



Craig Whittaker MP

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ENERGY EFFICIENCY (WWF HOME CARBON CHALLENGE)

Thank you for contacting me about reducing energy waste in homes.

I agree that the sustainability of buildings is crucial to tackling climate change in the UK, and recognise that energy efficiency and decarbonising buildings will be key to meeting our domestic commitments.

All households should be able to invest in energy efficiency improvements so I am pleased that there is a range of programmes designed to support different houses and locations. All homes are eligible for insulation measures, including solid wall insulation, through the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) scheme. In addition, a package of changes incentivise energy suppliers to deliver more heating and insulation measures in non-gas fuelled homes, including oil fired boiler replacements. Over two million energy efficiency measures have been installed in over 1.6 million homes since 2013, and a further 1 million homes will be insulated by 2020.

For non-fuel poor households, however, the priority is to help create a sustainable market for energy efficiency and low carbon products, rather than rely primarily on subsidy. That is why the Government commissioned the Each Home Counts review of quality, standards and advice in home energy efficiency and renewables, which reported in December 2016. I understand that Ministers are now working with industry on its approach to implementing the findings of that review and I will, of course, be following the outcome of this closely.

On a final note, it is worth noting that, in the last six years, energy performance for new homes has increased. The Government is carrying out a review to determine whether minimum standards should be further strengthened. It has always been clear, however, that carbon reduction needs to be achieved in the most practical and cost-effective way possible.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

Craig Whittaker MP