

Rt Hon Richi Sunak MP
Chancellor of the exchequer
House of Commons
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22 July 2020

Dear Richi Sunak

Re: Extension of the voucher scheme for energy saving measures

I hope this letter finds you safe and well.

There are millions of properties in the UK that are considered unhealthy to live in. Defects, poor maintenance and inadequate ventilation mean a huge number of homeowners and occupants exist in damp, mouldy, unhealthy buildings.

The government's initiatives to improve the energy efficiency of millions of properties is to be welcomed. Your measures will undoubtedly create new skilled jobs while reducing carbon emissions and lifting people out of fuel poverty if the work is done well.

We believe that this initiative should be extended to help promote help fund a range of measures that are already stated government objectives that if realisation would deliver huge social, health, employment and economic gains.

Improvement grants aimed at eliminating mould and dampness and delivering healthy homes through a voucher scheme could run in parallel with the energy saving scheme. In addition it would also be possible to seed the government's aim to improve the flood resilience of homes and communities by including property level flood protection into the scope of any scheme.

Energy efficiency, flood resilience and the creation of dry, healthy, well ventilated homes are all existing government aspirations. The opening up of the voucher scheme would create and secure tens of thousands of site, training and supply chain jobs, create homes that are safer to live in, improving the health of occupants and so benefiting the health care system.

We at the Property Care Association would be very happy to consult further and provide any additional information at your request but, as a point of reference, the links below will take you to independent reports that go some way to support the ideas and thoughts set out above.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Hodgson
CEO Property Care Association

<https://healthyhomesbuildings.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/HHB-APPG-White-Paper-V2.pdf>

<https://ukcmb.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/health-and-moisture-in-buildings-report-1.pdf>

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cc. Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP