



**Levelling Up, Housing
and Communities
Committee**

Lee Rowley MP
**Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Local Government and Building
Safety)**
Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
4th Floor, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

18 April 2023

Dear Lee,

Thank you for appearing before the Committee on [20 March 2023](#) and answering our questions on the progress and funding of building safety remediation. During the session, we asked if it would be possible for you to elaborate further on certain discussion points. I would be grateful if you could write to the Committee on the following:

1. Medium-rise scheme pilot

During the session there was an exchange about how the medium-rise scheme is progressing. We understand that the medium-rise scheme is in its pilot stage as you explained how Homes England is using “new technology and new approaches” to run this “new process”. **Could you please elaborate further on what these new approaches and technologies are exactly and explain how this is progressing the medium-rise scheme?**

Furthermore, you referred to a methodology that has been published on medium-rise buildings and promised to share that with us.

2. Buildings in scope of the Developers’ Contract

We welcome the news that 1,100 buildings will be fixed as a result of the Developers’ Contract. However, during the session we expressed our concern about the number of buildings that fall out of the scope of the Contract. We understand that this number is not necessarily fixed and may grow as new buildings come to light, but **can you tell us the number of buildings that the Department is aware of, to date, that are not covered by the Developers’ Contract?**



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3. Responsible actors

During the session, you said “everybody who has responsibility should step up”. **Can you set out for us the stakeholder groups that have responsibility?**

4. Clarification on the Responsible Actors Scheme

We understand that the Department has recently published provisions of the Responsible Actors Scheme, and we welcome the Department’s continued efforts to hold irresponsible actors to account. However, it remains unclear what will happen to the development sites that have already been started by developers who are ineligible for the Scheme. **Can you clarify what will happen to these developments?**

5. Support for social housing providers

We expressed our concern about how social housing providers are struggling financially to handle the building safety crisis in addition to other pressures. Richard Goodman, Director General, Building Safety, Grenfell and Net Zero, said that the Department recognises that it needs to “improve the visibility of where the social housing sector is on remediation” and explained that the Department is having conversations with the sector. We have heard that remediation will cost social housing providers £6 billion. **Can you tell us about your conversations with social housing providers and explain what steps, if any, will be taken to give ongoing support to social housing providers? Does the Department accept that remediation will cost social housing providers an estimated £6 billion, and if not, what is the Department’s estimate?**

6. Clarification on the commitment DLUHC has received from mortgage lenders

We have heard that the Department has received an assurance from mortgage lenders that they would protect mortgaged leaseholders if they found themselves in breach of their lease for non-payment of remediation costs billed through a leaseholder’s service charge. You said you would follow this up with UK Finance and to write to us about this matter. **Can you clarify what the commitment DLUHC has received from lenders is?**

I appreciate there is much to follow up on, nevertheless we look forward to receiving your response in due course. It would be helpful to receive a reply by 27 April.



**Levelling Up, Housing
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Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Clive Betts'.

Mr Clive Betts MP
Chair, Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee