

Minutes of Committee on Fuel Poverty (CFP) Meeting, 11th July 2018

The Chairman and following members of the Committee were present: David Blakemore (Chair), Alice Maynard, Jenny Saunders, Liz Bisset, Lawrence Slade and Paul Massara. BEIS colleagues from the Statistics team attended for a discussion on the Annual Fuel Poverty Statistics. Claire Perry MP, the Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth, attended for a discussion on Fuel Poverty. Also from BEIS, the Sponsor and Secretariat were present.

Minutes of last meeting and actions

1. The minutes of the meeting on 3rd May were approved and were subsequently <u>published</u> on the CFP web pages on 23 July.

3. The majority of actions from the last meeting had been completed and members were content that remaining actions were being progressed.

Members' Interests

4. No potential conflicts of interest specific to the meeting's agenda were declared.

Fuel Poverty Statistics

5. The 2018 Annual Fuel Poverty Statistics report had been <u>published</u> on 26 June 2018. An official from BEIS's Statistics team presented a summary of these statistics, explaining the rationale behind the findings and the fuel poverty projections model.

6. Members discussed the churn of households moving in and out fuel poverty and the challenges of using a relative measure to demonstrate progress towards the fuel poverty target.

Discussion with Minister of State

7. Members held a discussion with the Minister outlining areas of interest related to the potential reform of the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) and Warm Home Discount (WHD). The Committee outlined views on potential links to progress towards the fuel poverty targets and next steps in achieving commitments in the Government's Clean Growth Strategy.

8. The Committee highlighted findings from their research project, commissioned jointly with the Committee on Climate Change, on <u>Tackling fuel poverty, reducing carbon</u> <u>emission, and keeping household bills down</u>. The project examined the synergies,

tensions and trade-offs that currently exist in household energy policies, along with potential policy changes that could help to increase synergies and reduce the tensions.

Annual Report

9. Members agreed to consider areas to focus on for the Annual Report for 2018 while taking into account WHD and ECO policy developments and the research findings on tackling fuel poverty, reducing carbon emission, and keeping household bills down.

Other discussion

10. Members also:

- agreed a potential scope for a research project for 2018/19;
- discussed recent and forthcoming stakeholder engagement;
- discussed the "Tailored Review" of the Committee which was due in the current quarter;

Dates of future CFP Meetings

- 11. Dates for forthcoming meetings are:
 - 22nd August 2018
 - 13th September 2018
 - 7th November 2018