



**Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government**

Bernard Jenkin MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP

*Secretary of State for Housing, Communities
and Local Government*

**Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local
Government**

Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Tel: 0303 444 3430

Fax: 020 7035 0018

Email: Sajid.Javid@communities.gsi.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/mhclg

Our Ref:3593361

D - Bernard.

24 JAN 2018

Thank you for your letter of 4 December about the energy efficiency of homes.

Firstly, let me reassure you and your constituents that the Government remains fully committed to meeting its climate change targets, and recognises the important contribution that the energy efficiency of buildings has to make in meeting these targets. However, we must ensure that this is done in a way that recognises the long-term challenge the UK faces to increase housing supply substantially.

The Government has committed to upgrade all fuel-poor homes to EPC Band C by 2030 and has set an aspiration to get as many homes as possible to EPC Band C by 2035. We will be consulting on tightening standards across the private rented sector, with the aim of as many private rented homes as possible being upgraded to EPC Band C by 2030. We will also look at introducing similar energy performance standards across the social housing sector.

We are also committing to extend support for the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) to 2028 to at least the current level of funding (£640 million per year). ECO is a Government energy efficiency scheme to help reduce carbon emissions and reducing home fuel bills by improving energy efficiency of buildings.

The Building Regulations set minimum energy performance standards for new homes and non-domestic buildings. They are deliberately couched in performance terms and do not prescribe the technologies, materials or fuels to be used, allowing builders the flexibility to innovate and select the most practical and cost-effective solutions in particular circumstances.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London SW1P 3JR

Dr Thérèse Coffey MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
for the Environment

T 03459 335577
defra.helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/defra

Bernard Jenkin MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Your ref: SG/Tackling Climate Change Meeting
Our ref: MC2017/13124/GM

21st December 2017

Dear Bernard,

Thank you for your letter of 4 December to the Secretary of State about climate change and food waste. I am replying as the Minister responsible for resources and waste policy.

The Greening Government Commitments require Government Departments and their agencies to "buy more sustainable and efficient products and services with the aim of achieving the best long-term, overall value for money for society". Departments must report annually on the processes and procedures they have in place to make sure that sustainability is fully taken into account in all procurement activity, and that goods and services, including food and catering services, meet the Government Buying Standards. Departments are required to report on their actions in relation to sustainable food and catering procurement, either on their websites or in their annual reports and accounts. Defra makes this information publicly available in the Greening Government Commitments Annual Reports:
www.gov.uk/government/collections/greening-government-commitments.

Ten million tonnes of food and drink waste arise 'post-farm gate' annually in the UK, of which around 70% is from households and 30% from other sources. The Waste and Resources Action Programme launched the Courtauld Commitment 2025 in March last year. This is an ambitious voluntary agreement that brings together organisations across the food system – from producer to consumer – to make food and drink production and consumption more sustainable. It is a ten-year commitment to identify priorities, develop solutions and implement changes at scale, both within signatory organisations and by spreading new best practice across the UK. The commitment goes further than ever before with ambitious industry targets to be reached by 2025. These include a 20% reduction in food and drink waste arising and a 20% reduction in the greenhouse gas (GHG) intensity of food and drink consumed in the UK.

GHG emissions from agriculture have fallen by around 20% since 1990 and the Government is working with the industry on its GHG Action Plan to help build on this. Defra takes a key role in supporting the agricultural sector by providing scientific advice and evidence.

Yours sincerely,

Thérèse

DR THERESE COFFEY MP