

via email:  
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**Councillor Emily Smith**  
**Leader of the Council**

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Dear Stephen,

I hope you are well and have had a nice summer.

I wanted to follow up on our meeting on 9 June, when you will recall I raised the issue of retrofit of your stock and questioned how you plan to ensure energy efficiency is maximised in your homes in the Vale.

Clearly since we spoke in June, energy prices have spiralled, and the cost-of-living crisis is acute for many Vale residents making the need for addressing energy efficiency of properties even more critical.

The Oxford West and Abingdon MP (Layla Moran) and I have been receiving correspondence from a number of Sovereign tenants who are concerned about the lack of insulation in their properties and the fact that there seems to be a lack of response from Sovereign to their requests for better insulation.

Please could you let me have an urgent update as to how you are planning to upgrade the energy efficiency of your properties in the Vale?

Also, please can you confirm the most effective route for tenants to raise concerns about the efficiency of their specific property to ensure they receive the practical help they need from Sovereign with energy efficiency as winter approaches.

Yours sincerely



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cc: Matthew Hensby, Regional Housing Director, Sovereign