CACCTU's No non-radical futures conference

31 October 2026

Warm Homes workshop, 14:20pm-15:50pm

Speakers

- Sam Perry, TUC
- Madeleine Pauker, Common Wealth
- Linda Clarke, University of Westminster

Sam Perry

- Home energy and climate
- What is the Warm Homes Plan?
  - £15bn across this Parliament to upgrade homes via boiler upgrade grants, area-based grants/co-funding, and loans
  - Budget outcomes
  - Also, Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards for private residential rentals, social homes, and commercial buildings
- WHP welcome, but insufficient, and not worker-focussed enough
- We need the worker focus or we risk the transition not happening: Unattractive ideas don't survive, and get attacked politically
  - Need the transition to be (economically, socially) positive to be supported politically—so: inclusive, accessible upgrades
  - Need to transition to be desirable to encourage uptake of measures and uptake of jobs—so: better jobs and professionalisation
- Working with government—Warm Homes Plan Workforce Taskforce – a collaboration between TUC and DESNZ
  - Labour not shining knights on white horses but only party that thinks about workers and work
- Looking at fragmentation of the industry, devolution (WH being devolved), and transition arrangements for gas engineers, but also…
- Developing the Good Jobs Standard for Warm Homes
  - Good pay and conditions—by adhering to NWRA/sectoral collective bargaining agreements and involving workers in decisions which affect them
  - Ensure workers can develop and demonstrate sufficient competence—promoting participation in competence schemes and supporting workers to upskill

  - Promote secure employment and legitimate sub-contracting—direct employment preference, with fair sub-contracting, and limited labour-only subcontracting/agency labour
  - Create accessible opportunities—at least one trade apprentice or trainee for every 10 tradespeople, and adopting recruitment best practices (promoting recruitment of women)
- Construction employs a million people, so huge potential
- Will resolve work quality (ECO) issues
- Will make WH a professionalised industry where workers are treated fairly and respectfully and where sectoral collective bargaining is reestablished as the norm