Cabinet Secretary for Housing Rùnaire a'Chaibineit airson Taigheadas Màiri McAllan MSP Màiri NicAilein BPA



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Convener
Local Government, Housing and Planning
Committee
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Dear Convener,

I write to inform the committee of the publication of the <u>The Cladding Remediation</u> <u>Programme: Next Phase Plan of Action</u>.

Since my appointment as the Cabinet Secretary for Housing, I have reviewed progress of cladding remediation and the plan of action for cladding remediation published in March 2025, available here: Cladding remediation: plan of action - gov.scot. There has been measurable progress in expansion and pace demonstrated by the Single Open Call, priority Single Building Assessments, and the information-gathering exercise. The Single Open Call had received 600 expressions of interests by 30 June. As of 24 July 258 initial grant funding offers had been issued, all priority Single Building Assessments via the Scottish Government-led assessment process remain on track to be returned by end of August, and the status of all high-rise buildings with known cladding is expected to be confirmed by end of October 2025.

Notwithstanding this progress and increase in pace, there remains an urgent need for further acceleration of our programme of work to speed up the assessment of buildings to the new statutory standards, and to rapidly deliver mitigations, in anticipation of remediation works, where such works are found to be necessary. To that end, I have published the Cladding Remediation Programme: Next Phase Plan of Action today, 07 August 2025.

The Cladding Remediation Programme: Next Phase Plan of Action focuses on moving decisively from identification to resolution. I remain determined to end the scourge of dangerous cladding as timeously as possible. It is my view that developers, local authorities, Registered Social Landlords and private owners must all play their part in taking forward building assessments, mitigation and remediation works. Our role is to ensure that despite the multiplicity of issues and challenges in Scotland, we provide clear and supported pathways for those responsible to take swift action.

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Today I have set my expectations for all actors across the system about the pace at which we want this work delivered, and how we will support them. I have set clear targets for the remainder of the financial year, whilst committing the Scottish Government to ambitious but necessary long-term goals. I have taken the following action to ensure the success of this next phase of work:

- ➤ I have committed to ensuring funding will be made available on an equitable basis for mitigation and remediation works for both private residential properties and social housing.
- ➤ I have allocated an additional £10 million funding to support the success of Stage One of the Single Open Call, ensuring Single Building Assessments for all eligible SOC EOIs received in 2025.
- ➤ I have allocated £10 million to fund the installation of interlinked fire alarm systems where required, ensuring interim life-safety protections in many of Scotland's most vulnerable buildings.
- ➤ I have launched Stage Two of the Single Open Call, providing owners with a pathway to be considered for further government support for any required mitigation and/or essential cladding remediation works identified through an SG-funded Single Building Assessment. Funding will be made available, with applications prioritised against risk.
- ➤ I have set a deadline of 31 October 2025 for developers to sign the Developer Remediation Contract, which will hold developers formally accountable to fully fund and deliver remediation on the buildings they are responsible for.

I have also set a long-term strategic goal for the Scottish Government:

➤ **By 2029** every high-risk residential building over 18 metres in Scotland will have been resolved - whether made safe, decommissioned or replaced - and every building between 11 and 18 metres will be on a defined pathway to resolution — supported by robust assessment, planning and funding for essential cladding remediation.

Actions detailed in this publication are being prioritised to significantly advance the programme and lay the foundations for a longer-term trajectory toward complete remediation of Scotland's affected buildings. I will be asking for regular updates from my officials on progress of these actions, whilst frequently reviewing plans and considering any new information as it becomes available.

I intend on upholding my predecessor's commitment to provide the Committee with regular updates on the Cladding Remediation Programme. I look forward to providing the next update in due course and if requested, would welcome the opportunity to appear before the committee to discuss these matters.

I trust you found this update helpful, if you have any further questions, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

## MÀIRI MCALLAN

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