

From: [Wightman, Stuart](#)
To: [Mills, John \(DETI\)](#)
Subject: NI Renewable Heat Incentive
Date: 20 October 2014 15:19:37

John,

I was planning to send this email to John Gilliland to confirm the issues he raised and to try and kill off any suggestion that we might lift the RHI cap for inefficient/large properties. Do you think I should I run this passed SPAD before I issue?

St

John / Eddie

Thanks for hosting the Minister and DETI officials at Brooke Hall Estate on Friday.

I promised to come back to confirm the issues we discussed about both the Non-domestic and Domestic Schemes. I summarise the key points below. Please come back to me if you feel I've missed something.

Stuart

(1) Proposed Domestic RHI Scheme

- **Consider if the proposed RHI cap of £2000 can be increased for listed buildings which are prevented from making energy efficiency savings.**

Our final policy proposals (and legislation) for the proposed domestic RHI scheme include a £2000 cap on annual domestic RHI payments to avoid the scenario of excessive payments being made to large or inefficient properties. Unfortunately this will include many listed buildings. However we will keep this policy under review to see how the cap impacts on take-up of the scheme.

- **Clarify if farmhouses will continue to be eligible for the Non-domestic scheme when the domestic scheme is introduced .**
You mentioned that Ofgem currently allow farmhouses onto the Non-domestic scheme provided certain evidence is provided demonstrating business use. As we discussed, farmhouses will be eligible for the Domestic RHI Scheme. However, if the building is also being used for business purposes, I can't see why they couldn't continue to qualify for the Non-domestic scheme if this can be demonstrated to Ofgem. The introduction of the domestic scheme shouldn't change this. However, I have sought clarification from Ofgem and will come back to confirm this.

(2) Phase 2 of the Non-domestic RHI Scheme

- **Consider introducing an uplifted tariff for biomass district heating to incentive the installation of a smaller number of larger boilers serving multiple buildings rather than many smaller boilers (99KW and below).**
- **Consider extending the current 6.6p biomass tariff (for 20-100kWth boilers) to 200 or 300 KWth boilers.**

As I mentioned on Friday, we are currently focussing on trying to get the domestic RHI scheme finalised for launch later this year before turning our attention to Non-domestic Scheme. However, these two important issues will be factored into our final policy decision.

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