



HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ

Andrew Rosindell MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

14 March 2023

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for your letter of 8 March to the Chancellor of the Exchequer enclosing correspondence about hospices. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this policy area.

I should start by saying that the Government recognises the vital role that hospices play in supporting people at end of life and their families.

It might be helpful for me to set out some background on the funding of hospices. Whilst there are a small number of NHS hospices, most are charitable, independent organisations that receive some statutory funding from Integrated Care Boards (ICBs). These ICBs are responsible for the commissioning of end of life and palliative care services, to meet the needs of their local populations.

On energy specifically, through the Energy Bill Relief Scheme, the Government provided an unprecedented package of support for non-domestic users, including hospices, this winter. The scheme started on 1 October 2022, and it will come to an end on 31 March 2023.

On 9 January, the Government announced that it would be launching a new energy support scheme for businesses, charities and the public sector. The new Energy Bills Discount Scheme will provide all eligible non-domestic energy users across the UK with a discount on high energy bills until 31 March 2024, following the end of the current Energy Bill Relief Scheme. Eligible hospices will therefore continue to receive energy bill support from April 2023.

The new Energy Bills Discount Scheme provides long term certainty for non-domestic users and reflects how the scale of the challenge has changed since September last year. Wholesale gas prices have reduced significantly since the current scheme was announced and have returned to level before Putin's invasion of Ukraine. The new scheme will therefore help those locked into contracts signed before recent substantial falls in the wholesale price manage their costs and provide others with reassurance against the risk of prices rising again.

Additional financial support has been provided to ICBs for inflation, in addition to the energy support provided by the Government. It is for ICBs to decide how best to distribute this funding within their system.

Of course, we will keep the situation under review. I should note that I met with Hospice UK last fortnight, and discussed their concerns around energy funding.

Thank you for taking the times to make us aware of your concerns, I hope this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JC', written in a cursive style.

**James Cartlidge MP**  
**EXCHEQUER SECRETARY TO THE TREASURY**