



End Furniture Poverty FAQs

Who are End Furniture Poverty?

End Furniture Poverty is the campaigning arm of FRC Group, a group of registered charities and social businesses that work to provide furniture to people who need it.

How are you funded?

We are entirely funded by FRC Group, who run 100% not-for-profit commercial businesses. These include Bulky Bob's, which holds local authority bulky household waste contracts and gives away the reusable furniture it collects to people in need; and Furniture Resource Centre, which provides new furniture to furnished tenancy programmes, Local Welfare Provision schemes and shared accommodation such as hostels.

What do you do?

We work to raise awareness of the issue of Furniture Poverty, we carry out research to understand the consequences of Furniture Poverty and explore possible solutions, we lobby for change, and work with partners to help get furniture to those who need it.

What is Furniture Poverty?

Furniture Poverty is the inability to access the essential furniture items, including white goods, that we all need to live a 'normal' standard of life.

Furniture Poverty is a continuum, best represented by a ladder.



Furniture Insecurity:

- 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

Furniture Destitution:

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

The impact of furniture poverty can be devastating. Not having a bed to sleep on means a poor night's sleep, affecting your ability to live, work and study. Not having a cooker to prepare food or a fridge to safely store can lead to an unhealthy, expensive diet relying on takeaways. Needing to use a launderette can add approximately £1000 to the annual cost of washing your clothes. Not having a sofa to sit in means you can be unwilling to invite friends or support workers into your home.

Moving from a hostel into an empty box, can lead to people giving up tenancies and returning to a hostel because at least there they have a bed to sleep on.

There are harmful physical, emotional, and financial consequences to Furniture Poverty.

What are Essential Furniture items?

End Furniture Poverty launched a consultation in November 2016 with the main objective of assessing how essential different furniture items are, with a view to using this list to help define who is in Furniture Poverty according to whether they own or can access this furniture. The consultation also asked respondents about items that are particularly difficult to access, and which barriers exist to helping those in Furniture Poverty.

The list of items deemed to be essential is as follows:

- 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

How can I find furniture for myself/someone I'm supporting?

Visit the [Finding Furniture page](#) on our website to find out what support is available and how to access it.

How can I find out more about the End Furniture Poverty campaign?

There is lots more information about our work on our website, www.EndFurniturePoverty.org. Sign up to our newsletter, or just get in touch by emailing info@EndFurniturePoverty.org or call Claire on 07714 521 062.