



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Cllr Shona Morrison,
President,
COSLA

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

By email only

Email: localgov.committee@parliament.scot

2 November 2022

Dear Shona,

Mobile Homes

Our predecessor committee undertook a short inquiry towards the end of Session 5 seeking to examine the effectiveness of the current licensing system for static mobile homes parks and how well it protects permanent residents of such sites. This followed receipt of a letter from Alexander Burnett MSP highlighting various concerns in respect of the current system.¹

The Session 5 Committee was unable to complete its work on this topic due to the 2021 Scottish Parliament elections but in its legacy report², urged us as its successor committee, to “take forward scrutiny of licensing of static mobile home sites with permanent residents as one of its early priorities.”

As part of its inquiry, the Session 5 Committee issued a targeted call for views in response to which 81 responses were received. These responses highlighted several concerns in respect of the licensing system, consumer rights and other issues. Links to the responses along with a summary of issues produced by SPICE are available on the Session 5 Committee’s website.³

The Committee wrote to the Scottish Government inviting an update on progress with the Scottish Government’s planned review of the current licensing system along with expected timescales for its conclusion. The letter and the Minister’s response can be accessed via the following links:

¹ [External Letter \(parliament.scot\)](https://www.parliament.scot/external-letter)

² [Local Government and Communities Committee Session 5 Legacy Report \(azureedge.net\)](https://www.local.gov.uk/local-government-and-communities-committee-session-5-legacy-report)

³ [Licensing of Static Mobile Homes with permanent residents - Parliamentary Business : Scottish Parliament](https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentary-business/licensing-of-static-mobile-homes-with-permanent-residents)

- [Convenertoministermobilehomes \(parliament.scot\)](#)
- [ministertoconvenermobilehomes.pdf \(parliament.scot\)](#)

The Minister's letter states that the review of the Mobile Homes Licencing Scheme is currently at the planning stage and that "officials are planning to collect information from Councils on progress in the implementation of the Licencing Scheme to inform the review and the degree to which the different features of the scheme have been used."

The Committee intends to closely monitor progress with the review. In the meantime, we agreed to write to you to ask whether you are aware of any specific concerns or urgent issues local authorities might face in respect of licensing for mobile homes or other forms of non-fixed housing.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

Ariane Burgess
Convener, Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee