



PRESS RELEASE  
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**Energy grid teams up with food charity UKHarvest to help families during the cost of living crisis with new education programme 'Food and Fuel'.**

The partnership between Cadent, UK Power Networks and UKHarvest aims to reach up to 20,000 pupils and their families in 70 schools across the East of England. This project will help people to eat well for less and cut the cost of cooking by exploring fuel efficient methods, introducing new technologies and revisiting some traditional essentials.

The new partnership will help families experiencing or at risk of food and fuel poverty.

Food and Fuel supports the financial and physical wellbeing of young pupils and their families and will offer workshops, lessons, web-based assemblies and online cook-alongs. The scheme also gives ingredients to families and an innovative opportunity to borrow slow cookers and air fryers from school libraries.

The project supports the wider environmental and community mission of UKHarvest, to help people out of food insecurity and end food waste across the UK. The charity also offers education across the country and hosts an award-winning community food hub in London.

Recent figures from The Food Foundation show one in four households with children can't afford the healthy meals they need for their family. With high inflation on the costs of food and energy, households are looking for ways to reduce expenditure. Even if a food bank or pantry can provide free or low-cost food parcels, it still costs money to prepare the meals.

Yvonne Thomson, CEO of UKHarvest says: "It's heartbreaking to see so many people affected by the cost of living crisis. We meet families every day who are forced to choose between paying for heating or feeding themselves. We've launched this project to immediately ease some of the pressures faced by those most in need, to enable everyone to prepare healthy food at an affordable price. This adds value to the support we already provide directly to charities and individuals through our food rescue and redistribution service, community hubs and by helping people cook well for less and make the most of their food."

Ian Cameron, Director of Customer Service and Innovation at UK Power Networks said: "Our customers are facing unprecedented challenges, so we have expanded our fuel poverty support over the last year, working with more partners than ever before to deliver practical support to more customers. We are delighted to team up with UKHarvest and Cadent to help support more of those families who are struggling the most this winter."

Phil Burrows, Head of Customer Vulnerability Social Programme Delivery says "Cadent are committed to supporting families that are living in fuel poverty. Each week many families are making a difficult decision between heating their homes and feeding their families. This project will support many families across our networks alleviate some of the challenges they currently face by giving help and guidance on cooking nutritious, healthy and cost effective meals that will feed their family."

**UKHarvest**

[info@ukharvest.org.uk](mailto:info@ukharvest.org.uk) | 01243 696940 | [www.ukharvest.org.uk](http://www.ukharvest.org.uk) | @UKHarvest

Manor Farm Barns, Selsey Road, Donnington, Chichester, PO20 7PL

Registered Charity Number 1171916



## Ends

For more information about the project, please contact:

Andrew Meredith

[Andrew.meredith@ukharvest.org.uk](mailto:Andrew.meredith@ukharvest.org.uk)

01243 696940 ext 6

Notes to Editors

### **UKHarvest**

UKHarvest is here for a simple purpose: to protect the environment by rescuing good food destined for landfill and to educate on nutrition, cookery skills and fighting food waste in the home. Established in 2017 the charity works nationwide with over 400 partners to help rescue and redistribute food to those who need it most and hosts an education programme that has reached over 10,000 people.

For more information visit [www.ukharvest.org.uk](http://www.ukharvest.org.uk)

### **UK Power Networks**

**UK Power Networks** owns and runs the cables and substations which deliver electricity from the national grid to 8.4 million homes and businesses across London, the South East and East of England, serving approximately 20 million people.

As the country's biggest electricity distributor, it has invested more than £6.4 billion in its electricity networks since 2011, focusing on safety, network reliability, sustainability, and affordability by caring for vulnerable customers and keeping costs low. It is a founder member of the Levelling up Coalition, sixth on the UK Inclusive Companies list as well as one of only 2% of companies worldwide to achieve Platinum Investor in People status.

If you have an issue with your power, there are many ways to get in touch including freephone 105 and @UKPowerNetworks

For more information visit [www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk](http://www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk)

### **Cadent**

**Cadent** is the UK's largest gas distribution network with a 200-year legacy. We are in a unique position to build on strong foundations whilst encouraging the curiosity to think differently and the courage to embrace change. Day to day we continue to operate, maintain, and innovate the UK's largest gas network, transporting gas safely and protecting people in an emergency. Our skilled engineers and specialists remain committed to the communities we serve, working day and night to ensure gas reaches 11 million homes from Cumbria to North London and the Welsh Borders to East Anglia, to keep your energy flowing.

For more information visit [www.cadentgas.com](http://www.cadentgas.com)

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