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Deputy Director - Energy Efficiency and Local Directorate
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)
1 Victoria Street
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10th May 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Both Richmond and Wandsworth would ask that BEIS extends the delivery of the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme (GHG LAD) beyond June 2022 to September 2022 at a minimum and beyond if possible.

In early 2022 we made a strong effort to promote GHG LAD 2 to our residents, building on the success we had in Phase 1. This has resulted in over 300 referrals across both Richmond and Wandsworth in the pipeline for Phase 2. This is an increase on referral rates from Phase 1, and highlights the strong and increasing demand for energy efficiency works offered under GHG LAD, especially for those households that are unable to afford to carry out these improvements themselves.

As you know, energy costs have risen steeply over the last year and are likely to increase even further still later in the year. The households that have applied to be part of GHG LAD 2 are those who will be most impacted by energy price increases, both because of their lower incomes which makes them less able to absorb this extra cost and because of their less energy efficient housing, which will mean they are disproportionately impacted by increased costs. By cutting delivery of Phase 2 off in June 2022, delivery of retrofit at a mass scale will be jeopardised, with ongoing impacts on residents who are the most in need of assistance in dealing with the cost of living crisis.

In the current context of rising energy costs and increases in the cost of living, with further increases likely for October, it would not seem to make sense to cease delivery when we have interested households signed up and asking for works, a supply chain geared up to roll out delivery at scale and funding already in place for these works. Therefore I hope that BEIS will be able to extend delivery of GHG LAD Phase 2 beyond June 2022 to maximise the impact of the funding secured, build on the work that has been done to encourage take up of the scheme and to provide help to those who most need it.

Yours sincerely,

Clare O'Connor

Head of Policy, Performance, Analytics and Communications