SNP fail to support more ambitious targets for energy efficient homes

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The SNP Climate Change Secretary has today failed to support more ambitious targets for energy efficient homes that would have helped to combat fuel poverty.

During a Ministerial Statement on greenhouse gas emissions, Roseanna Cunningham would not back an EPC target of C or lower for all residential properties by 2030.

This comes despite the parliament voting in agreement of the amendment, put forward by Scottish Conservative MSP Alexander Burnett in May last year.

The Cabinet Secretary refused to acknowledge the positive impact this would have on fuel poverty and instead made claims that increasing energy efficiency would disadvantage people.

On multiple occasions, Mr Burnett has called for the Scottish Government to follow the will of the parliament and implement these targets.

Mr Burnett, on receiving yet another refusal for support from the Minister, said:

"This is hugely disappointing and irresponsible of the SNP government, but comes as little surprise.

"Acting on this amendment would greatly benefit those living in fuel poverty, and we need to see action by 2030.

"This parliament has taken measures to react to the global climate emergency we are all responsible for.

"The SNP are quick to shout about climate change and Scotland's plans to live more sustainably, yet refuse to take significant action to ensure Scotland is progressing into a more energy efficient and sustainable future.

"Scotland has the potential to lead the world in living more sustainably, but this SNP government is holding us back".