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Ariane Burgess MSP
Convener, Local Government, Housing and
Planning Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh EH99 1SP

24th April 2025

Dear Ariane,

Heat in Buildings Bill

I am writing further to the correspondence between us last month on our proposed Heat in Buildings Bill.

As alluded to in my letter of 25 March, I gave a statement to Parliament on 3 April on next steps with this Bill. I set out that we would now be working to introduce a Bill later in Year 5 of this session, with the precise date still to be agreed.

I also confirmed some important changes that we intend to make – primarily, that our Bill will now set a target for decarbonising heating systems. This reflects our desire to move away from an approach which penalises individuals and instead galvanises collective action.

I also set out our plans to boost heat network development through the Bill, and that it would include powers to set minimum energy efficiency standards for owner-occupied and non-domestic properties. In the meantime, we plan to use existing powers to progress regulations which will introduce a minimum energy efficiency standard in the private rented sector

I look forward to continued engagement with the Committee on these matters over the coming months.

Yours sincerely,

ALASDAIR ALLAN

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