



Department for Levelling Up,
Housing & Communities

Lee Rowley MP

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Safety*
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Paul Morrell OBE

cc. Anneliese Day KC
Clive Betts MP

14 May 2024

Dear Paul,

The Government's Response to the Construction Product Testing Review

Thank you for your letter of 7 February following my attendance at the Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee on 17 January. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you, and Anneliese Day KC, personally and directly for your dedication and expertise in delivering the Independent Review of the Construction Product Testing Regime. Your ongoing commitment to progressing these reforms in a manner that brings key industry actors alongside is clearly evident and appreciated.

I hope shortly to be able to set out next steps regarding construction products, after a significant amount of work within the Department over recent months. This will include significant reference to the work you have undertaken and will be the first step in a significant programme of consultation and reform. As Dame Judith Hackitt remarked, the construction products sector is truly complex and, as you describe, there are several 'determining principles' that must be addressed. It is the Government's intention to respond to the Independent Review, starting with a paper which draws upon the Review and sets out for comment the Government's broad approach to reform.

I have noted your observation on the general safety duty and the role of industry. I understand that you have recently taken on an appointment to aid the Construction Leadership Council to take forward recommendations set out in the Review, and to prepare for reform. This is welcome, and I know that departmental officials are engaging with the Construction Leadership Council to consider how best the department can offer support.

I am pleased to hear that you have had additional opportunity to meet with officials since February. Further to this, I would welcome the chance to meet with you and Anneliese Day KC to explore the next phase of reform. Your contributions would be greatly valued as we move forward with our response. I have therefore asked my office to follow up accordingly.

Yours ever,

LEE ROWLEY MP