BEIS consultation FPA worked with affected residents in preparing a detailed critique of existing plans, offering practical proposals to bring down prices and protect residents from dysfunctional heating.

We followed this up with a letter to the Minister for Energy and Clean Growth, Claire Perry, who had acknowledged the need for action to protect customers of existing DH schemes *now*, in advance of regulations. In reply, we were asked to talk to the head of DH policy to offer suggestions on achieving this. We went with affected residents from estates in Waltham Forest and Poplar. Officials took note of of FPA's specific complaints and proposals, but were particularly struck by the residents' stories. We will be following up to see if there is positive change for residents.

“Over the past year FPA have been supporting the residents of New Festival Quarter E14 with our on-going battle regarding unfair service charges. They have put forward our case to MPs and the London Mayor, sought expert advice on our issues, and set up a meeting with BEIS. We have received more help from FPA than any of the Leasehold support schemes and as a result the government are starting to take notice of the scandal we are stuck in. Thank you FPA”.

- ***Philippe Wilson, NFQ resident***

2. The new *London Plan* lays out the planning and development strategy for London for the next 20 - 25 years. FPA have been involved from the start of the consultation process. Following our 2018 submission, we were asked to submit further evidence on District Heating. We were then invited to take part in the “Examination in Public” session on Sustainable Infrastructure on 29 March 2019.

The draft Plan exhibited a clear bias in favour of District Heating. In conjunction with PCS Union and the planning-focused grassroots network Just Space, FPA stood out at the hearing for putting hard questions on the real environmental impact of DH and on what is going to be done to protect DH users from inadequate services and unreasonable bills. Our points were driven home by excellent coverage in Utility Week and Southwark News, and by our own blog: “Making Green Come True”.

Public engagements focusing on District Heating since then have included invitations to speak at two workshops:

- 10:10 Climate Action meeting on “Heat and Health”, where we also introduced the treasurer of a Southwark Tenants and Residents Association;
- a workshop on Community-led social housing regeneration, organised by Just Space.

2. Safe Cladding and Insulation Now

Following the Grenfell fire, FPA began organising to ensure that other buildings with flammable cladding had it replaced. In May 2018 following pressure from many quarters, the government announced £400 million funding to replace this cladding on social housing tower blocks. Social landlords began to remove it, but slowly, and

without replacing it promptly, often leaving residents without any form of cladding or insulation. FPA launched SCIN -- Safe Cladding and Insulation Now and drafted an open letter to the Secretary of State. The letter raised specific demands from both social housing residents and leaseholders, relating to risks of both fire and cold, as well as justice for the Grenfell community.

A Day of Action

Intensive work on cladding and insulation over 2018 culminated in a big Day of Action on 17 October. The day began with a round of radio interviews, including in-depth coverage on Radio London, where Vanessa Feltz probed the issue so many had ignored: residents should not be left to freeze in uninsulated buildings.

From midday, we demonstrated in front of the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. Residents and campaign groups spoke about their first-hand experiences, including;

- the plight of children at Grenfell;
- the needs of disabled people in high rise blocks;
- the threat of climate change and associated extreme weather for residents whose insulation has been removed.

We delivered the letter to the Secretary of State, signed by 150 organisations and influential individuals, including 28 MPs from four major political parties, five national trade unions, 20 other union bodies and branches, the National Union of Students, councillors, and diverse Grenfell-related, housing, environmental and other organisations.

Demonstrators then marched to the House of Commons for a two hour meeting with Emma Dent Coad, Grenfell MP; Rebecca Long-Bailey MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy; and Alison Stoecker, campaigns manager for John McDonnell MP.

The day's final event was a crowded tenants and residents meeting called by Southwark Group of Tenants Organisations, who are fighting to maintain local authority accountability to residents.

In Brussels, the Right to Energy Coalition held a solidarity action outside of the British embassy.

The Day of Action Received press coverage in The Daily Mail, Worcester News, Salford Star, Morning Star, Evening News, and more; Reel News produce a short video of the action.



Signatures on Safe Cladding and Insulation Now letter delivered to MHCLG 17 Oct 2018

The Minister's response

On 22 November James Brokenshire replied to our Open Letter, and to points raised by residents when they delivered the letter to his office. He wanted to assure us that the Government was "acting urgently and comprehensively to make sure... that residents should be safe in their homes." Shortly after this the government announced a funding scheme for replacement of ACM cladding in private blocks, as well as the funding earlier announced for social housing. However, funding for leasehold properties did not materialise until a further push from leaseholders in 2019.

For both tenants and leaseholders, there is a huge gap between government assurances and reality even in relation to fire safety, with testing of combustible materials repeatedly postponed, many dangerous buildings with different types of cladding still to be "discovered", an arbitrary limit that excludes from regulations buildings under 5 or 6 storeys, and skin-deep fire inspections. Fire watch wardens - which leaseholders are forced to pay for - are often ill-equipped or ill-trained. Many other factors, from inadequate fire doors to lack of sprinklers, and alarms that never sound, make another disaster very likely. More recent fires, like the one in Barking in June 2019, highlight these dangers.

"The actions taken by FPA, especially taking fire safety and related issues to the front doors of MHCLG headquarters, have been truly outstanding. The support gathered for the letter delivered that day was really significant too, a timely reminder to MHCLG that urgent action is required for people to have safe homes -- that are also warm homes, too."

- Phil Murphy, Fire Safety Consultant, Manchester

Moving forward

In spring 2019 we were relieved to see other organisations enter the field, such as UK Cladding Action Group (UKCAG) and the Manchester Cladiators, led by affected leaseholders. Our own role is now threefold:

1. We have continued to press for protection from the cold. Most residents are expected to pay for the extra cost of heating an uninsulated flat. Very few are provided with safe space heaters, damp treatments, or offered the option of moving elsewhere if their home cannot be made habitable.
2. Together with Tower Blocks UK and Disabled People Against Cuts (DPAC) FPA wrote directly to housing associations and local authorities before Christmas to ask for their policies (Inside Housing report [here](#)). We have also

raised the issue through the GLA Housing Committee and with the National Housing Federation, and it has finally been recognised in the press. We received some promises from social landlords but are worried about the coming winter. So far few residents have seen their extra costs covered. Of these, some are asked to pay upfront and claim later - a risk many cannot take. Unfortunately, nothing has been forthcoming from central government — no rules, and no money.

3. The financial ruin facing leaseholders in buildings with flammable cladding has attracted huge sympathy. FPA have supported leaseholders on this, as we have on district heating issues, while, as always, working to bridge the divide that often separates leaseholders and social housing tenants. We have worked with allies to counter the idea that the cladding problem is now resolved for social housing tenants.

In particular, we have highlighted the crisis facing residents of Pendleton in Salford where nine HA tower blocks with Grenfell style cladding were classed as “private” because they’d been refurbished by the Private Finance Initiative. FPA have done all we can to give Pendleton residents a public platform, supported them at a Scrutiny meeting at the council, and invited them down to meetings in Westminster. The meeting we facilitated between Salford residents and Grenfell United opened the door for further exchanges this year, including the opportunity for a Salford resident to speak at the end of Grenfell’s monthly Silent Walk.

It is remarkable that Pendleton residents have not won much relief, despite this Grenfell connection, FPA’s support, local union support, steady media coverage, and constant pressure from the residents themselves. Only one of the blocks has so far had cladding removed, and none have had it replaced.

“We are extremely grateful for Fuel Poverty Actions’ continued support for our plight in Salford. Outside of London we are worst affected with flammable cladding still present on eight out of nine high-risers. Still we wait for a date to remove this dangerous material.”

- Graeme Langton (suspended Chair Malus TARA)

4. The toxicity in the ground and air in a large area around Grenfell has highlighted an issue with far-reaching implications. There are health risks that residents are deeply concerned about, from many kinds of building material. To help draw attention to the issue we joined the local Kensington Residents Alliance in April in a white-boiler-suit clad occupation of local roads and roundabouts.

At the end of a Silent Walk we heard a member of the Grenfell community warn his neighbours, “they’re trying to install insulation in all our homes. Whatever you do, don’t let them in!” The issue is not straightforward: toxic materials have dangerous health effects, but a lack of insulation can also kill; carbon emissions from homes are a major contributor to climate change (also

a killer), and most non-toxic materials have their own drawbacks. But FPA maintains that it cannot be right to lobby for insulation without acknowledging its chemical composition. With the help of an architect who is an expert on this issue, we are working to investigate different options, and to raise the question at climate and fuel poverty forums that are focusing on insulation.

3. Accountability to Residents

It was one of the starkest lessons of the Grenfell fire that failing to listen to residents is a recipe for disaster. This was recognised in the Hackitt Report and in government promises and plans, including the Green Paper on Social Housing published August 2018. FPA took part in the Green Paper consultation (ending November) and others, highlighting not only fire safety issues but the disastrous cold, damp and mould that result from poor building design, insulation, maintenance, and heating systems.

We have worked to help expose the way, even as warm words are uttered about “listening to residents”, Tenants and Residents Associations are being routinely locked out of their communal rooms, threatened when they attempt to petition or organise, or replaced with bodies of “representatives” hand-picked by the social landlord. We have supported Southwark Group of Tenants Organisations in their fight to maintain their independence, as well as Salford residents who have suffered open bullying. And we’ve continued to work with Hillingdon residents whose fight to get insulation on their new-build estate has been stonewalled for nearly 10 years.

Time’s Up for Fossil Fuels - Including Gas

FPA has long been committed to the fight against fracking. It will not bring down fuel bills and causes environmental devastation and high financial costs both to local people and to all who suffer the effects of a changing climate.

In February, together with Reclaim the Power, we organised a 4-meter tall fracking drill and high-vis drillers outside the headquarters of Centrica in Windsor, highlighting high bills and the way British Gas bill-payers’ money is being invested in fracking.

This event got great media coverage, highlighting the country’s reliance on gas and the unaffordability of fossil fuels.



Outside Centrica HQ in Windsor, 22 February 2019 Photo: Soila Apparicio, DeSmog

Over the year we have also:

- Supported the Lancashire “Nanas” fracking demonstration in Parliament Square.
- Provided input on decarbonising gas to Policy Connect (a cross-party think tank)
- Supported Biofuelwatch’s demonstration against state subsidies and extension of Drax power station.
- Organised a demonstration in London, outside Centrica’s AGM, where our numbers were swelled by Extinction Rebellion.

The push for **renewable alternatives** is equally important. As well as taking part in London-based fossil free and “divest” initiatives, and debates about decarbonising heating, we were twice invited to Brussels by the Right to Energy coalition, a coalition of unions, green NGOs, housing providers, health and anti-poverty organisations and community energy cooperatives, aiming to eliminate energy poverty in Europe, with a major focus on renewable energy (see below).

5. Climate Justice - At home: A Public Debate

When Bills are a Crisis

FPA works with individuals as well as grassroots organisations to deal with everyday crises, and to signpost or introduce people not only to specialist advice organisations, or others who might help (eg BEIS) but to others in situations like their own. We make available our Miniguide on customers’ rights. We have supported individuals with issues including unfair debts, inexplicably high bills, prepayment meters, the dilemmas of rural fuel poverty, issues with storage heater controls, and concerns about the safety of insulation.

We are also consulted by other agencies and were particularly glad to be consulted by Robin Hood Energy company in Nottingham, who were creating policies addressing consumer vulnerability and fuel poverty.

Along with continuing to press on all the principles in our Energy Bill of Rights, we have this year confronted another question.

In autumn 2018 the Yellow Vests movement in France forced everyone to look again at a question that could prove decisive to everyone's future: *who will pay* for the transition to a sustainable economy? How will people with low resources be able to access the energy they need if governments start to bring the prices of fossil fuels into line with the damage they cause to the environment?

For FPA this meant an intensification of our work pinning down what energy efficiency, fair pricing, and protection for people in poverty must mean in practice.

We began to research the idea of a "Warm Floor", or "energy allowance". Instead of the current pricing system, where people who use little energy (generally the poorest) pay more per unit than those who use a lot, the Warm Floor would mean everyone gets a certain level of energy for free. There would be a higher rate for further units, helping to discourage waste. This would require attention to the question of how people can be protected when we *need* a lot of energy due to age, disability, or poor housing.

By January and February, we were ready to provide soundbites for the media, notably the tabloid Daily Express which came to us repeatedly for quotes. We were able to link rising fuel prices, and the government's new -- and rapidly devalued -- price cap, with the context of extreme weather and cuts to energy efficiency programmes.

In February we spoke from the floor about housing, heating and pricing issues in the context of the climate emergency, at two huge climate movement events.

1. A public dialogue organised by Labour for a Green New Deal
2. A public consultation on "Growth, Degrowth and Climate Justice" held by Global Justice Now.

At both events we emphasised accountability to residents. On pricing, we floated the "Warm Floor" proposal, which was picked up by both Rebecca Long-Bailey and economist Ann Pettifor as worth investigating further.

In March we published "Climate Justice - At Home". Subtitled "Pressing Questions", this short "pink pamphlet" attempts to outline the crucial questions that our whole society must confront, including:

- How we can affordably heat our homes as fossil fuels are phased out or become more expensive?
- Do we want district heating? Heat pumps? Hydrogen gas?
- Wind farms? Nuclear energy?
- Price protections like the "Warm Floor"?
- What are the downsides of each and how could they be overcome, if at all?



We take the “pink pamphlet” everywhere.

We also contributed to a book on the question, published by 10:10: “Stories of Heat from our Warming World”, and we are quoted at length on the subject of insulation in the excerpt published in The Ecologist.

“Fuel Poverty Action is invaluable to the energy democracy movement ensuring the voices of energy exploited communities are central to decarbonising our energy system”

- Sam Mason, PCS Union official

We have raised these issues repeatedly among people active on issues of pricing or climate.

- In spring 2019 we accepted invitations to speak at a women’s forum and at a lively local meeting that we co-organised in Kilburn.
- We organised a workshop at Extinction Rebellion’s Spring Uprising event in Bristol, and spoke at several other XR meetings and demonstrations.
- We were invited to speak at Trade Union events in Barnet and in Manchester.
- We were asked to feed into to the Labour Party’s consultations on green taxes and prices, contributing a briefing on the pros and cons of the “Warm Floor” proposal.
- We engaged with Green Party policy on prices, speaking up for the right to energy, and accountability to residents.
- We contributed content and advice on housing and on energy prices to the drafting of the Green New Deal for Europe, including on the “Warm Floor” proposal, which was included in the document.

In June we were delighted to be invited to speak at the annual Pensioners Parliament. We took this chance to engage directly with hundreds of people directly at risk of, or living with, fuel poverty. We wanted their feedback on housing, fuel and pricing issues. (Again, there was substantial interest in the “Warm Floor”). This was just one moment in an ongoing relationship with pensioners’ organisations, notably the National Pensioners Convention, Lambeth Pensioners Action Group, Greater London Pensioners Association, Lewisham Pensioners Forum, and Independent Age.

“Fuel Poverty Action fulfils a crucial role campaigning for the right to affordable, warm, well insulated, cleaner homes and a fairer energy system.”

- Ellen Lebethe Chair, Lambeth Pensioners Action Group (LAMPAG) and Vice President, National Pensioners Convention

Having taken part in many external events, our work-team decided to design a prototype workshop that could be adapted for different participants (climate activists, tenants and residents, pensioners). The aim was to help people more directly engage with and debate the issues we raised, while conveying information and collated experience. So far it has been trialled at climate-focused events, camps and festivals, and recently at the Common House’s ‘Common Ground’ festival in Bethnal Green).

At the same time, we have been engaging with climate movement organisations, trade unions and NGOs in a process of formulating effective demands for the planned climate strikes, town hall assemblies and other activities in autumn 2019.

6. Brussels

Some of our biggest impact has been on an international stage. In February 2019 we spoke at two meetings in the European Commission -- an EESC (European Economic and Social Committee) session on “Energy close to the Citizens” and a meeting of the Permanent Study Group, an internal energy think tank of the EESC.



Ruth London speaking at the European Economic and Social Committee

We suggested among other things that applicants for EU funding should be required to have a clean track record or to clean up any disasters they have created, before coming back for more money.

“Ms London was invited to speak at the debate on “accessible energy for all” on 11 February 2019. She presented first hand experiences of how well-intended measures that aim at reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions often increase health and poverty risks of those most vulnerable. This voice from the “sharp end of energy poverty” is extremely useful to the Brussels debate as information from the grassroots is limited.”

- ***Pierre Jean Coulon, President of the Section Transport, Energy, Infrastructure, and Information Society (TEN), European Economic and Social Committee***

In June, the Europe-wide Right to Energy Coalition, held a Forum to coincide with the EU’s Sustainable Energy Week. We were invited to speak at the EUSEW event itself, about how FPA helps residents experiencing fuel poverty or being ripped off by energy providers get heard in the corridors of power. Alexa Waud highlighted how important accountability is — people will stop speaking if they know it won’t achieve anything.

We had a major role also in the Forum itself where, as well as contributing to the plenary session, we held a workshop on energy prices, taxes, and protections for people who cannot afford their bills. Planned together with the Belgian organisation RWADE, the workshop also gave a chance to debate perspectives and share experience with people fighting energy poverty in the Netherlands, Hungary, Spain, and Macedonia. Later we were able to put the “Warm Floor” proposal to a panel of MEPs, with both positive and negative responses.

7. Limited Funding but the Work Continues

Again this year, we failed to obtain core funding and therefore have not been able to employ a salaried worker. Yet with consistent contributions of voluntary time we have been able to accomplish a great deal.

A grant of £3,600 for the SCIN campaign with the donations and affiliations of SCIN members have covered the costs of that campaign. This, with other monies remaining from previous years have enabled us to continue with our system of weekly, paid, collective work sessions. When team members’ time was claimed by full time work at the end of 2018, we advertised for interns. Despite the few hours offered, in January three people joined bringing with them a wealth of expertise and experience.

In June we received a £1,200 grant from the Edge Fund for our work empowering energy customers and residents, and working towards an energy transition that has wholehearted grassroots support. In August we received a £700 donation from British Pensioners and Trade Union Action Association. We have also seen a steady increase in donations and payments for our speaking at events etc.

Unfortunately, this has not been enough to continue the paid work session. We are scaling down to a few hours per week of paid admin work. We are exploring crowdfunding and a trade union appeal. Despite being well known and widely respected in a number of fields (poverty, energy, sustainability, district heating, housing . . .) we have not succeeded in obtaining urgently needed core funding, perhaps because we fall between so many stools.

8. The Core Team

Over the past year our London-based team has included the following people long-term, along with many others who have been involved in the work for shorter periods:

- **Ruth London**, founding member of FPA, formed in 2011. A grandmother. active for five decades organising against poverty, discrimination and climate change, and against rape. Social housing tenant. (Director)
- **Diane Skidmore**, joined FPA 2012. She is 69, mother of six, grandmother, activist, council tenant for 30 years; home-educated last four children so also educated many others on her estate. A retired NHS health trainer, she still works to support healthy living and well-being. (Director)
- **Frances Sleep** has been involved with FPA since 2012. She teaches Philosophy and Theology to sixth form students, and can sometimes bring her concerns with peace building and climate change to work. She is very concerned about fracking and likes to support local campaigns. Private renting tenant. (Director)
- **David Rosenfeld**, joined in 2016. Dave worked in environmental and safety research and enforcement for 35 years and campaigned on politics of energy and workplace hazards. He joined the Greens in 2014 for a fairer world safe from environmental and social destruction.
- **Philip McMahon** joined in 2017. He's a web developer at The Guardian newspaper. Outside of FPA, he's been active with Campaign Against Arms Trade for several years. He thinks retrofitting the UK's housing stock is an easy obvious win against climate change. Private rented tenant. (Director)
- **Alexa Waud** joined FPA at last year's AGM upon moving to London. She was excited to hit the ground running with the SCIN campaign. She'd been involved in divestment and climate justice campaigns on her university campuses, and works as a researcher. Private rented tenant.
- **Gianluca Cavallaro-Ng** joined FPA in 2018. He is 22 and is involved in various social justice and environmental campaigns. He has a background in environmental policy and wants an end to fuel poverty and climate change.
- **Helen Jackson** joined in January 2019, with a background of climate, housing and other activism for nearly two decades. She is a fuel poverty advisor and retrofit coordinator with South East London Community Energy and a community gardener with Cultivate London. She lives in and helps to run a housing coop in South London.
- **Robert Noyes** joined FPA in January 2019. He's a Divest/ Invest and UK Energy campaigner at Platform London. Outside of FPA he is active within the Labour party and in various climate justice campaigning groups.
- **Rebecca Turner** joined FPA in January 2019. She has a background in architecture and cares deeply about ways in which the climate crisis affects people's lives be that through; displacement, fuel poverty, access to safe/affordable housing and non-toxic building materials.

Support and collaboration

We appreciate the substantial contributions of experts in the fields of energy, heating, housing, and poverty, including:

- Syed Ahmed of Energy for London
- Dr Brenda Boardman, Emeritus Fellow: Energy at Oxford University, and authority on fuel poverty
- Lucy Grove, Grenfell Programme Lead at National Housing Federation
- Dr Charlotte Johnson, UCL
- Dr Stuart Hodkinson, University of Leeds
- Michael King, Co-convenor, UK District Energy Vanguard Network
- Phil Murphy, ex fire-fighter and Fire Safety Officer
- Rev. Paul Nicolson, Taxpayers Against Poverty
- Peter Smith, NEA (National Energy & Action)
- Prof. Tom Woolley, architect, specialist in natural building materials

We are active and contributing members of the following networks and coalitions:

- End Fuel Poverty Coalition
- Radical Housing Network
- Right to Energy Coalition

Organisations we have worked with this year include

- 10:10 Climate Action
- All African Women's Group
- Biofuelwatch
- Barnet Trades Union Council
- Broadwater Farm Residents Association
- Campaign Against Climate Change
- Coppermill Heights Residents Association (Hale Village, Tottenham)
- Disabled People Against Cuts
- Extinction Rebellion
- Fire Brigades Union
- Fossil Free London
- Friends of the Earth, Lambeth
- Grenfell Action Group
- Grenfell United
- Just Space
- Kensington Residents Alliance
- Lambeth Pensioners Action Group
- London Tenants Federation
- Malus Tenants and Residents Association and Salford high-rise residents
- Myatts Field North Residents Association and Monitoring Board (MFN-RAMB)
- Myatts Field South Tenants and Residents Association
- National Pensioners Convention (NPC)
- Pembroke Park Residents Association

- PCS Union
- Reclaim the Power
- Repowering London
- Réseau wallon pour l'accès durable à l'Energie (RWADE), Belgium
- Right to Energy Coalition
- SELCE (South East London Community Energy
- Southwark Group of Tenants Organisations
- Taxpayers Against Poverty
- Tower Blocks UK
- Unite (Housing Workers Branch)

We also appreciate our supportive meeting venues: Crossroads Women's Centre in Kentish Town, Friends of the Earth HQ in Stockwell, the Common House in Bethnal Green, and Concrete Action's offices in Spitalfields.

Media this year has included coverage in:

- Daily Express
- Daily Mail
- DeSmog
- Drill or Drop
- The Ecologist
- The Evening Standard
- The Independent
- Independent Age
- Inside Housing
- Morning Star
- Radio London, and several other local radio stations
- Salford Star
- Southwark News
- Utility Week
- Waltham Forest Echo
- Worcester News
- Windsor Express

Annual Report compiled with the help of Ruth London, Yasmin Porter, Frances Sleep, Alexa Waud