Minister for Housing
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Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

Convener Local Government, Housing and
Planning Committee

By email

30 April 2024

Dear Convener,

On Friday 26 April the First Minister announced a £80m funding boost to the Affordable Housing Supply Programme. This will support a continuation of the National Acquisition Programme which last year allocated over £60m and delivered more than 1,000 affordable homes. This will provide up to £40m in 2024-25, with an equivalent commitment in 2025-26.

This additional funding will further the positive impact of the National Acquisition Programme, which has been an important tool in our efforts to tackle child poverty and reduce inequality across Scotland.

It follows on from the commitment made by the Deputy First Minister that should additional funding become available this would be prioritised for housing. With the additional allocation we will now invest close to £600m in 2024-25 through the Affordable Housing Supply Programme. My officials are working through how best to allocate these additional monies and I will be in a position to provide more detail on the specifics of that when this has been fully worked through in discussion with delivery partners.

More information on this announcement is available in the Press Release at [Boosting housing supply to tackle homelessness - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)](www.gov.scot).

In addition to this additional funding towards aquisitions, I am also meeting with COSLA on 29 May for a discussion on the impact that bringing empty Council homes back into use could have on reducing reliance on temporary accommodation.

Please accept my apologies for not providing these details on the day of the announcement.

Yours sincerely,

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PAUL MCLENNAN

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