

Lee Waters AS/MS  
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Newid Hinsawdd  
Deputy Minister for Climate Change



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref LW/12014/21

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14 December 2021

Dear Mark,

Thank you for your letter of 4 November with regard to making existing homes more energy efficient.

Tackling emissions from domestic energy use in Wales is an essential part in achieving our net zero target by 2050, as it accounts for 10% of our total carbon emissions. It is important we do this through a fair and just approach. Ensuring homes are sufficiently insulated, along with transitioning to low carbon heating, are the most effective ways of decarbonising our homes and improving energy efficiency and important actions to tackle fuel poverty.

Since 2010 to the end of March 2021, more than £394m has been invested to improve home energy efficiency through the Warm Homes Programme, benefitting more than 67,100 lower income households. Those meeting Nest's eligibility criteria can access a free package of energy efficiency measures designed for individual properties, which can include the insulation of attics and external walls. We will be considering our approach on how best to support households in fuel poverty in our consultation on the next iteration of the Warm Homes Programme. This is expected to go to consultation by the end of December and will include consideration of eligibility for support.

Since August 2020 the Welsh Government has invested £70m in the Optimised Retrofit Programme (ORP) and a further £100m will be invested over the next 2 years to test new approaches to decarbonising Welsh homes. Our intention is to learn how to upgrade homes, at an optimised cost, setting us on the right path towards the decarbonisation of all homes in Wales.

The ORP will help set the standard for retrofit schemes in Wales, The learning from the ORP will inform how best we can meet the 2050 decarbonisation targets across all housing tenures over the next 30 years.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

The Energy Company Obligation (ECO) scheme is also part of the solution through the installation of insulation and heating measures and to support vulnerable consumer groups. The £4bn ECO4 scheme, which is scheduled to start in April 2022, will continue to focus on low carbon heating and affordable warmth for low income households.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lee', is positioned above the printed name. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long vertical stroke extending upwards.

**Lee Waters AS/MS**

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