

Julie James AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Minister for Climate Change



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref WQ88853

Janet Finch-Saunders MS
Member of the Senedd for Aberconwy
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14th September 2023

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your written question of 27 March: Will the Minister declare the housing situation in Wales an emergency, and explain the steps being taken to combat this? (WQ88853).

Welsh Government is committed to ensuring everyone in Wales has access to a suitable, affordable home. Our Ending Homelessness Action Plan sets out the steps we are taking to achieve our ambition of ending homelessness in Wales, which is supported by over £210m investment in homelessness prevention and housing support services this year alone.

As part of this ambition, delivering more social housing is a key priority for this government, which is why we have set out the commitment to deliver 20,000 additional homes for rent in the social sector this Government term, allocating a record investment of £1.2billion over the first four years of this term to achieve this.

Unlike the UK government, this government has continued its support for Help to Buy. In addition to providing support for prospective homeowners, this decision encourages housebuilding and supports supply chains across Wales. Since its inception the Help to Buy Wales scheme has delivered more than 13,640 homes, and currently more than 40 developers are registered to deliver the scheme.

Additionally, in order to bring up to 2,000 long-term empty properties across Wales back into use, we are providing £50million over the next two years through a national empty homes grant scheme.

Current economic conditions mean it is more challenging than ever to deliver newbuild social homes and we are working in collaboration with the sector to overcome these challenges. We have launched a range of initiatives that will deliver more genuinely affordable homes as quickly as possible to meet urgent housing need.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Through the Transitional Accommodation Capital Programme (TACP) we have worked in partnership with local authorities and Registered Social Landlords to deliver 936 more homes in 2022-23, enabled by £76.4m of Welsh Government funding. Given the success of its first year we have reopened TACP for a second year for local authorities and Registered Social Landlords to apply for funding to deliver more homes.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie James". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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