



Lord Vallance KCB, Katie White OBE MP and Martin McCluskey MP
Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
55 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HP

10 September 2025

Dear Lord Vallance KCB, Katie White OBE MP and Martin McCluskey MP,

Congratulations on your appointments as Ministers in the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero.

On behalf of the End Fuel Poverty Coalition, I write to welcome you to the role and to share our key priorities for tackling the ongoing energy and fuel poverty crisis. We believe your department's forthcoming Warm Homes Plan represents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to cut energy bills, reduce emissions and improve the health and wellbeing of millions of people.

The latest figures show that 12.1 million UK households [are struggling](#) with energy costs, with nearly 5 million in deep fuel poverty – spending more than 20% of their income on energy.

At the same time, UK gas production [will fall below](#) national heating needs from 2027, even if all new fields are approved. By 2050, we will be 94% reliant on gas imports, undermining both affordability and energy security.

To address these intertwined challenges, we [have submitted](#) a set of recommendations for the new fuel poverty strategy drawing on expertise from across our 100+ member organisations.

In terms of the Warm Homes Plan, which the Chancellor has promised will be [funded in full](#), [we recommend](#) that it:

- Prioritises upgrades for households in fuel poverty and people on low incomes with cold-related health conditions, not just average Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) gains;
- Provides support for households in fuel poverty throughout the country, not just those in certain areas
- Is based on a "Warmth First" principle that recognises warm, dry homes as a human right;
- Avoids using retrofit funding to subsidise energy prices or levy rebalancing;
- Delivers whole-home, fabric-first approaches with strong consumer and tenant protections to avoid the failings of previous schemes;
- Invests in local advice, support, and skilled jobs to maximise take-up and success.

These examples offer just a glimpse of the wider challenges and opportunities you will be engaging with as you take on this important role

We also need to see action to tackle energy affordability and discrimination by ensuring all households — including those using prepayment and smart meters — can access the best tariffs and support. This includes introducing a social tariff and improvements to schemes like the Warm Home Discount, Cold Weather Payments and Winter Fuel Payments. At the same time, long-term energy market reforms and investments must prioritise fairness and affordability, while ensuring energy security.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss these issues.

Yours sincerely,
Simon Francis. Coordinator, End Fuel Poverty Coalition

About the End Fuel Poverty Coalition

The End Fuel Poverty Coalition is a [broad coalition of more than 100 anti-poverty, health, housing and environmental campaigners, charities, local authorities, trade unions and consumer organisations](#). It is also supported by academics, social enterprises and those working on the front line of fighting fuel poverty.

We believe that everybody has the right to a warm, dry home that they can afford to heat and power.

Members of the Coalition include: [Action with Communities in Rural England](#), [ACE Research](#), [Age UK](#), [All Birmingham's Children](#), [Austerity Action Group](#), [Association of Green Councillors](#), [Association of Local Energy Officers](#), [Association for Decentralised Energy](#), [Asthma + Lung UK](#), [Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council](#), [Beat the Cold](#), [Bruton Town Council](#), [Camden Federation of Private Tenants](#), [Carers Trust](#), [Child Poverty Action Group](#), [Church Poverty Action](#), [Chartered Institute of Environmental Health](#), [Chartered Institute of Housing](#), [Community Action Northumberland](#), [Centre for Sustainable Energy](#), [Climate Action Network West Midlands](#), [Debt Justice](#), [Disability Poverty Campaign Group](#), [Disability Rights UK](#), [E3G](#), [Energise Sussex Coast](#), [Energy Advice Line](#), [Energy Cities](#), [Epilepsy Action](#), [Exeter Community Energy](#), [Fair Energy Campaign](#), [Fair By Design](#), [Foster Support](#), [Fuel Poverty Action](#), [Fuel Poverty Research Network](#), [Generation Rent](#), [Good Law Project](#), [Groundwork](#), [Hackney Foodbank](#), [Heat Trust](#), [the HEET Project](#), [Home Start Oxford](#), [Independent Age](#), [Independent Food Aid Network](#), [Inner City Life](#), [Joseph Rowntree Foundation](#), [Lambeth Pensioners Action Group](#), [London Borough of Camden](#), [London Borough of Lewisham](#), [Marches Energy Action](#), [Marie Curie](#), [Mencap](#), [Mayor of London](#), [MECC Trust](#), [Moorland Climate Action](#), [National Pensioners Convention](#), [National Union of Students / Students Organising for Sustainability](#), [NCB](#), [National Energy Action](#), [New Economics Foundation](#), [National Federation of Women's Institutes](#), [Northern Health Services Alliance](#), [Oxford City Council](#), [Positive Money Tower Hamlets](#), [Plymouth Community Energy](#), [Redcar & Cleveland Council](#), [Repowering London](#), [Retrofit Bruton](#), [Right To Energy Coalition](#), [Rossendale Valley Energy](#), [Ryecroft Community Hub](#), [Save the Children](#), [Sense](#), [Severn Wye](#), [Scope](#), [Shaping Our Lives](#), [Social Workers Union](#), [South Dartmoor Community Energy](#), [South East London Community Energy](#), [Southwark Group of Tenants Organisations](#),

[South West London Law Centres](#), [Stop The Squeeze](#), [Tamar Energy Community](#), [Thinking Works](#), Uplift, [UNISON](#), Warm & Well North Yorkshire, [Warm & Well in Merton](#), [Winter Warmth Network](#), [Young Lives vs Cancer](#), [361 Energy](#).

The Coalition is also part of the [End Child Poverty Coalition](#) and the [Renters Reform Coalition](#). We work closely with [Energy Action Scotland](#), [NEA Wales](#) and the [Fuel Poverty NI coalition](#). The coordination for the [End Fuel Poverty Coalition](#) is provided by social enterprise [Campaign Collective](#).

Contact: info@endfuelpoverty.org.uk