

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2023 9:04 PM  
To: Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel & Tenants' Rights  
<MinisterforZCBATTR@gov.scot>  
Subject: Cutting funding for Solar

If you are adamant to continue on your heat pump crusade which just happens to be the most expensive renewable available. To cut funding for Solar is downright stupidity where if you thought about it you would be recommending both as a package. As at least then the extortionate amount of electricity used by a heat pump could be offset by having solar.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@Parliament.scot>

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 28, 2023 2:59 PM

**To:** Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel & Tenants' Rights  
<MinisterforZCBATTR@gov.scot>

**Cc:** zzzCabinet Secretary for Net Zero & Just Transition <CabSecNZJT@gov.scot>

**Subject:** Correspondence from Annabelle Ewing MSP [REDACTED]

Good Afternoon,

Case Ref: [REDACTED]

Please find the attached letter from Annabelle Ewing MSP.

Kind regards,  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Office of Annabelle Ewing MSP**

Scottish Parliament | Edinburgh | EH99 1SP

**A:** Q2.01a Offices of the Deputy Presiding Officer

**E:** [REDACTED]@parliament.scot

**T:** 0131 348 5066



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

**Office of Annabelle Ewing MSP**



Patrick Harvie MSP

**Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights**

*Sent by email:*

Our Ref: [REDACTED]

28 June 2023

Dear Minister,

**My Constituent:** [REDACTED]

I write to you regarding the above constituent. [REDACTED] has contacted my office [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

I would be grateful if you could use your good offices to ensure my constituent is not adversely impacted in this regard due to issues that were out with her control [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

I would also appreciate if you could outline why this arbitrary cut off time was implemented and what consultation and promotion of this deadline was done beforehand.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Annabelle Ewing". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Office of Annabelle Ewing MSP  
Cowdenbeath Constituency

cc. Màiri McAllan, Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero and Just Transition.

**From:** Balfour J (Jeremy), MSP <[Jeremy.Balfour.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Jeremy.Balfour.msp@parliament.scot)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 13, 2023 12:05 PM  
**To:** Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity <[MinisterforGSCEB@gov.scot](mailto:MinisterforGSCEB@gov.scot)>  
**Subject:** Scottish Government Grant - Solar PV & Storage

[ministerforgsceb@gov.scot](mailto:ministerforgsceb@gov.scot)

Lorna Slater MSP  
Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity  
Scottish Government  
St Andrew's House  
Regent Road  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3DG

Dear Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy & Biodiversity,

**Scottish Government Grant : Loan funding: for Solar PV and Battery Storage NOW Solar PV AND a Heat Pump system or high Retention Storage Heaters**

I have heard from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The only loan funding that is available now is for Solar PV AND a Heat Pump system or high Retention Storage Heaters.

[REDACTED] As you will be aware the installation of a heat pump system is highly invasive. It would involve accessing pipes under the floor in each room and removal of every radiator in the property and replacement with different radiators. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] feels the Scottish Government is painting householders and landlords into a corner.

[REDACTED]

I therefore write to urge you to consider [REDACTED] position and ask the Scottish Government to re-instate this funding as soon as possible.

I would be grateful for your response.

Kind regards,

Jeremy R Balfour MSP  
Member of the Scottish Parliament for the Lothian Region  
Rm M3.12  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP  
T: 0131-348-5961  
Jeremy.Balfour.msp@parliament.scot  
Twitter: @JBalfourMSP  
Facebook: @jeremybalfourlothian  
www.jeremybalfour.org.uk

**From:** Mairi Gougeon MSP <Mairi.gougeon@parliament.scot>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 4:44 PM  
**To:** Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel & Tenants' Rights  
<MinisterforZCBATTR@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** (Case Ref: [REDACTED])

Dear Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights,

I am writing to you on behalf of Mairi Gougeon MSP regarding a constituent's concerns about the Home Energy Scotland Grant and Loan.

Mairi has been contacted by a constituent called [REDACTED] he was informed on the 27<sup>th</sup> June that the Scottish Government had removed funding for solar installations unless coupled with the a renewable heat source, and that [REDACTED].

Please could you explain whether the Government would consider keeping the scheme open for people who had already commenced an application before the 27<sup>th</sup> June?

Thank-you for your assistance with this matter.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Caseworker for Mairi Gougeon MSP

**From:** [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@Parliament.scot >

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 25, 2023 11:30 AM

**To:** Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel & Tenants' Rights

<MinisterforZCBATTR@gov.scot>

**Subject:** (Case Ref: [REDACTED])

Good morning,

Please find attached a letter from Beatrice Wishart MSP, for the attention of the Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tennants' Rights.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Beatrice Wishart MSP | Shetland

Email: [REDACTED]@Parliament.scot





The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Beatrice Wishart MSP  
Member of the Scottish Parliament for Shetland

Patrick Harvie MSP  
Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights  
Scottish Government,  
St. Andrew's House  
Regent Road  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3DG

25 July 2023  
Our ref: [REDACTED]

Dear Patrick

I have received representations from a constituent regarding changes to the loan offered by Home Energy Scotland (HES) for installation of solar panels and batteries.

My constituent writes [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Without warning or a deadline that the funding would be changing, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

My constituent expresses concern that this abrupt change will deter homes and businesses from making net zero commitments and is concerned that local contractors will be deterred from training staff to instal solar panels compliant with standards.

What response can you give to my constituent who is [REDACTED] Can you explain why the loan was abruptly changed, just weeks after my constituent was assured it would be continuing until 2027?

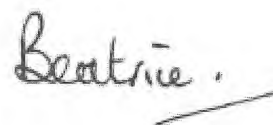
In the context of the climate emergency and rising fuel costs, the decision to withdraw the loan is counterproductive. Will you consider reversing this decision?

The Scottish Parliament, MG.11, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP Tel: 0131 348 6296  
Shetland Parliamentary Office, 171 Commercial Street, Lerwick, Shetland, ZE1 0HX Tel: 01595 690 044  
Email: Beatrice.Wishart.msp@parliament.scot  
Website: beatricewishart.org.uk Facebook: www.facebook.com/BeatriceWishartMSP  
Privacy notice: beatricewishart.org.uk/privacy

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I look forward to your response.

Yours

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beatrice." followed by a horizontal flourish line.

Beatrice Wishart MSP

Our ref: [REDACTED]

Dear Minister,

I have been contacted by a business in my Moray constituency who have heard that the Scottish Government intends to withdraw grants for installation of solar panels.

Can you please let me know what the Scottish Government's plans are, and if the grants are to be withdrawn then I would appreciate an explanation for this decision.

I look forward to your response.

Regards,

Douglas



**Douglas Ross MP**

Member of Parliament for Moray

(T) 01309 679253

(E) [douglas.ross.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:douglas.ross.mp@parliament.uk)

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From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 11:04 AM

To: Minister for Small Business, Innovation, Tourism and Trade <[MinisterSBITT@gov.scot](mailto:MinisterSBITT@gov.scot)>

Subject: Government solar energy loans

Good morning Mr Lochhead

I trust you are well.

**[REDACTED]**

I was very concerned when I heard that the 10 year interest free loan, for domestic customers requiring solar, is ending. Although I appreciate that if monies are running out then obviously the facility should end. However, it's the way that it is ending. I can understand if no more applications can be received then that is fine. I believe that this is not to be the case. **[REDACTED]** If these are not allowed to run their course two things will happen; 1) a lot of customers will become very unhappy about not getting their solar installation and 2) some solar companies will have a tremendous cash flow problem having to repay deposits.

This is an issue that needs to be resolved urgently.

On another note. Both Westminster and Holyrood seem to be fixated by the notion that heat pumps will solve carbon issues! Of course this is a case of a little knowledge is a bad thing. Heat pumps have their place but also have many limitations. Running a heat pump efficiently means running the source at a lower level of heat. Newly built houses with good insulation can work well with heat pumps. However in Scotland we have an awful lot of older housing stock. It is often with these older properties that there is fuel poverty. Heat pumps will be no use in these situations. In fact if people with older properties are persuaded by government to invest in this technology they could end up in a worse state. Their electricity use and bills will soar to accommodate these heat pumps.

Support with solar seems to be the obvious choice for any style of house to assist with electricity use and bills.

I do hope you can help.

With kind regards

**[REDACTED]**

**[REDACTED]**

**[REDACTED]**

**[REDACTED]**

**[REDACTED]**



**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 29, 2023 1:01 PM  
**To:** Central Enquiry Unit <[CEU@gov.scot](mailto:CEU@gov.scot)>  
**Subject:** End of Home energy loans

Hi,

I'd like to complain about the sudden change to the policy for granting loans to PV and battery storage. The fact that there was no notice [REDACTED] is unacceptable. The funding should have been closed to new applicants and those in the process of completing the form given time to apply.

I am furious with the lack of forewarning and clarity given in doing this. [REDACTED].

**Please pass this on to the appropriate minister responsible for this underhand and short sighted approach.**

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@parliament.scot> **On Behalf Of** Ewing F (Fergus), MSP  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 5, 2023 10:20 AM  
**To:** Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel & Tenants' Rights  
<MinisterforZCBATTR@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>; info@audit-scotland.gov.uk; [REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: [REDACTED] Changes to Home Energy Scotland loan scheme

Good Morning Patrick

I am writing on behalf of my above constituent, please refer below to the email received from [REDACTED] and to whose terms I draw your attention

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

They are all trying to do "the right thing."

What she complains about is the peremptory abrupt change of rules [REDACTED]. The rule change, as she described, was brought in suddenly and NO-ONE knew about it- not her, not the installers who operate in this area of work, nor the HES person.

It appears these changes were introduced in late June.

The consequences of this are dire. [REDACTED] The rules appears to have been changed without notice or warning

The three impacts of this are as described. The process is wasted; distortion to installers; and for those properties where a heat pump just wont work - this scheme is a discriminatory barrier.

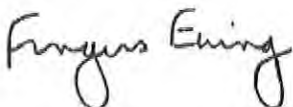
I would therefore be obliged if you can first reconsider the [REDACTED]. Surely that would be only fair, but not only that sensible in encouraging green schemes?

I would also be obliged if you can in detail described what happened; why the rules were changed; was this with Ministerial approval and if so when was that sought and granted; why was there not a grace period as I have suggested should now be applied?

I am forwarding a copy of this to the Auditor General for his information and to the Finance Secretary so that she can see that this unfairness appears to have been perpetrated.

I do however hope the solution I have suggested can be delivered

I await with interest your response.



**Fergus Ewing MSP**

Member of Scottish Parliament for Inverness and Nairn

Office of Fergus Ewing MSP, 112 Church Street, Inverness, IV1 1EP

Telephone: 01463 713 004

On 4 Jul 2023, at 17:22, [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]> wrote:

**CAUTION:** This e-mail originated from outside of The Scottish Parliament. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Fergus,

**Changes to Home Energy Scotland loan scheme**

I understand that this is probably not your remit, but as one of your constituents I'd be grateful for any support you can provide. I am also sending this to Gillian Martin, Màiri McAllan and Patrick Harvie in their respective energy/net zero roles - if there is anyone else I should be contacting, I'd be grateful for any pointers.

[REDACTED]

However, last week, HES changed the T&Cs, meaning that (suddenly/retrospectively) this funding is no longer available [REDACTED]. This was done with zero notice: the installers found out on the day (27th June); [REDACTED]; even the poor advisor at Home Energy Scotland that evening had only found out that morning (28th). No one (including several different people I've spoken to at HES) has been able to tell me who is responsible for this decision, other than that it has been handed down from the Scottish Government. [REDACTED]

To be clear, I am not complaining about the scheme itself, which is (or was) helpful, nor even that it has been refocused towards renewable (if that suits the strategy going forwards). But I do want to complain about the way that this change has been handled, for the following reasons:

1. The process to access funding is already not straightforward, taking many months of effort (9 months from start to finish is not atypical). This work (both by homeowners and the small businesses doing the specification and installation work) has now been completely wasted, at a single stroke.
2. It causes massive disruption and extra work for the installers, and totally undermines their pipeline of work - why did you not allow them notice and time to adjust?
3. For those for whose property is just not suitable for a heat pump installation, they are now in the ludicrous situation of being prevented from doing even the useful things they *could* do (PV/battery) - where is the sense in this?

It would be lovely to think that this kind of 'cliff-edge' change to a useful policy would be a thing of the past (this is certainly not the first time this kind of thing has hit this industry) - it really has to stop. For goodness sake a) taper any changes gradually over time, and b) give notice. [REDACTED]

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,  
**[REDACTED]**



**From:** [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 4, 2023 5:22 PM

**To:** zzzCabinet Secretary for Net Zero & Just Transition <[CabSecNZJT@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecNZJT@gov.scot)>

**Subject:** Changes to Home Energy Scotland loan scheme

Dear Màiri,

### **Changes to Home Energy Scotland loan scheme**

I am writing to you in your capacity as Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, which I understand includes heat and energy efficiency and decarbonisation of buildings, and would therefore cover the above. If this was not a change originating from yourself or your department, please could you advise me whose remit it falls under?

[REDACTED]

However, last week, HES changed the T&Cs, meaning that (suddenly/retrospectively) this funding is no longer available [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] I've spoken to at HES) has been able to tell me who is responsible for this decision, other than that it has been handed down from the Scottish Government. [REDACTED]

To be clear, I am not complaining about the scheme itself, which is (or was) helpful, nor even that it has been refocused towards renewable (if that suits the strategy going forwards). But I do want to complain about the way that this change has been handled, for the following reasons:

1. The process to access funding is already not straightforward, taking many months of effort (9 months from start to finish is not atypical). This work (both by homeowners and the small businesses doing the specification and installation work) has now been completely wasted, at a single stroke.
2. It causes massive disruption and extra work for the installers, and totally undermines their pipeline of work - why did you not allow them notice and time to adjust?
3. For those for whose property is just not suitable for a heat pump installation, they are now in the ludicrous situation of being prevented from doing even the useful things they *could* do (PV/battery) - where is the sense in this?

It would be lovely to think that this kind of 'cliff-edge' change to a useful policy would be a thing of the past (this is certainly not the first time this kind of thing has hit this industry) - it really has to stop. For goodness sake a) taper any changes gradually over time, and b) give notice. [REDACTED]

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,  
[REDACTED]

Good Afternoon,

I have been contacted by [REDACTED] the recent changes to the grants available for solar panels and batteries. I have also provided below a copy of my constituents email to me and the information received from the Home Energy Group for your information.

I would be grateful have your comments on this and to know if there any further available to my constituent in relation to [REDACTED].

Thank you for your assistance with this issue.

Kind regards  
Ian

*Ian Murray MP  
Labour Member of Parliament for Edinburgh South  
Shadow Secretary of State for Scotland  
Constituency Office: 31 Minto Street, Edinburgh, EH9 2BT  
Telephone Number: 0131 662 4520*

Ian would like to send you a regular email newsletter from Westminster using this email address. To subscribe please click here or respond to this email with the word 'subscribe'

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Sent: 10 July 2023 13:17  
To: "MURRAY, Ian" <[ian.murray.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:ian.murray.mp@parliament.uk)>  
Subject: Perverse policy

Dear Mr Murray

I hope you can help.

I am writing to you as an elected representative of Fairmilehead to investigate and argue why the decision has been made to ban the funding for solar panels and batteries?

In a world with global warming, cost of electricity and cost of living, I can not understand or imagine an ethical reason why barriers would be made to limit people's opportunity to lower their dependency upon fossil fuel and profiteering energy companies.

[REDACTED]

It's completely perverse and unethical for a government to be preventing energy conservation -and appears corrupt.

[REDACTED]



I hope you can help.

[REDACTED]

Kind Regards,

---

**From:** Home Energy Scotland - South East <[advice.se@homeenergyscotland.org](mailto:advice.se@homeenergyscotland.org)>

**Sent:** Thursday, June 29, 2023 3:47 pm

**Subject:** Re: Important changes to the Home Energy Scotland Grant and Loan [REDACTED]

**Take Care:** This email came from outside Specsavers. Don't click any links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe. The original sender of this email is [advice.se@homeenergyscotland.org](mailto:advice.se@homeenergyscotland.org).

Thank you for getting back to me.

I am sorry for the confusion.

There has been a change made to the Home Energy Scotland Grant and Loan scheme, which means that solar panels and battery are now only eligible for funding as part of a package together with a heat pump, biomass boiler, or high heat retention storage heaters (where a heat pump is not suitable). If you have already installed one or more of these improvements, you can apply for the remaining improvement(s) to complete the package.

This change came into effect on Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup> of June at 08:00am. If you applied for the Home Energy Scotland Grant and Loan scheme before this, then your application will still be considered under the previous funding terms.

If you have already applied, and are unsure if the changes impact you, I would encourage you to contact the Services Delivery team at Energy Saving Trust. They manage all loan applications and should be able to help you. You can reach them on **0808 108 9414** (they are available Monday – Friday, 9-5) or via email [servicesdeliveryscotland@est.org.uk](mailto:servicesdeliveryscotland@est.org.uk).

I hope that you found this information helpful, but please let me know if you have any questions at all, or if there is anything else I can help you with either by replying to my emails or by calling **0808 808 2282**.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

**Home Energy Scotland  
South East Centre**

**From:** Sarah Boyack MSP <[Sarah.Boyack.MSP@Parliament.scot](mailto:Sarah.Boyack.MSP@Parliament.scot)>

**Sent:** Thursday, July 13, 2023 12:55 PM

**To:** Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel & Tenants' Rights  
<[MinisterforZCBATTR@gov.scot](mailto:MinisterforZCBATTR@gov.scot)>

**Subject:** (Case Ref: [REDACTED]) Home Energy Scotland Grant and Loan scheme

Please find attached a letter from Sarah Boyack MSP for the attention of the Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights.

[REDACTED]Office of Sarah Boyack MSP  
The Scottish Parliament | Edinburgh | EH99 1SP



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Sarah Boyack MSP for Lothian Region



Patrick Harvie MSP  
Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights  
Scottish Government, St. Andrew's House  
Regent Road  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3DG

Our Ref: [REDACTED]

12 July 2023

Dear Minister

You will recall that I wrote to you in November 2022 on behalf of one of my constituents [REDACTED]

I have now been contacted by another constituent, [REDACTED]

'There has been a change made to the Home Energy Scotland Grant and Loan scheme, which means that solar panels and battery are now only eligible for funding as part of a package together with a heat pump, biomass boiler, or high heat retention storage heaters (where a heat pump is not suitable). If you have already installed one or more of these improvements, you can apply for the remaining improvement(s) to complete the package.

This change came into effect on Tuesday the 27th of June at 08:00am. If you applied for the Home Energy Scotland Grant and Loan scheme before this, then your application will still be considered under the previous funding terms.'

[REDACTED] I find it concerning that the Scottish Government appears to be putting obstacles in the way of constituents' efforts to reduce dependence on fossil fuels, reduce costs and seek more sustainable ways to heat their homes.

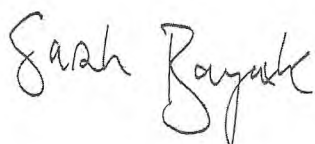
I would be grateful if you could confirm that [REDACTED]



I am also keen to understand why the Scottish Government has removed eligibility for solar panels unless installed as a package together with a heat pump, biomass boiler, or high heat retention storage heaters (where a heat pump is not suitable). I am particularly concerned that the combination of installations required will be counterproductive as this will sufficiently increase the expenditure constituents will be required to make & does not necessarily mean that, given the circumstances in different homes, the overall package is automatically appropriate, never mind affordable. [REDACTED]

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely



**Sarah Boyack**  
**Member of Scottish Parliament**  
**for Lothian Region (Scottish Labour)**

**From:** Kirsten Oswald MP <[kirsten.oswald.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:kirsten.oswald.mp@parliament.uk)>

**Sent:** Thursday, July 13, 2023 1:13 PM

**To:** zzzCabinet Secretary for Net Zero & Just Transition <[CabSecNZJT@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecNZJT@gov.scot)>

**Subject:** (Case Ref: [REDACTED]) Financial Support for the Installation of Domestic Solar Panels and Batteries

Dear Minister

### **Financial Support for the Installation of Domestic Solar Panels and Batteries**

Kirsten has been contacted by a constituent who is concerned about the future affordability of solar panels and batteries on domestic properties, in relation to the subsequent impact on business.

The constituent believes that the Scottish Government has scrapped a grant and loan scheme which enabled customers to install such adaptations to their property.

The constituent advises that in recent months, a number of clients who have enquired about the installation of PV panels are no longer progressing due to the costs involved. He notes that many of these clients were planning to apply for the £12000 (£6000 solar & £6000 battery) interest free loan, which he believes is no longer available.

I'd be grateful to know what action the Scottish Government is taking to ensure environmentally friendly adaptations remain affordable and how the businesses providing such services will be supported going forwards.

With all best wishes

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Member of Parliament for East Renfrewshire

Telephone: 0141 648 8822

**From:** Dave Doogan MP <[Dave.doogan.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:Dave.doogan.mp@parliament.uk)>

**Sent:** Friday, July 14, 2023 4:23 PM

**To:** zzzCabinet Secretary for Net Zero & Just Transition <[CabSecNZJT@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecNZJT@gov.scot)>

**Subject:** Home Energy Scotland - grant funding changes [REDACTED]

FAO Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero and Just Transition, Ms Màiri McAllan MSP,

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

I have been contacted by a constituent regarding changes to funding for solar panels and energy storage systems through the Home Energy Scotland Grant and Loan.

My constituent advises [REDACTED]

My constituent is concerned that this change reduces his ability to contribute towards Scotland's journey to Net Zero. He would be grateful for further information regarding the reasoning for making changes to funding eligibility. He would also be very grateful for information regarding any support he may be entitled to, installing solar panels and battery storage at his home.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

On behalf of Dave Doogan MP

Member of Parliament for Angus



Good morning

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Tuesday 27 June 2023, the Scottish Government stopped providing standalone loan funding for the installation of solar PV and energy storage systems. As a result, applications for solar PV and/or energy storage systems only will no longer be eligible.

On 2nd May 2017 the Scottish Government published Green Home Loans as part of their "energy, environment and climate change" with the following:-

Home-owners can now apply for an interest free loan of up to £32,500 to improve the energy efficiency and use of renewable technologies in their properties.

The Home Energy Scotland Loan Scheme – launched on May 2 – makes a total of £34 million funding available to owner-occupiers and private landlords to install energy efficiency measures, such as external or internal wall insulation, double glazing, boilers, warm air units and other forms of renewable technology that can be used in the home.

The updated scheme has been created by combining two separate and existing programmes, the Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland Loans Scheme, and the Home Energy Scotland Renewable Loan Scheme. It contains an up to 25% cash back offer for a limited time.

Scottish Government Minister for Business, Innovation and Energy, Paul Wheelhouse said:

"The Home Energy Scotland Loan Scheme presents property owners with an ideal opportunity to install a variety of energy efficient measures and renewables technologies to make it easier and cheaper to keep their homes warm.

"Combining previous loan schemes makes it easier for consumers to make all energy-related changes to their properties at the one time.

"It also cuts red tape and expands the pot of funding available."

The funding for solar panels and a battery is now no longer available as from 27/06/2023. How do you expect ordinary working families to make small changes in helping Scotland be greener and their utility bills smaller when the interest free funding that was supposed to support them has been taken away? I understand the scheme is available for the support of solar PV and energy storage systems where they are installed together with a renewable heating system, which unfortunately does not include home owners who just want to get solar panels and a battery - average costs for 20 solar panels and a 5kw battery is £16000. [REDACTED] This is very disappointing from the Scottish government at this time

[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam

I would like to raise an issue with recent changes made to finding availability from Home Energy Scotland (HES).

[REDACTED]

I am annoyed that [REDACTED] to say that changes are to take place on 27th June this change [REDACTED]

How is this position fair to implement a change with absolutely none notice period?

Surely those who had applications already commenced on the HES system should have been allowed to complete?

I would be grateful if this decision can be reviewed.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Hi,

I'd like to raise a complaint surrounding poor advice received and communication regarding Solar and Battery funding applications. [REDACTED]

I strongly believe those who were in the final stages of applying should have their funding honoured or be compensated for waste of time, effort and lost days off work.

[REDACTED] It is a great scheme that I wish I knew about earlier.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I have since heard that the funding has unexpectedly stopped by. [REDACTED] I am being told that funding is only for air source heating systems, however, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 01 July 2023 16:39

To: Harvie P (Patrick), MSP [Patrick.Harvie.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Patrick.Harvie.msp@parliament.scot) Subject: [REDACTED]Solar and Battery Funding

CAUTION: This e-mail originated from outside of The Scottish Parliament. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi,

I'd like to raise a complaint surrounding poor advice received and communication regarding Solar and Battery funding applications. [REDACTED]

I strongly believe those who were in the final stages of applying should have their funding honoured or be compensated for waste of time, effort and lost days off work.

[REDACTED] It is a great scheme that I wish I knew about earlier [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I have since heard that the funding has unexpectedly stopped by. [REDACTED] I am being told that funding is only for air source heating systems, however, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Regards,

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 6:30 PM

To: zzzCabinet Secretary for Net Zero & Just Transition <[CabSecNZJT@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecNZJT@gov.scot)>

Subject: [REDACTED]Home Energy Scotland Solar and Battery Funding

Hi,

[REDACTED] It is a great scheme that I wish I knew about earlier.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I have heard that the funding has unexpectedly stopped by the Scottish Gov. [REDACTED] I am hearing that funding is only for air source heating systems, however, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Regards,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 27, 2023 2:56 PM

**To:** zzzMinister for Energy 2023 <[MinisterEnergy@gov.scot](mailto:MinisterEnergy@gov.scot)>

**Subject:** Solar Grants via Home Energy Scotland

Good afternoon Ms Martin,

I'm looking to see if you can illuminate why the 0% interest loan (From Home Energy Scotland) for solar panels with a battery for Scottish homes has been changed as of this morning?

[REDACTED]

I'm not sure if you can assist but the solar options as a standalone setup made economic sense to many homes whilst assisting in steps towards positive environmental goals.

Any help or direction would be much appreciated.

Kindest regards.

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@solarenergyuk.org>

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 18, 2023 11:06 AM

**To:** [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@gov.scot>

**Cc:** [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@solarenergyuk.org>

**Subject:** HES numbers

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you are keeping well.

I wanted to touch base with you about our discussion a couple weeks ago on the Home Energy Scotland loans. We would still be very interested in seeing the numbers behind this decision – most specifically how many loans and for what amount were going to solar energy.

If you are not the correct people to chase about this, could you please provide the correct contact?

Many thanks for your help

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]





**From:** [REDACTED]< [REDACTED]@stv.tv>

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 28, 2023 4:46 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]< [REDACTED]@gov.scot>

**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Rennie: Government withdrawal from solar loans is mind-boggling

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**From:** Media Team - Scottish Liberal Democrats <[media@scotlibdems.org.uk](mailto:media@scotlibdems.org.uk)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 28, 2023 4:29:08 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]< [REDACTED]@stv.tv>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Rennie: Government withdrawal from solar loans is mind-boggling

This message originated outside of STV.

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**Scottish Liberal Democrats**

**Contact:** [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

**Embargo:** **Immediate**

## **Rennie: Government withdrawal from solar loans is mind-boggling**

Responding to the news that the Scottish Government is now withdrawing interest-free loans for residential solar power systems, a move which came without any prior warning or consultation, Scottish Liberal Democrat communities spokesperson Willie Rennie MSP said:

"The SNP-Green Government should be doing everything possible to reduce sky-rocketing energy bills and tackle the climate emergency, so this decision is mind-bogglingly counterproductive and has been done without notice.

"The government has just missed a key target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but a week later and they are adopting policies that will only make it worse.

"The Scottish Government should urgently reverse this decision."

**ENDS**

[Notes to editors](#)

You can find the announcement to withdraw the loans [here](#)





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Sent with Mailjet. Published and promoted by Scottish Liberal Democrats, 4 Clifton Terrace, Edinburgh, EH12 5DR

**From:** [REDACTED]< [REDACTED] @est.org.uk>

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 25, 2023 4:47 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]< [REDACTED] @gov.scot>

**Cc:** [REDACTED]< [REDACTED] @est.org.uk>; [REDACTED]< [REDACTED] @est.org.uk>

**Subject:** Appeal - Scheme Change

Hi [REDACTED] ,

Hope you are well,

I have had an enquiry through from one of our advice centres in regards to the scheme change to remove standalone funding for Solar PV & Battery..

I wonder if you could consider this appeal for me?

In essence there has been an error at the advice side where [REDACTED] – due to this [REDACTED]

Breakdown:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Appreciate this is new ground while we determine what can and can't be appealed so let me know if there's anything extra required or appeals that don't need to be raised. As well as any more information you require on this case!

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Energy Saving Trust

Reception +44 (0)131 555 7900

energysavingtrust.org.uk