

PRESS RELEASE

We don't need an earthquake to bring down energy bills — UK's only local authority climate and clean air network responds to the 'mini budget'

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Responding to the details of the '<u>Energy Price Guarantee</u>' and other measures intended to tackle the energy crisis, as revealed in Friday's (23 September) '<u>mini</u> <u>budget</u>', Christopher Hammond, Membership Director at UK100, says:

"Britain is paying the price of successive governments kicking the can down the road and not making our homes fit for the future. The cheapest energy is the energy we don't use, but this has been overlooked time and again. Today's Growth Plan contains some welcome measures for Net Zero, but seems that the dash for gas takes precedence."

"To avoid another winter like this one, where millions are expected to fall into fuel poverty, we need a locally-led energy efficiency revolution. Looking at the headline figures, £3bn for boosting energy efficiency is promising, but it's unclear if this is new money — and not just repackaged promises."

"We're calling for a national drive on energy efficiency to permanently reduce household bills and accelerate progress on Net Zero. It might not be an earth-shaking proposal. But as the Government is quickly learning, people don't want the ground to shake, they just want to be able to afford to pay their bills."

UK100 will host a "<u>Tackling the Energy Price Crisis</u>" summit on 17 November, featuring the West Yorkshire and Greater Manchester Mayors Tracy Brabin and Andy Burnham, that will focus on the role of local and regional leaders in delivering energy efficiency upgrades.

The event will also launch a new report detailing the cost of upgrading all of Britain's social homes and the benefits to households in energy bill savings alongside the jobs dividend.



You can register for the event <u>here</u>. More details on speakers will be announced shortly.

ENDS

Notes to the editors

[1] Through projects like the Local Authority Delivery arm of the Green Homes Grant, local leaders have demonstrated that they can lead the kind of energy efficiency revolution we need. While the project was <u>widely derided at a national</u> <u>level</u>, local leaders delivered Green Homes Grant projects that <u>saved low-income</u> <u>households over 1.2 million a year on their bills</u>.

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About UK100

UK100 is a network of the most ambitious local leaders working towards Net Zero as soon as possible but no later than 2045. We help them collaborate to take decisive action in their communities.

Our members represent more than 37 million people in towns, cities and counties across the UK.

We facilitate knowledge-sharing between members, partnership-building and leadership mentoring. And support them to harness their collective power to affect vital national change.

Warm homes, affordable energy, clean air, and healthy landscapes make thriving communities.

And UK100 members have pledged to deliver a Net Zero future that delivers for people and planet.

<u>UK100.org</u>