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## **SALIX FINANCE WELCOMES BOOST TO PUBLIC SECTOR CLIMATE ACTION**

Salix Finance, the Government's vehicle for accelerating public sector capital investment in climate change, has welcomed the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review and its allocation of £170m to the Environmental Transformation Fund (ETF). The Fund will invest in the demonstration and deployment of low carbon energy and energy efficiency technologies across the UK.

As one of the expected beneficiaries of this funding, Salix Finance would be able to significantly accelerate its programme of public sector revolving loan schemes over the coming three years. This will enable Central and Local Government, police and emergency services, NHS Foundation Trusts and Higher and Further Education facilities to substantially improve energy efficiency and reduce energy bills.

Peter Mallaburn, Chief Executive of Salix, comments: "The public sector could be saving £400m a year from its energy bill and plough this back into front line services. Salix is uniquely placed to provide funding and support to help the public sector make the capital investment they need. Salix is currently managing £40m of funds with over 70 public sector bodies. With increased funding we could achieve still more."

Peter added: "In supporting Salix the Government is showing its commitment to public sector leadership on climate change. Businesses and households increasingly expect Government to set an example. Also Government itself can move markets using its £150bn procurement budget."

Salix Finance is an independent, publicly funded company, set up in 2004, to accelerate public sector investment in energy efficiency and renewable technologies. Salix has Government funding of £20 million and is an integral part of the UK Climate Change Programme. Salix is working across the public sector with central and local government, the NHS and higher education.