



Campaigning for Warm Homes



23rd October 2013

Deputy Prime Minister – The Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP
70 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AS

Dear Deputy Prime Minister,

High energy bills are a growing concern for the public and with temperatures falling and more price rises expected in the coming weeks this will not change any time soon.

As leading members of the Energy Bill Revolution campaign, which now has the support of over 150 national organisations, we are calling for greater action to effectively and sustainably tackle the problem of fuel poverty that damages the wellbeing of so many people in the UK, among them the millions of children, families and older people whom our organisations represent.


Radically improving the fabric of UK homes is by far the most cost effective long-term solution for our high energy bills. Despite existing investment, many UK homes are still hugely inefficient, leaky and damp and in the future will still fall far short of the standards in comparable European countries. As a result we are wasting a huge amount of energy so while our energy *prices* may be competitive when compared to our neighbours in Europe, our energy *bills* are not. As a consequence we rank a dismal 26th out of 27 European countries for fuel poverty.

Investment in upgrading UK homes is not only the best way to end fuel poverty, it helps to reduce bills, create jobs and liberate household income to stimulate growth. Furthermore, it also cuts the cost of cold-related illness to the NHS and it is the least expensive way of reducing carbon emissions.

This is why the alliance of organisations behind the Energy Bill Revolution campaign is calling for a huge expansion of UK home energy efficiency improvements. We believe this expansion could best be paid for by recycling carbon revenues from the Carbon Support Price and European Emissions Trading Scheme back into a home energy efficiency scheme, which would reduce the cost energy consumers pay towards the Energy Company Obligation and fund a programme that is 5 times bigger, making half a million homes 'super energy efficient' every year.

So we urge you to ensure that the current debate on high energy costs genuinely advances a cost effective, long term solution to fuel poverty and spiralling bills. We would welcome a meeting with you or your advisers to discuss these issues further.

Yours sincerely



Caroline Abrahams
Charity Director
Age-UK



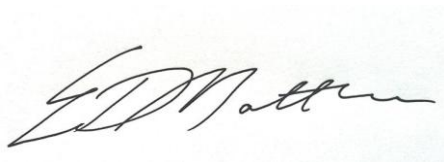
Jenny Saunders
Chief Executive
National Energy Action



Puja Darbari
Director of Strategy
Barnardo's



Adam Scorer
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Consumer Futures



Ed Matthew
Director
Energy Bill Revolution

We are writing in similar terms to the Prime Minister and to the Leader of the Opposition.

Please reply to:

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