

13 May 2025

Dear Carolyn,

**P-06-1491 We demand a fair deal for residents affected by the Arbed and CESP scheme**

Many thanks for your letter dated 3 April 2025 relating to the above petition which we noted at our meeting on 28 April. The Equality and Social Justice Committee has held two inquiries on this subject namely an inquiry on Fuel Poverty and the Warm Homes Programme and a follow-up inquiry looking at Fuel Poverty in Wales.

The Committee laid its most recent report: 'Turning up the heat before 2160: time to pick up the pace on tackling fuel poverty' on Monday 7 April 2025. Welsh Government will be responding to this report very soon.

We did not receive any specific information during the course of either inquiry regarding the situation in Caerau. Nevertheless, it is important to stress that it would not have been possible or appropriate for us to look into individual cases.

We did receive evidence more generally which highlighted damage to property and poor quality installations that some householders received under the previous Arbed schemes. That is why we called for a much more robust and fit for purpose quality assurance regime and for post-installation checks to be undertaken by an independent third party in future. This recommendation was accepted by the Welsh Government and has been implemented in full for the Nest element of the new Warm Homes Programme. As a result, the risk of a repeat of the unacceptable experiences highlighted by the petitioner should be greatly reduced in future.

We were sorry to hear of the petitioners experiences, which are unacceptable. We very much hope and expect a positive outcome can be achieved as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,



Jenny Rathbone

Chair of the Equality and Social Justice Committee