

The Rt Hon Steve Reed OBE MP
Secretary of State
Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF
United Kingdom

10 September 2025

Dear Secretary of State,

Congratulations on your new role.

The End Fuel Poverty Coalition is keen to work with your department to ensure the forthcoming <u>Warm Homes Plan</u> supports improvements for the most vulnerable and in the most energy-inefficient housing stock.

As you will be well aware from constituency case work, fuel poverty and poor housing conditions are closely linked — with cold, damp homes contributing to respiratory illness, heart disease, mental health pressures, and excess winter deaths.

Our <u>recent submission</u> to the House of Commons Select Committee's housing inquiry outlined the urgent need for:

- Local authorities to be properly resourced to inspect and enforce minimum housing standards and ensure retrofit is carried out to meet quality standards;
- Retrofit schemes to integrate with homelessness prevention and health strategies;
- Upgrades to poor-quality private rented housing where tenants often face the worst conditions but have the fewest protections.

With the Renters' Reform Bill still yet to complete its passage through Parliament, we would also urge you to ensure that the dilution of the Bill is not permitted. Specifically, we need MPs to:

- Reinstate the 12 month re-let ban;
- Remove the widened repossession and eviction grounds;
- Ensure enforcement is workable and delivered quicker.

We would welcome the chance to discuss these issues with you.

Yours sincerely,
Simon Francis
Coordinator, End Fuel Poverty Coalition

About the End Fuel Poverty Coalition

The End Fuel Poverty Coalition is a <u>broad coalition of more than 100 anti-poverty, health, housing and environmental campaigners, charities, local authorities, trade unions and consumer organisations</u>. 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 <u>End Child Poverty Coalition</u> and the <u>Renters Reform Coalition</u>. We work closely with <u>Energy Action Scotland</u>, <u>NEA Wales</u> and the <u>Fuel Poverty NI coalition</u>. The coordination for the <u>End Fuel Poverty Coalition</u> is provided by social enterprise <u>Campaign Collective</u>.

Contact: info@endfuelpoverty.org.uk