**625 jobs under threat in the Insulation Industry in London**

Local people in London could be feeling the chill this Winter, as a coalition representing over 70% of the UK’s £700m insulation industry has warned that 625 jobs in the insulation industry are under threat in London in 2013, with job losses starting this Winter.

The call from the Insulation Industry Forum (IIF) comes after energy companies raised energy prices and is due to a gap the IIF has identified between the end of current incentives and proposed ones under the Government’s new Green Deal. This means that anyone who wants to insulate their home, including those vulnerable people who are fuel poor in London could miss out - just as the weather turns colder, and heating bills rise.

The Government’s own figures indicate that there will be an:

* 87.5% reduction in the loft insulation market
* 57% reduction in the cavity wall insulation market
* 16% drop in the solid wall insulation market

The losses come from the gap between the ending of the existing subsidy schemes for cavity wall solid wall and loft insulation, and the Green Deal and Energy Company Obligation (ECO) becoming fully functional. This will seriously impact on the continuity of work and number of cavity wall, loft insulation and solid wall jobs undertaken from the 1 January 2013.

As a result of the gap, 625 jobs will go in London in 2013. The lack of any transition planning will also stifle and restrict investment and job creation in solid wall insulation which is necessary to transform the market in order to meet Government carbon targets.

Job losses are expected throughout the UK, with 16,000 (45%) jobs due to go primarily in the loft and cavity installation and distribution sectors between now and the end of 2013.

**Responding to reports that 16,000 jobs could be lost in the insulation industry as a result of the introduction of the Green Deal, Labour’s Shadow Minister for Climate Change, Luciana Berger MP said:**

 “These shocking predictions highlight the Tory-led Government’s failure to deliver a smooth transition to the Green Deal. Ministers should be ashamed if they don’t act to prevent thousands of people losing their jobs just before Christmas.

 “Labour has been warning for months that unless the Green Deal is a good deal for the public, no one will take it up and the scheme will fail. The Government must act now to support the insulation industry and prevent a Green Deal gap.

 **ENDS**

**Notes to Editors**

The Insulation Industry Forum is made up of a range of major installers, contractors and manufacturers, as well as leading trade bodies.

**For more information**

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