



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Rt Hon Sir George Howarth MP
House of Commons
London
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Lord Callanan
Parliamentary Under Secretary of
State for Energy Efficiency and
Green Finance

**Department for Energy, Security
& Net Zero**

www.gov.uk

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30 March 2023

Dear George,

Thank you for your email dated 27 February enclosing correspondence from your constituents, regarding funding made available by the Government to improve energy efficiency in homes.

The UK has the oldest housing stock in Europe, a legacy of its growth during the industrial revolution. To reach our Net Zero target by 2050 we need to decarbonise the way we heat and cool our homes and workplaces, and to ensure that in the near term we meet our, emissions reduction and fuel poverty targets and save households money on their energy bills.

There has been good progress improving the energy efficiency of households but there is more to do. 47% of homes in England now have reached the Government's 2035 target of achieving EPC C levels, up from 14% in 2010. The Government is firmly committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

The Government is investing £6.6 billion over this Parliament on clean heat and improving energy efficiency in buildings, reducing our reliance on fossil fuel heating. In addition, £6 billion of new Government funding will be made available from 2025 to 2028. This provides long-term funding certainty, supporting the growth of supply chains, and ensuring we can scale up our delivery over time.

This includes the Government's 'Help to Heat' schemes which will deliver upgrades to over half a million homes in the coming years, including through the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund, Home Upgrade Grant, and Energy Company Obligation Scheme.

To accelerate a reduction in energy demand, and recognising that this is a national priority, the Government announced a new long-term commitment at the 2022 Autumn Statement to drive improvement in energy efficiency to bring down bills for households, businesses, and the public sector, with an ambition to reduce the UK's final energy consumption from buildings and industry by 15% by 2030 against 2021 levels.

The Energy Efficiency Taskforce (EETF) has been established by the Secretary of State for the Department for Energy Security & Net Zero to support a step change in the reduction of energy demand through accelerated delivery of energy efficiency across the economy. I am pleased to have been announced as the joint co-chair of the Energy Efficiency Taskforce (EETF) alongside Alison Rose DBE on 21 February.

The Government also launched a new phonenumber service, on Thursday 16 March 2023. The service aims to provide consumers with tailored and impartial information on how to improve the energy performance of their homes. This is part of the Government's three-tiered consumer advice and information offer, consisting of the find ways to save energy in your home website, launched in July 2022 and the local in-person advice which will launch in due course.

The home retrofit phonenumber service will replace the previous Simple Energy Advice phonenumber service and its associated digital assist helpline, as well as the private rented sector exemptions helpline. Consumers can call the home retrofit phonenumber service on 0800 098 7950. The home retrofit phonenumber service will not offer advice on energy bills, give legal, financial or installation advice but can signpost consumers to other organisations that do.

Thank you for writing to highlight your constituent's concerns. I trust this information will be helpful.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Martin Callanan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Lord Callanan