

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref LG/02042/20

Janet Finch-Saunders MS
Chair of the Petitions Committee

Government.Committee.Business@gov.wales

24 August 2020

Dear Janet

Thank you for your letter of 13 August, addressed to Rebecca Evans MS, Minister for Finance and Trefnydd, regarding petition P-05-1016 calling on the Welsh Government to introduce in Wales a Green Homes Voucher Scheme the same as announced by the UK Government on 7 July. The letter has been passed to me for reply as home energy efficiency improvement is part of my policy portfolio.

The UK Government scheme is part of a package of measures announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the UK Parliament on Tuesday 7 July, designed to encourage householders to invest in home energy efficiency improvements, specifically wall insulation and replacement doors and windows. The UK Government announced this scheme will apply in England only. Households can apply for a voucher to meet up to two thirds of the cost of home energy efficiency improvements up to a maximum of £5000 per household. Households on a very low income can apply for a voucher of not more than £10,000 without the need of a financial contribution. This scheme is expected to run only until March 2021.

The Welsh Government is not currently proposing to introduce a similar voucher scheme here in Wales. Since 2011, householders in Wales have benefitted from our more generous schemes delivered under the Warm Homes Programme. Through this programme, which has benefitted more than 55,000 households since its launch, funding of between £5,000 and £12,000 is available for home energy efficiency measures recommended following a whole house assessment.

No financial contribution is required from the householder for measures delivered under our programme, which is designed to focus our efforts to help people who are struggling to meet the costs associated with maintaining a safe and comfortable home environment at an affordable cost.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Under the terms of the current Warm Homes Programme contracts, provision is made for energy efficient glazing and doors. This is limited to the provision of secondary glazing or draught proofing of windows and doors only, if recommended as part of the whole house assessment. The inclusion of replacement external doors and windows to the list of approved measures delivered through our programme is an issue on which I will be consulting as part of the forthcoming consultation on the new draft plan to tackle fuel poverty, which I expect to be published by no later than the end of September.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end of the name.

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS

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