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Jane Davidson AC/AM

**Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynaliadwyedd a Thai
Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing**



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

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David Lloyd AM
National Assembly For Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

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I am following up your query to the First Minister in plenary on the 15th July regarding the extension of the Winter Fuel Allowance to all low income families.

Although key factors which influence fuel poverty, such as income/benefit levels, are largely reserved matters, I am determined to continue working with the UK Government and a wide range of external partners, including Ofgem and energy suppliers, to influence all of the key aspects of fuel poverty - income levels, fuel prices and energy efficiency.

I am a member of the Inter-Ministerial Group on Fuel Poverty (IMG) which was established as a high level group with a remit to consider policy issues relating to fuel poverty. The IMG consists of Ministers from the key UK Government Departments, including the Department of Work and Pensions, the Devolved Administrations and representatives from the independent energy regulator, Ofgem. The IMG meets to evaluate progress, discuss options and take strategic decisions. I attended the last meeting on 15th July where a range of potential measures, short, medium and longer were discussed.

I would like to reassure you that the Assembly Government will continue to support all proposals that offer a practicable way forward to help alleviate fuel poverty, both in the short and longer term.

Jane Davidson AM

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Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400
Ffacs * Fax 029 2089 8129
PS.minister.for.ESH@wales.gsi.gov.uk

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