



RT Hon Caroline Flint
Chair of the Committee on Fuel Poverty

Dr Miatta Fahnbulleh MP,
Department for Energy Security & Net Zero,
55 Whitehall SW1A 2HP

August 2025

Dear Minister Fahnbulleh,

Please find enclosed a 2025 Summer Update from the Committee on Fuel Poverty.

The Committee on Fuel Poverty has decided to publish our Annual Report once the Government's new Fuel Poverty Strategy, the Warm Homes Plan and updated Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards regulations are all produced.

This allows us to comment and review the new strategy in the light of our work since the last update of the Strategy, in 2021, under the previous administration.

However, we have drawn together a 2025 Summer Update from our recent work programme, our meetings and our submissions to Government to reflect our most recent conclusions about how best to reduce the levels of fuel poverty which exist in England today.

The Committee's 2024 Annual Report entitled ***Can Fuel Poverty be Ended?*** reflected on a sustained period of more than five years during which little progress appeared to have been made in reducing fuel poverty.

The impact of the pandemic and the energy price crisis that erupted following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, worked to the detriment of consumers generally, and fuel poor households in particular.

The Committee never concluded that those events adequately explained the virtual stalling of progress in reducing levels of fuel poverty. The lack of progress only reinforced the need for a comprehensive review and reset of the existing fuel poverty strategy, something this Committee has called for, for several years.

Therefore, the Committee has welcomed greatly the speed at which the Government has proceeded to consult on the Review of the Fuel Poverty Strategy; the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards for the private rented sector; and the commitment to the Warm Homes Plan.

The Summer Update attached is, hopefully, a helpful summary of the key lessons this Committee has learned from the success or otherwise, of different approaches to price support, energy efficiency; and support for vulnerable consumers, reflecting too on the impact of net zero policy on fuel poor households.

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to thank you for your engagement and dialogue with us from your first weeks in office and for your role in taking forward the development of a new Fuel Poverty Strategy.

I wish you the very best over the summer and look forward to a continued dialogue in the autumn.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Caroline', with a small dot at the end.

Rt Hon Caroline Flint