

Ariane Burgess MSP
Convener
Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee

By email

17 December 2025

Dear Convener,

I am pleased to inform you that the Scottish Government response to the Green Heat Finance Taskforce has been published and is [available here](#).

Decarbonising heat and improving energy efficiency are essential to Scotland achieving net zero and reducing fuel poverty. However, the upfront cost is a barrier for many people and not something the public sector can fund fully. We therefore set up the Taskforce to advise on how to grow private finance options and make it easier for the public to access support.

In our response, we state that we agree with the Taskforce's headline conclusions - that we must foster growing demand for energy efficiency and clean heat, as well as accelerate the development of an investible project pipeline. The response highlights that we are acting to encourage market confidence by setting a target to decarbonise heat as far as practicable by 2045 and publishing plans to introduce a Bill early in the next parliamentary session.

Our response sets out the actions we have already taken, while acknowledging that areas like development of new place-based structures will take longer to address. We therefore invite organisations to work with us as we consider next steps and to help shape the new Heat in Buildings Strategy which our draft Climate Change Plan committed to producing

I believe investing now and in the years to come in energy efficiency measures and clean heating systems is critical to reducing emissions. It is also vital in ensuring people live in comfortable and secure homes that are affordable to heat, therefore helping end the scourge of fuel poverty. I look forward to working with the Scottish Parliament to achieve this.

I have sent a similar letter to the Convener of Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee to inform them.

In the meantime let me wish you a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Màiri McAllan MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Housing