



## **Hardwick in Partnership Limited - Savvy Savers**

### OVERVIEW

Hardwick in Partnership Ltd (HiP) was founded by local residents to relieve poverty and advance education, primarily among the young and unemployed. It offers services and activities to raise aspirations and promote the general wellbeing of the community, including skills training and education, employability services, digital skill courses, Information & Advice, social inclusion activities for adults and youth services.

Fuel poverty, especially during the winter months, is a major problem for local residents who are in receipt of statutory benefits or on a low income; many struggle to meet their monthly bills and pay higher tariffs for their usage as they use pre-payment meters.

### SOLUTION

The project targeted those who also face other barriers due to a lack of basic skills and/or access to a computer and the internet, which prevents them from getting the advice, support or services they need.

The funding paid for 20 sessions, which provided 24 members of the local community with access to energy information via interactive digital sessions under the guidance of a tutor. This helped them to manage and better understand energy consumption and to identify and adopt money saving practices.

### OUTCOMES

In total, 124 people benefited from the sessions. Seven volunteers and three staff helped to deliver the 20 sessions.

## OBJECTIVES

To deliver sessions within the local community centre, and their own training centre, and provide access to computers for those who either do not have this facility at home or who lack the skills to use digital media effectively to help them understand and be more in control of their use of fuel in the home.

The project aimed to provide people with the information and tools they need to improve how they choose to purchase their energy, manage it efficiently and budget effectively. It aimed to overcome barriers through interactive sessions, helping them to find out more for themselves with the guidance of a tutor.

## MORE DETAILS BOX OUT

**Project title:** Savvy Savers

**Group name:** Hardwick in Partnership Limited

**Theme:** Reducing energy

**Area of benefit:** Stockton-on-Tees

**Duration:** 12 months