



Department for Levelling Up,
Housing & Communities

Rachel Maclean MP

Minister of State for Housing and Planning

2 Marsham Street

London

SW1P 4DF

www.gov.uk/dluhc

Our reference: 28186969

Clive Betts MP
Chair Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
Select Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1P 0AA

5 July 2023

Dear Clive,

Thank you for your letter of 12 June. I appreciate the work of the committee on these important matters and valued the opportunity to discuss them with you.

I understand your wish to see our response in good time, and we will send this to you as soon as possible.

We all agree that all tenants should be able to expect safe and decent homes from their landlords. This core principle underpins private rented sector reform plans. As you are aware, the Secretary of State wrote to local authorities in November last year. He set out his clear expectation that they will take action to resolve poor housing conditions in their area and required them to provide a range of information on current conditions to the Department. The Department is currently undertaking robust analysis of the returns provided by local authorities and we will update the committee and the sector accordingly.

The Government is committed to introducing a Decent Homes Standard in the private rented sector and will legislate for this at the earliest opportunity. I will keep the Select Committee updated on our progress with the Decent Homes Standard.

The Department has now published the Bill Impact Assessment, which received a green rating from the Regulatory Policy Committee and can be found at the following link: <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-03/0308/2023072023RentersReformBillImpactAssessment.pdf>. This includes analysis of the equalities impact of reforms, drawing from the Bill's Equalities Impact Assessment.

My officials and I look forward to continuing to work with you and your committee as we deliver the Renters (Reform) Bill through Parliament.

Thank you again for your letter.

Yours sincerely,

RACHEL MACLEAN MP
Minister of State for Housing and Planning