



YORKSHIRE  
HOUSING

# WINTER HEALTH IN NORTH YORKSHIRE: A HOUSING PERSPECTIVE

**Simon Winch**

Yorkshire Housing



YORKSHIRE  
HOUSING

## BACKGROUND

- Social landlord
- Fuel poverty a big focus
- Vulnerable customer base
- Track record of tackling fuel poverty
- Home Improvement Agencies





**YORKSHIRE  
HOUSING**

# OPPORTUNITIES

- This strategy and action plan!
- Capital spend to tackle fuel poverty
- Customer trust
- Eyes and ears
- Home Improvement Agency services





YORKSHIRE  
HOUSING

## STRENGTHS

- Social purpose
- Can directly influence living conditions
- Provide additional services
- Active in the community
- Financial support
- Large investment programmes





YORKSHIRE  
HOUSING

## CHALLENGES

- Our focus is on our tenants
- What's right for our customers vs what's right for society
- Universal credit
- Partnership working – geography, language, health buy-in
- Off gas areas and delivery constraints
- Unstable and worsening national funding climate
- Air quality
- July 2015 budget – rent cuts





YORKSHIRE  
HOUSING

# LONG TERM RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

- Tough decisions
- Fit for purpose heating, and understand how to use it
- Beyond that – whose responsibility?
- Our future role





YORKSHIRE  
HOUSING

## OUR COMMITMENT

- Consultation informed three year corporate plan
- 69% said they wanted help to reduce their fuel bills
- £3.5m / year to tackle fuel poverty
- Home energy advice visits
- Working with partners



