WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE BY DEPUTY R.J. WARD OF ST. HELIER QUESTION SUBMITTED ON TUESDAY 28th SEPTEMBER 2021 ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 5th OCTOBER 2021

Question

Given recent reports of the growing cost of, and instability in, gas prices, what consideration, if any, has been undertaken or plans have been made to assist those people using gas to heat their homes to convert to electricity and to invest in the necessary infrastructure to do so?

Answer

Currently work around transitioning fuels falls into development work for the Carbon Neutral Roadmap where decarbonising heating systems is under consideration and policy development. This may include transitioning from gas to electricity systems but more widely is likely to include transitioning from other fossil-fuel hydrocarbons to low-carbon fuels or systems. Policies will come forward in the Carbon Neutral Roadmap which will be published for consultation before Christmas.

We recognise that the current position with the price rises for gas customers may cause some Islanders concern. Jersey Gas is putting in place mechanisms to help customers meet the price rises through payment plans and the Government has committed to supporting vulnerable and low-income customers meet the temporary price rise in effect from next month.