

What is Furniture Poverty?

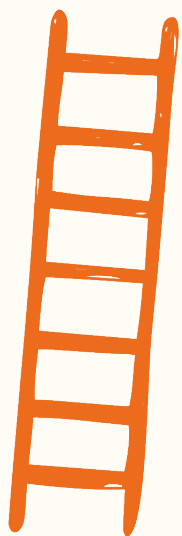
Furniture Poverty is the inability to afford or access the basic essential items that provide a household with a decent quality of life and the ability to participate in the norms of society.

If somebody does not have the furniture and appliances that they need to lead a secure life then they are classed as being in Furniture Poverty.



The Furniture Poverty Ladder

Furniture Poverty is a continuum, represented by a ladder:



At the top is **Furniture Insecurity**, where:

- A household has the items they need for now
- If something essential breaks or needs replacement, they will not have the savings to do so
- Often moving from one crisis situation to another.

At the bottom is **Furniture Destitution**, where:

- A household has none or very few of the basic items needed
- In a long-term, chronic situation

How is Furniture Poverty measured?



In order to refine our understanding of Furniture Poverty and to provide the campaign with a practical foundation, in November 2016 End Furniture Poverty opened a consultation with the aim of creating a list of essential furniture items (including indoor furnishings and white goods) that we believe everyone in our society should be able to afford or access.

The Essential Items

- Bed, bedding and mattress
- Table and chairs
- Sofa and/or easy chairs
- Wardrobe/drawers
- Carpets in living rooms and bedrooms
- Curtains or blinds
- Washing machine
- Refrigerator and freezer
- Cooker/oven
- TV

End Furniture Poverty

End Furniture Poverty is the campaigning arm of the FRC Group, a social business and charity based in Liverpool. FRC Group has nearly 30 years of experience of providing furniture, both new and pre-loved, to people in Furniture Poverty. Reducing and ultimately eradicating Furniture Poverty is at the heart of everything that FRC Group does.

End Furniture Poverty was launched in 2015 to research the issue of Furniture Poverty, in order to raise awareness, to educate people about the potential solutions to Furniture Poverty and, ultimately, to ensure that everyone has access to the essential furniture and goods they need to lead a secure life.

What we do

RESEARCH

Furnishing Homes, Furnishing Lives: as part of our FHFL campaign, the Human City Institute surveyed social housing tenants to find out their priorities for how their landlord could help tackle their financial problems - please get in contact for a full copy of the report.

The Essential Items: a survey with over 100 people working in housing and around Furniture Poverty, to establish the essential items of furniture needed to lift a household out of Furniture Poverty.

CAMPAIGNS

Furnishing Homes, Furnishing Lives: our campaign aimed to increase the provision of furnished accommodation in the social housing sector. Furnished properties are the norm in the private rental market but social housing tenants are rarely offered the chance to rent a furnished property.

Beds for Kids: Research from national charity Buttle UK estimates that around 400,000 kids across the UK don't have a bed of their own to sleep in. Our Beds for Kids campaign aims to deliver much-needed beds to the estimated 10,000 children across Liverpool City Region who don't have one of their own.

WORKING TO END FURNITURE POVERTY

End Furniture Poverty looks to promote effective solutions to Furniture Poverty, sharing examples of best practice and bringing together organisations for joined-up working to ensure that poverty doesn't become part of the furniture.

Want to work with us? Get in touch using the information below

