

## Press Release

Date: 24<sup>th</sup> April 2025

**\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\***

### Government confirms that proposed Future Homes Standard will permit wood burning stoves

[A joint letter, co-ordinated by the Stove Industry Association \(SIA\)](#), from a range of organisations representing over 1,500 businesses and woodland owners, has led to the government confirming that wood burning stoves will be permitted in new homes in the future, ending ongoing speculation in the media that these appliances could potentially be banned.

In response to a letter from the SIA co-signed by the British Flue & Chimney Manufacturers Association (BFCMA), Confederation of Forest Industries (Confor), Federation of Environmental Trade Association (FETA), OFTEC, Renewable Energy Association (REA) and the Small Woods Association, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April the Ministry of Housing Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) stated that:

“...the Government is currently working towards setting a new standard which will be called the Future Homes Standard and will ensure that its new homes are zero carbon ready, meaning that they will need no retrofitting to become zero carbon in use as the electricity grid decarbonises. A full technical consultation on the Future Homes Standard was launched in December 2023 and closed in March 2024. Under the standards proposed in the consultation, a wood burning stove would be permitted as a secondary heating source in new homes.”

The MHCLG also notes that:

“The Government acknowledges that it is possible to significantly reduce the level of smoke emitted through domestic burning if the right fuels, appliances and practices are used.”

Within the joint letter, sent in early February to various government departments, the SIA sought to highlight the significant benefits of modern wood burning stoves, including their role in reducing carbon emissions, alleviating energy system strain, improving air quality, and promoting sustainable energy solutions.

Commenting on the response received from government Andy Hill, Chair of the SIA, said:

“We are delighted that it has been officially confirmed that under the proposed Future Homes Standard, the installation of a wood burning stove will be permitted and we are also particularly heartened to see that government acknowledges the impact of domestic burning best practices. Responsible use of modern wood burning appliances is something the SIA and its members have advocated for over many years.”

“The SIA welcomes the government's positive response and looks forward to continued engagement as policies are developed and implemented. We believe that modern wood

burning stoves can play a crucial role in achieving cleaner air, supporting local economies, and providing consumers with sustainable and flexible heating choices.”

## ENDS

### Notes:

- The Stove Industry Association was formed in 2008 and is a trade association of stove, flue, component and fuel manufacturers, suppliers and distributors, independent retailers, installers and chimney sweeps, training organisations, competent person schemes and other interested industry bodies.
- With over 230 members, the SIA represents the stove industry in discussion with government departments such as Defra and DESNZ, 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.
- Further information on the work of the SIA can be found at [www.stoveindustryassociation.org](http://www.stoveindustryassociation.org)

### SIA Top Tips:

- Choose an Ecodesign compliant stove such as a [clearSkies](#) certified appliance. If you currently use an open fire or an older, very basic stove, consider upgrading. A modern Ecodesign compliant stove releases up to 90% less emissions than an open fire and can be up to 80% less than some older stoves. Your local [SIA Retail Group member](#) can help advise on the best stove for you and your family.
- If you live in a [Smoke Control Area](#), your stove will also need to be Defra exempt. All clearSkies Level 3 and above models are certified as Defra exempt.
- Visit your local stove retailer for guidance on choosing the right size stove for your property and for a detailed installation quote. You can find your nearest [SIA Retail Group member showroom here](#).
- Ensure your stove is fitted by an appropriately qualified competent person such as one who is [HETAS](#) or [OFTEC](#) registered.
- Ensure you use quality fuel. Look for the [Ready to Burn](#) logo to ensure your wood logs are at or below 20% moisture content. Never use chemically treated wood or burn waste on your stove.
- Ensure your stove is serviced and your chimney swept at least once a year – the SIA recommends NVQ qualified sweeps for the ongoing maintenance and servicing of your stove and chimney. The [Federation of British Chimney Sweeps](#) has links to all the main sweep associations. Chimney sweeps are a valuable source of information for good practice and advice.
- Always follow the manufacturer’s instructions when using your stove.