



Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee

Baroness Penn
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Housing and Communities)
Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities
2 Marsham Street
London, SW1P 4DF

17 January 2024

Dear JoJo,

Follow up to oral evidence session on Shared Ownership inquiry

Thank you for providing evidence at the [oral evidence session](#) for our *Shared Ownership* inquiry on Monday 19 December 2023. As you will recall, there were a number of points on which you promised to write to us about with further information – especially in relation to many concerns we have regarding shared ownership products and their role within the Government’s wider housing strategy. We re-iterate these requests below:

- **What is the proportion of shared ownership homes which remain as shared ownership properties or other forms of affordable housing stock once sold?** We note that you said that ‘the majority’ of these homes are remaining in the shared ownership sector but fuller statistics and any analysis conducted by the Department on this would be useful.¹
- **What specific measures have you put in place, or do you plan to put in place, to enable Registered Providers to borrow more to put towards social housebuilding?** For example, allowing local councils to borrow at lower rates.²
- **What data do you have on the affordability of Rent to Buy products, relative to shared ownership?** We would like to see evidence to support your assessment that: “[...] where rent to buy products are available, the amount that people are able to save through them means that a shared ownership product to buy at the end of that is often the most viable route into home purchase”.³
- **What plans do you have to standardise categories for fees within shared ownership?**

¹ Qq64-65

² Q85

³ Qq99-101



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- **What would a future code of conduct for marketing and selling shared ownership products cover?⁴**
- **What specific measures do you plan to put in place to ensure that shared owners in blocks of flats are able to make more use of Right to Manage?⁵**

We would also re-iterate our concerns about the lack of data which you were able to provide to us during the oral evidence session in general. We note your commitment during the session to improve your understanding of how shared ownership products are working through better data collection and evaluation and look forward to seeing proposals for how you plan to achieve this going forward.

We would appreciate hearing back from you on the above points by 02 March 2024 at the latest.

Best wishes,

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

⁴ Qq112-115

⁵ Q134