Dear Minister,

As you are aware, there are households across the UK that are currently struggling with high energy costs they can't afford. To shed more insight, polling commissioned by Christians Against Poverty in September found that around 6.8 million UK adults report going without gas or electricity at least once a week, in order to help with their finances.

As organisations that see the realities this is having on people who are struggling to make ends meet, we welcome the steps laid out in the Energy Debt Circuit Breaker. Going forward, we would strongly encourage a unified approach to targeted discount support to ensure that this debt crisis does not build up once again.

A more comprehensive targeted national energy social tariff is needed to ensure low-income households can access sufficient support to manage their energy needs.

This approach would build on the Energy Debt Circuit Breaker and achieve the Energy Security and Net Zero Select Committee's recommendation of the introduction of a social tariff ahead of winter 2026–27. Taking a strategic approach to targeted discount support would also help provide clarity for suppliers, customers, and the advice sector.

Household income alongside markers for additional energy needs is key to achieving this national cross-sector support mechanism. We welcome your data Kickstarter project to explore this area, and see a need for further progress to be prioritised.

As we head into another winter period, now is an opportune moment to introduce a targeted national social tariff for energy through the Energy Independence Bill.

We would be happy to work with you to achieve the steps needed to deliver this scheme.

Kind regards,





Lightning Reach



Centre for Sustainable Energy

CHANGEWORKS.



FAIR BY DESIGN



