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Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd  
Minister for Climate Change



Llyr Gruffydd MS  
Chair, Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee  
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Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

10 November 22

Dear Llyr

Thank you for your letter of 6 October 2022 regarding the inquiry into decarbonising privately-owned homes in Wales being undertaken by Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee.

In your letter you asked about progress towards developing a comprehensive strategy and delivery plan for decarbonisation which was referenced in response to the recommendations made by the Equality and Social Justice Committee's report, "Fuel Poverty and the Warm Homes Programme".

While we have an overarching strategic intent articulated in our Net Zero Wales Carbon Budget 2 (2021-25) which sets out our vision, our ambition statements and our policies and proposals (Policies 43-50 and Proposals 5-8), we recognise that further detail and a route map for implementation are needed.

While we intend to develop a comprehensive delivery plan that incorporates work across tenures other than social housing; we are committed to that plan being rooted in evidence of what works in decarbonisation. One which is based on learning the lessons of both ORP and other schemes such as IHP and the Warm H Programme.

We are clear that in terms of retrofit, there are few simple solutions and indeed no one size fits all in terms of the housing stock here in Wales. In light of this we are committed to getting as clear an understanding of the issues and committed to working with partners across the sector to ensure that our plan is evidence based and while ambitious is also ultimately achievable.

To ensure we have a plan that is meaningful and can guide our direction moving forward we are gathering evidence from properties currently being retrofitted. Only through an evidence-based approach can we ensure that future investment relies on solutions that we can be confident work across different homes and different tenures.

This evidence is also vital to ensure that Welsh residents feel safe and secure, and able to use energy in their homes appropriately to their needs, throughout their homes' decarbonisation journey.

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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.

Currently this work is at the scoping stage with my officials, where they are exploring how best to develop the route map for residential decarbonisation, balancing this need with the range of expectations around delivering of programmes such as the Optimised Retrofit Programme, and the expansion into the PRS via alignment of ORP with our Leasing Homes Scheme.

My officials will be working with our Decarbonisation Implementation Group (DIG) and with them will pull together a further group of stakeholders to discuss priorities for the route map in the early part of 2023.

Once our approach is developed and work underway, our delivery partners and stakeholders will of course be kept engaged in the process, and prior to publication of any route map we will consult on the developed proposals.

I will share timelines and a target publication schedule with the committee once these are finalised.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie James". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Julie James AS/MS**  
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