Dear Mr McKenzie

Thank you for giving evidence to the Committee on 13 September and for contributing to an interesting and informative session. The Committee appreciated you taking the time to contribute to its work on building regulations and fire safety in Scotland and felt this was a very useful session ahead of the further evidence sessions it plans to hold on this important topic.

At the meeting on 13 September you raised a couple of issues with the Committee on which the Committee would request further information from you.

At the end of the meeting you highlighted strengthening legislation to give greater enforcement powers to building standards and building standards verification process. The Committee would welcome further information on what enforcement powers you would propose and what kind of sanctions you consider would be appropriate for any breaches.

At the meeting you also highlighted—

“However, many products that are deemed to be non-combustible that have been used in Scotland have recently been retested, and the manufacturers are now finding that these materials have been moved from class 0—the non-combustibility class—to class 1.”

The Committee would welcome further information you have on this issue such as when and where it was identified as well as who undertook the retesting.

The Committee would welcome a written response from you on these tow matters by no later than Friday 22 September. This will enable the response to inform questions to the Minister for Local Government and Housing at the meeting on 27 September.
For your information, the Official Report (substantially verbatim transcript) of the meeting on 18 September is available on the Committee’s website at the following link:


A summary of the Committee’s work to date on building regulations and fire safety in Scotland (containing links to Committee papers, written submissions and transcripts of meetings) can also be found on the Committee’s website at the following link:


I have also attached a link to our witness survey, which should only take a few minutes to complete and helps provide useful feedback to the clerking team on the arrangement and management of Committee meetings. The survey can be found at:

http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/143627FIRKW/

Kind regards,

Jane Williams
Clerk to the Local Government and Communities Committee