

**PRESS RELEASE**

**SIA welcomes Alternative Fuel Payment flexibility announcement**

The Stove Industry Association (SIA) has welcomed [today's announcement](#) by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero that the time period for evidencing the purchase of alternative fuels, including wood and solid fuels, has been increased by three months.

It means that those eligible for the £200 Alternative Fuel Payment (AFP) will now be able to use receipts from June 2022 (previously September 2022) until May 2023 as evidence, ensuring that those households that purchased fuel in bulk ahead of the winter 2022 heating season will receive the support that they are entitled to.

The AFP is available to households not connected to the mains gas grid and that use alternative fuels as the main form of heating. It is a payment on top of the £400 payment from electricity suppliers and covers homes heated by tank or bottled gas, LPG, oil, wood or solid fuel.

Most households that are eligible will receive the payment automatically as a credit on their electricity bill, but if not an eligibility check and application [can be made here](#).

Andy Hill, chair of the SIA, the UK trade association for manufacturers, suppliers and retailers of solid fuel stoves and their component parts and fuel, commented: "This is a common-sense announcement and ensures that those households that did plan ahead, buying their wood logs and solid fuel supplies in the summer months last year, will not be penalised for doing so. Wood and solid fuel heating is an essential lifeline for the many thousands of homes that are off the gas grid network, and for remote and very rural locations it is vital to ensure that a fuel supply for the winter months is sourced well in advance."

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Editor's Notes:

- The Stove Industry Association was formed in 2008 and is a trade association of stove manufacturers, distributors and retailers, wood fuel suppliers, flue and component manufacturers and other interested industry bodies.
- With over 40 manufacturing members and over 60 retail members, the SIA represents the stove industry in discussion with government departments such as Defra and BEIS, Welsh Government, Scottish Government, and the Greater London Authority.
- The SIA represents the UK in CEFACD, the European Committee of Manufacturers of Domestic Heating and Cooking Appliances and engages openly with all stakeholders.
- Please contact Erica Malkin SIA Communications Manager on 07891 097842 or [erica@stoveindustryalliance.com](mailto:erica@stoveindustryalliance.com) for further comment on this press release.
- Further information on the work of the SIA can be found at [www.stoveindustryalliance.com](http://www.stoveindustryalliance.com)