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Ariane Burgess MSP
Convener
Local Government, Housing and Planning
Committee

By Email:
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7 February 2025

Dear Ariane,

Further to my appearance before the Local Government Housing and Planning Committee on 19 November 2024 where I provided evidence in connection to the Short-Term Let Licensing Implementation Update Report 2024, I am writing to you to provide the following update about our review of guidance.

I am pleased to advise that the Short-Term Let Regulation Guidance Update Group, chaired by VisitScotland, held initial discussions in December and a first meeting with some members on 13 December. A further meeting was held on 14 January 2025 to agree the Group's term of reference and consider a long list of issues that may be addressed. The terms of reference outline the structure and membership of the group, the guidance we are welcoming suggested updates on, the scope of the update and the phases of the project (Exploring areas for update, discussing the updates to recommend and drafting).

I am grateful to have expertise present from a balance of perspectives from across industry and local authority expertise with representation from Scottish Tourism Alliance, Scottish Bed and Breakfast Association, Association of Scottish Self Caterers, Short-Term Accommodation Association, SOLAR, licensing authorities, planning authorities and ALACHO.

The Scottish Government guidance under review is:

- [Short term lets - licensing scheme part 1: guidance for hosts and operators - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/short-term-lets-licensing-scheme-part-1/guidance-for-hosts-and-operators/gov.scot/)
- [Short term lets - licensing scheme part 2: supplementary guidance - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/short-term-lets-licensing-scheme-part-2/supplementary-guidance/gov.scot/)

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- [Short term lets: planning guidance for hosts and operators - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/short-term-lets/planning-guidance-for-hosts-and-operators/pages/default.aspx)
- [Planning circular 1/2023: short-term lets and planning - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/planning-circular-1-2023/short-term-lets-and-planning/pages/default.aspx)

The group aims to conclude their initial recommendations for guidance updates by 31 January with any further work they require undertaken by the end of March 2025.

I hope the Committee finds this update helpful.

Yours sincerely,

PAUL MCLENNAN

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