

NORTHERN IRELAND
GREEN NEW DEAL GROUP

31 August 2011

Alex Maskey MLA
Chairperson
Committee for Social Development
Northern Ireland Assembly
Parliament Buildings
Belfast BT4 3XX

Your Committee received a brief update on progress on the Green New Deal from the Department at its meeting of 2 June. As a result of a subsequent meeting between the Departments of Social Development and Enterprise, Trade & Investment, alternative means of using the £12 million allocated to the Green New Deal in the budget to achieve similar outcomes to those of the Green New Deal are being examined.

The Green New Deal Group has been asked to submit a revised business plan to the Department during September and we understand that Ministers will then decide whether to proceed with the Green New Deal proposals. Our understanding is that the main alternative to the Green New Deal being considered is based on an energy supplier obligation similar to that in England, Wales and Scotland.

The Green New Deal Group (represented by Paddy McIntyre, another member of our steering group and myself) would greatly appreciate the opportunity to present our revised plan to the Committee and to outline our concerns about the alternatives now being considered.

I do hope the Committee will be able to meet us at what is a critical point in the development of a meaningful energy efficiency programme for housing.

Yours sincerely

John Woods
Project Leader, on behalf of:
Paddy McIntyre (Chair) | John McMullan, Bryson Group | Nigel Smyth, CBI | Patrick Thompson, Energy Saving Trust | Declan Allison, Friends of the Earth | Peter Bunting, ICTU | Joanne Stuart, IOD | Seamus McAleavey, NICVA | Noel Rice, NIHE | Jim Kitchen, UU | Clarke Black, UFU

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