



Peter Robinson
Minister of Finance and Personnel
Rathgael House
43 Balloo Road
BANGOR
BT19 7NA

4 January 2008

Dear Mr. Robinson,

As you will be aware, eaga plc manages the Warm Homes Scheme on behalf of the Department for Social Development. The scheme is aimed at tackling energy inefficiency among benefit dependant private sector households.

This initiative commenced in 2001 and has been extremely successful to date with over 50 000 homes being insulated and 16 000 having central heating systems fitted. However at this present moment we have almost 6 000 eligible householders over the age of sixty on the waiting list to have heating and insulation installed and all resources for this financial year have already been allocated.

We are extremely concerned that in light of the draft budget, the waiting list for older people living in fuel poverty could be as long as four years. In addition to this, any reduction in funding would result in significant job losses and as many thirteen local contractors potentially going out of business.

We would ask for your continued support in ensuring that the necessary resources required for this scheme are protected so that we can continue to make a difference to the lives of those most vulnerable in our communities.

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely


Pat McAuley
Director