



# THE COST OF LIVING CRISIS IN WREXHAM

A consultation created by the Senedd yr Ifanc, completed by 908 young people from around Wrexham.



## DEFINITION

The term 'Cost of Living Crisis' refers to when the cost of everyday essentials rises much faster than the average household income.



## WHY?

Senedd yr Ifanc 2023 Ballot: young people chose the Cost of Living as the top issue in Wrexham.

The consultation aimed to find out what worries young people about the Cost of Living, their awareness of support, and any areas that could be improved.

## ABOUT ME

Respondents were mostly aged 11-16, were in education, and living with family.

## GENERAL SUPPORT

- Only 33% of respondents said they would know where to look for support with the Cost of Living.
- The most common source of support was family and friends (66% of respondents).

## SCHOOL SUPPORT

76.3% said their school had not offered support through the Cost of Living Crisis

Support offered by school included support with uniform costs and Free School Meals and free snacks.

The most common request for support in schools was Free School Meals for all.



## DESIRED SUPPORT

110 respondents said they would like to see better support with food costs such as food banks and free/cheaper food.

83 respondents mentioned improving housing support in Wrexham such as affordable housing and support for homelessness.

## SCHOOL COSTS

- Respondents commonly reported being negatively impacted by the cost of school meals, activities and trips.
- 18% of young people entitled to Free School Meals chose not to claim them.
- 71% of comments about free school meals were positive.



## SHOPPING HABITS

Young people reported being affected in the way they shop. Most commonly the amount they spend on gifts, the ability to buy branded items, where they shop for food, the ability to buy fresh food, and where they shop for clothes.



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## FEELINGS



Respondents said they felt unsure, fine, stressed, concerned, anxious

## RESPONDENTS HAD NOTICED...

1. Rising Prices and Inflation
2. Reduced Spending and Lifestyle Changes
3. Impact on Wellbeing and Stress
4. Housing Needs and Homelessness
5. Social, School and Government Effects



**55%**

of respondents said they have noticed their parents are worried about the Cost of Living Crisis



**72%**

of respondents said that their household bills have increased



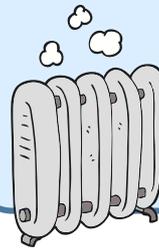
**44%**

said they go on less holidays and family days out



**40%**

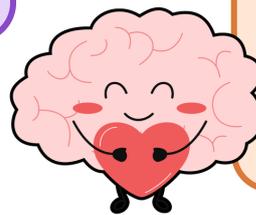
said they aren't able to turn the heating on as much as they used to



## WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH

202 respondents said their wellbeing and mental health had been negatively affected.

507 respondents said they were at least 'a little worried'.



## RECOMMENDATIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

1. Increased Awareness of Available Support
2. Enhanced School Support
3. Community Engagement



## NEXT STEPS

1. Present Findings
2. Distribute Findings
3. Create a Leaflet



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