

Local Government, Housing & Planning Committee
localgov.committee@parliament.scot

22 December 2025

Dear Alexander,

Thank you for the 3 December letter seeking further details on the Pilot programme.

The Scottish Government launched a “pilot” programme to test mechanisms for taking forward the identification, assessment and remediation of buildings with potentially unsafe cladding systems in June 2021. A preliminary Expressions of Interest (EoI) phase was launched on 31 March 2021 and was open for eight weeks. EoIs were invited from property owners and their representatives on a tenure neutral basis. The purpose of this was to gather building information on fire and safety risks.

As mentioned in my 7 November letter to the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, learning from the Pilot programme underlined the complexity of what we faced and thus what we needed to do including legislation and the development of the Single Building Assessment Standards. These statutory underpinnings allow us now to take forward assessment and remediation on a consistent and robust basis, which was not the case before.

The Housing (Cladding Remediation) (Scotland) Act 2024 was passed by the Scottish Parliament on 14th May 2024 and received Royal Assent on 21st June 2024. Buildings must meet the following criteria to be deemed within scope of the Act: have an external wall cladding system; contain at least one residential unit; be 11 metres or over in height; and have been built or refurbished between 1 June 1992 and 1 June 2022. This matches the scope of the Cladding Remediation Programme as a whole, and was decided on the basis of risk.

With the Act and Single Building Assessment specification in place, each entry on the pilot programme began pre-assessment checks in July 2024. This involved assuring that each entry is in the scope of the Act. 51 were deemed out of scope, as these buildings are below 11m . This was confirmed by a suitably qualified expert by a competent expert, independent of Government, who provided a professional review of the entries.

As they are not considered part of the Cladding Remediation Programme, we do not hold information on the current status of the 51 buildings determined to be out of scope of the Cladding Remediation Programme.

The Committee may wish to note that due to the interest in progress of Scotland's Cladding Remediation Programme, and for transparency purposes, management information is now released monthly: [Scotland's Cladding Remediation Programme monthly management information: November 2025 - gov.scot](https://www.gov.scot/publications/scotland-cladding-remediation-programme-monthly-management-information/november-2025/pages/1-to-4.aspx). The most recent release was published on 16 December and provides a range of metrics describing the progress of expressions of interest made to the Single Open Call. It also provides users with information about the progress of SBAs and remediation, and the

Cladding Remediation Programme's financial expenditure. Whilst management information goes through a process of quality assurance, it is not always subject to the same level of validation and checking as Official Statistics, which will continue to be released quarterly.

I hope the information provided is satisfactory to the Committee.

Yours sincerely,

MÀIRI MCALLAN
Cabinet Secretary for Housing