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24 August 2026

Dear Graham,

Thank you for your correspondence dated 18 June 2026 regarding Tenement Maintenance in Scotland and a request for timescales on the policy reform.

Tenement maintenance was a manifesto commitment during the 2026 parliamentary elections. The Scottish Government recognises the importance of ensuring that tenement buildings are properly maintained, and that owners are supported to plan for and fund repairs over the long term.

I recognise that tenement properties with multiple owners often struggle to organise and finance shared repairs, maintenance and enhancement works. This is something I am keen to address as soon as I reasonably can.

In terms of next steps, the Scottish Government has indicated its intention to bring forward housing legislation during the current Parliament. Work has been under way to consider several options that could be taken forward. My officials continue to undertake scoping work which will allow for sufficient time to engage with key stakeholders, and explore any issues that arise during this process.

Implementation timescales will depend upon complexity and the legislative timetable. As such, you will appreciate that it is not yet possible to provide a definite timescale for when any new measures might come into force.

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Tha Ministearanna h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh www.lobbying.scot



I will, of course, keep you and the Scottish Parliament updated on any key developments.

Yours sincerely,



SHIRLEY-ANNE SOMERVILLE

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