



Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee

House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

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Rt hon Liz Truss MP
[by e-mail]

26 July 2022

Dear Ms Truss --

Energy bills

My committee has, today, published its report on energy bills and the future of the energy market, HC 236 calling for:

- An immediate upgrade to the Government's May 2022 support package to help people with the cost of their energy bills this year, reflecting the anticipated higher costs in October (from £2800 to around £3200) and in January 2023;
- Better use of public funds to target more support at those families who need it the most, withdrawing support for those on high earnings and preventing repeated payments to people who own multiple homes;
- A national energy efficiency programme which will deliver tailored advice and financial support to each home on the roof, wall and window insulation works required to reduce the amount of heating needed in winter; and
- A social tariff for homes in fuel poverty, and a relative capped tariff for everyone else, to be introduced to replace the current price cap.

We have requested that upgrades to the support package be announced and implemented before the October price rise. If you are successful in becoming our next Prime Minister, please can you outline how your policies to ease the cost of living would address the recommendations made in my committee's report and whether you would allocate funding to ease the burden of energy bills as part of an emergency budget in September.

I'd also suggest that you revisit the windfall tax loophole your government gave to oil and gas companies for drilling for fossil fuels, in order to raise as much revenue as possible for funding the above measures.

This Winter is going to be extremely difficult for family finances, not least for those on low incomes and fixed incomes such as pensioners. I'd therefore be grateful if you could reply to this letter before the 31st of August.

Yours sincerely,

Darren Jones MP
Chair of the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee

