



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Kevin Hollinrake MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State

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Mary Kelly Foy MP
The Baroness Whitaker
Co-Chairs APPG for Gypsies, Travellers and Roma
House of Commons
London
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Dear Mary and Janet,

Thank you for your letter of 28 November, to Business Secretary Grant Shapps, regarding the Energy Bills Support Scheme (EBSS). I am responding on behalf of the Department.

I understand the urgency and importance of the provision of the EBSS to Gypsies, Travellers and Roma living in caravans and other mobile homes. That is why the Government is implementing the EBSS Alternative Funding, which will provide much-needed help for those households who do not have a domestic energy supply and have not received support through the main EBSS. This includes households who either receive their energy through commercial intermediaries or are off the energy grid entirely. Further details on eligibility, timescales and method of delivery will be announced shortly.

In addition to Alternative Funding, the Government will provide Alternative Fuel Payments (AFP), which will provide a £200 payment to UK households that use alternative fuels for heating instead of mains gas, such as LPG. Households who are eligible for but do not receive AFP, because they do not have a relationship with an electricity supplier for example, will receive the £200 via the AFP Alternative Fund which will be provided by a designated body. We will confirm details of the AFP Alternative Fund shortly.

To protect UK households, including those on local authority sites, from extraordinary fuel prices, the Government will continue to monitor the prices of alternative fuels and will consider further intervention if required.

Thank you again for taking the time to write. I hope you and the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Gypsies, Travellers and Roma find this response useful.

Yours ever,

KEVIN HOLLINRAKE MP
Minister for Enterprise, Markets and Small Business