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Stuart McMillan
Convener
Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee

By email: DPLR.Committee@parliament.scot

02 November 2023

Dear Convener,

Housing (Cladding Remediation) (Scotland) Bill

I am writing to let you know that the Housing (Cladding Remediation) (Scotland) Bill was introduced to Parliament yesterday, 1 November 2023. The Bill seeks to safeguard residents and owners from the life critical fire safety risks posed by unsafe cladding and will enable delivery of our ongoing Cladding Remediation Programme.

As set out in the Bill, Ministers are seeking new powers to assess and remediate buildings within the scope of the Cladding Remediation Programme, as well as to maintain a Cladding Assurance Register that will contain information on buildings which have been through a Single Building Assessment and any required remediation. For completeness, I should explain that the scope of the Cladding Remediation Programme is limited to multi-residential domestic buildings, which may include a commercial premises, constructed or refurbished between 1 June 1992 and 1 June 2022, 11 metres and over in height and incorporating a form of external wall cladding system.

Additionally, recognising the key role that developers will play in remediating buildings within the scope of the Cladding Remediation Programme, the Bill also seeks powers to allow Ministers to bring forward regulations to create a Responsible Developers Scheme.

I am confident that taken together these powers will ensure that we are able to fulfil our commitments to protect homeowners and also ensure that we continue to maintain confidence and assurance in the quality and safety of residential buildings across Scotland.

As ever, residents and homeowners remain at the heart of our work and this legislation will help us take the next steps in removing barriers to remediating unsafe cladding identified through the Cladding Remediation Programme to date.

I hope this update is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

PAUL MCLENNAN
Minister for Housing