



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Paul McLennan MSP,
Minister for Housing
(by email)

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Email: localgov.committee@parliament.scot

15 March 2024

Dear Paul,

Housing to 2040/Building Safety and Maintenance Issues

Thank you for confirming that you will give evidence to the Committee on issues relating to building safety and maintenance on Tuesday 16 April. In previous correspondence with your officials, the Committee clerks confirmed that the primary purpose of this session would be to provide an update on issues including damp and mould and to consider suggestions that a buildings “MOT” might be helpful along with any further themes arising from our recently completed “Housing to 2040” inquiry. You can access the official reports of evidence sessions on Housing to 2040 via the links below.

[Official Report: LGHP Committee, 20 February 2024](#)

[Official Report: LGHP Committee, 28 February 2024](#)

The clerks had also confirmed that the session might touch on issues arising from Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) although at that point, this was not expected to be a major focus of discussions since it chiefly appeared to affect public buildings rather than private residences (either social or privately owned housing). However, in light of recent events in Aberdeen, it is now likely that the Committee will wish to explore the topic in greater detail. Specifically, we would welcome further information in relation to—

- How the Scottish Government is working with Aberdeen City Council to respond to the current situation;

- How the Scottish Government is working with local authorities more generally to identify and subsequently remediate properties with RAAC that present a risk to their inhabitants;
- How the Scottish Government is working with the insurance industry in relation to homeowners impacted by RAAC who have encountered issues in respect of their home insurance cover.

Whilst the Committee has recently considered cladding remediation in detail during its scrutiny of the Housing (Cladding Remediation) (Scotland) Bill at stage 1, it is also possible that members may wish to discuss the topic further with you at the meeting.

It would be helpful if you could provide a written response to the points raised above by 9 April to help inform the evidence session. I look forward to seeing you on 16 April.

Yours sincerely,

Ariane Burgess
Convener, Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee