

Parliamentary Bureau – Designation of a Bill at Stage 1

Building Safety Levy (Scotland) Bill

Introduction

1. The Building Safety Levy (Scotland) Bill was introduced in the Parliament on 5 June by the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government, Shona Robison MSP.

Discussion

2. The Bill introduces a new tax, called the Scottish Building Safety Levy, to be charged on the construction or conversion of residential property developments, with some exceptions. This follows an amendment to the Scotland Act 1998 to include powers for a devolved tax to be charged in relation to certain steps in the building control process.
3. Money raised through this levy will be used to fund building safety expenditure. The Scottish Government intends for this money to help fund the Scottish Government's Cladding Remediation Programme.
4. The Bill appears to engage the following committee remits—

Finance and Public Administration Committee

The remit of the Finance and Public Administration Committee includes consideration of matters relating to or affecting the revenue or expenditure of the Scottish Administration or other monies payable into or expenditure payable out of the Scottish Consolidated Fund. The Bill makes provision for a new tax and accordingly the Finance and Public Administration Committee's remit is engaged.

Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee

The remit of the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee includes to consider matters relating to local government falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government. The Bill places a levy on certain residential building developments to pay for building safety expenditure such as the Scottish Government's Cladding Remediation Programme. Housing is within the remit of Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee and their remit is therefore engaged.

5. It is considered that the Finance and Public Administration Committee has the main interest in the Bill.
6. The Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee was the lead committee for the Housing (Cladding Remediation) (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1 and Stage 2. The Committee is not seeking formal designation as a secondary committee at this stage, but lack of formal designation does not, of course, prevent the Committee from considering the Bill if it subsequently decides to do so.

Recommendation

7. The Bureau is invited to consider recommending to the Parliament by motion that it agrees, under Rule 9.6.1, that the Finance and Public Administration Committee be designated as lead committee.
8. A draft motion can be found below.

Draft Parliamentary Bureau motion on the Building Safety Levy (Scotland) Bill:

Designation of Lead Committee – That the Parliament agrees that the Finance and Public Administration Committee be designated as the lead committee in consideration of the Building Safety Levy (Scotland) Bill at Stage 1.

Parliamentary Business Team
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