

11 June 2007

Dear Home Inspector or Domestic Energy Assessor

HOME INFORMATION PACKS AND ENERGY PERFORMANCE CERTIFICATES

Further to Neil McDonald's letter to you of 25 May, explaining the circumstances surrounding the decision to delay the implementation of HIPs and EPCs, I am writing to you to set out the measures that we are putting in place with immediate effect to maximise momentum and commitment, and ensure full roll-out of HIPs and EPCs at the earliest opportunity.

I attach to this letter the implementation update setting out full details of the arrangements, which we have issued today alongside the laying of revised regulations to allow for the necessary transitional arrangements, explanatory memoranda, and impact assessments – complete versions of which you will find on the Home Information Packs website at: www.homeinformationpacks.gov.uk

In particular, I should like to draw your attention in the implementation update to the triggers for the further phases of roll-out and also to the funding of up to 5000 subsidised EPCs for HIPs purchased prior to 1 August on a voluntary basis.

On 22 May the Secretary of State announced that we will be inviting local authorities and Registered Social Landlords to work with us to introduce EPCs on a voluntary basis to help provide work for domestic energy assessors and home inspectors over the next few months in advance of the implementation of HIPs and EPCs.

Panels and employers willing to participate in the pilot will be placed on the Home Information Packs website at: http://www.homeinformationpacks.gov.uk/industry/105_How_can_I_find_work.html

Any energy assessors or home inspectors wishing to participate should contact these organisations directly using the details on the website.

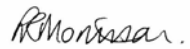
Once again, let me assure you that the Department remains committed to introducing HIPs and EPCs as soon as practicable. This is an important initiative that will make a significant contribution to reducing carbon emissions from homes - fulfilling the requirement of the EU Directive on the Energy Performance of Buildings - as well as bringing major improvements to the home buying and selling process.

Remember, if you have any comments or questions on these proposals please contact us as follows:

You can email comments or questions to homeinfopacks@communities.gsi.gov.uk or telephone our energy assessor and home inspector hotline on 0845 6430 810 Monday to Friday between the hours of 9am to 5pm.

Or you can write to:
Home Information Pack Team
Eland House
Bressenden Place
London
SW1E 5DU

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "PAM MORRISON". The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

PAM MORRISON
Programme Manager, Home Information Packs Implementation