

HERTFORDSHIRE COST OF LIVING REPORT

The rising Cost of Living is impacting Hertfordshire residents in different ways. This report looks at the data from the Healthwatch Hertfordshire survey on the Cost of Living and the different pieces of support provided by Hertfordshire County Council through various providers to see the impact it has had and changes in demands, to identify possible trends.

30%

of residents' physical health has been affected

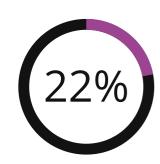
95

Winter welfare checks completed to prevent physical health issues due to cold homes, worth £10,000

186 Warm Spaces with over £10,000 of energy bill savings to residents



Although people are stating their health has not been affected by the cost of living, the impact implications as a result of the cost of living will likely lead to longer term impact on physical health



Already feel they are being affected by the Cost of Living

My healthcare has been affected in this way

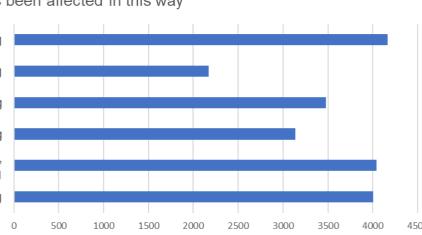
Been unable to travel to appointments due to the cost of living

Has not been affected by the cost of living

Avoided visits to the opticians due to the cost of living

Avoided visits to the dentist due to the cost of living

Not bought equipment to help with my health or mobility (e.g., walking aid, blood pressure machine) due to the cost of living Spent less on medication/prescriptions due to the cost of living



45%

Worried about the future

55%

Have stated energy bills are in their top 3 worries

80%

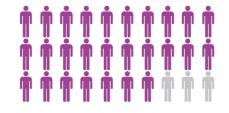
Of those were aged 45+

63%

of residents mental health affected

90%

Reduced attendance to support or social group



100%

of residents have cut back in some way due to the rising cost of living

90%

Of under 35's reduced pension contributions

90%

Of respondents had difficult decisions to make in regards to what bills to pay

£2.9 million

6%

67%

27%

Spent on Spen energy/water

Spent on food

Spent on wider essentials

Spent via Household Support Fund from October 2022