

Minutes of Committee on Fuel Poverty (CFP) meeting: 17 May 2022

Members Present:

Caroline Flint (Chair), Belinda Littleton, Liz Bisset, Anu Singh, Anthony Pygram and Gordon McGregor (online)

Invited guests in attendance were BEIS officials, as well as guests from Ofgem and Energy UK.

Chairs Welcome

1. Introductions were given and all members introduced their areas of expertise.
2. The Chair welcomed all new members and remarked that it was great to have a full committee together.
3. The Chair thanked outgoing members Jenny Saunders and Paul Massara for their work on the Committee.

Members Interests

4. No new interests were declared.

Minutes of Last Meeting & Actions

5. Minutes from March meeting were agreed.

Action Log

6. Discussion was held on how best to engage with stakeholders and the handling of enquiries put to the Committee.
7. The Chair is in the process of finalising the Committee's response to the Energy Bills Support Scheme technical consultation.

Stakeholder Engagement

8. Stakeholder engagement grid was shared with members, and they were reminded to record details of stakeholder meetings, via the Secretariat.
9. It was agreed that members would welcome regular updates from officials on progress in delivery of BEIS energy efficiency schemes.

Guest Speaker from Ofgem.

10. Ofgem highlighted their current priorities and projects including the recently announced consultation on Medium Term Changes to the Price Cap Methodology and work to ensure customers are aware of support available this winter.

11. The Committee asked if research had been done on how customers felt about the recent quarterly price cap proposal.

12 Members also discussed with Ofgem the impact of wholesale gas price increases and how that was feeding through to domestic energy consumers.

13. Ofgem emphasised the importance of keeping consumers informed and that reviewing the price cap frequency had the potential to benefit households. Ofgem are working with industry before the winter to ensure suppliers know what is expected and make sure consumers are treated fairly.

BEIS Policy Updates

14. BEIS Officials gave an update on policies including Warm Home Discount and ECO4.

15. Discussion was had about improving targeting of BEIS energy efficiency and financial support schemes to ensure those in fuel poverty are being reached. BEIS Officials to share examples with the Committee of examples where current schemes are being effectively targeted.

16. The Committee was keen to understand more about the scope of work being undertaken by the BEIS Affordability Unit and requested a meeting. They were also keen to understand more fully cross Departmental working relating to fuel poverty.

Guest Speaker from Energy UK

17. An official from Energy UK spoke about current priorities and projects. There was a discussion on the need for Government projects installing energy efficiency measures to go further and happen at a faster pace alongside the price cap.

18. There was discussion on how the sector can better identify those in fuel poverty

19. Energy UK agreed to share their 2019 Future Energy report brief with the committee.

Energy Bill Support scheme (EBSS) presentation from BEIS Officials

20. BEIS Officials gave an update on the scope of the scheme and its design and highlighted key points under consideration.

21. The Committee will respond online to the Energy Bill Support Scheme consultation [published online here](#)

Forward look

22. The next meeting will be held on the 21st June.