



Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee

Lee Rowley MP

Minister of State (Minister for Housing, Planning and Building Safety)
Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities
2 Marsham Street
London, SW1P 4DF

15 January 2024

Dear Lee,

Oral evidence to the Committee's finances and sustainability of the social housing sector inquiry

I am writing to follow up on my [letter](#) of 5 December 2023, conveying the Committee's expectation that we will hear from you, in your capacity as Housing Minister, at the final oral evidence session of our [inquiry](#) into *The Finances and Sustainability of the Social Housing Sector*.

This session has now been scheduled for Monday 22 January 2024. However, we have had no indication that you will attend. We have received confirmation from the Department that Baroness Scott of Bybrook, OBE, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Social Housing and Faith), will be able to speak to us then but she might be unable to answer all of the questions that we would like to ask.

As I noted in my previous letter, as the Housing Minister you have responsibility for housing supply strategy and planning, which witnesses and our [terms of reference](#) for this inquiry have identified as important for social housing development. It is clear that the finances of the social housing sector would be of interest to you in your current role, and that your input would be appropriate and useful.

I therefore hope you will be able to confirm your availability for the session on 22 January in a timely manner. If you are not able to attend this session, then the Committee will seek to pursue alternatives, including asking questions on the areas of social housing finances that fall within your remit when you appear to provide evidence to the Committee's *Fire Safety* inquiry on 17 January 2024.

I would be grateful for a response to this letter by Tuesday 16 January 2024.

Best wishes,

Clive Betts MP

Chair, Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee