

Agenda – Local Government and Housing Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 3, Senedd

Meeting date: 17 July 2025

Meeting time: 09.30

For further information contact:

Manon George

Committee Clerk

0300 200 6565

SeneddHousing@senedd.wales

Hybrid

Private pre-meeting

09.15 – 09.30

1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

09.30

2 Building Safety (Wales) Bill: Evidence session with the Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government

09.30 – 11.00

(Pages 1 – 60)

Jayne Bryant MS, Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government

Tania Nicholson, Deputy Director – Housing Quality, Welsh Government

Steve Pomeroy, Head of Fire and Rescue Services Branch, Welsh Government

Kim Phelps, Head of Building Safety Occupation Phase Policy, Welsh Government

Jo Newth, Lawyer, Welsh Government

Attached Documents:

Research brief

Paper 1: Building Safety (Wales) Bill – Bill Summary

3 Papers to note

11.00



3.1 Building Safety

(Pages 61 – 63)

Attached Documents:

Paper 2: Building Safety – Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government regarding Building Safety Data

3.2 The role of local authorities in supporting hospital discharges

(Pages 64 – 65)

Attached Documents:

Paper 3: The role of local authorities in supporting hospital discharges – Letter from Care and Repair Cymru

4 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 (ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of this meeting

11.00

Break

11.00 – 11.10

5 Building Safety (Wales) Bill: Consideration of evidence

11.10 – 11.30

6 The role of local authorities in supporting hospital discharges: Consideration of draft report

11.30 – 11.50

(Pages 66 – 125)

Attached Documents:

Paper 4: The role of local authorities in supporting hospital discharges: Draft report

7 Legislative Consent: Absent Voting (Elections in Scotland and Wales) Bill: Consideration of draft report

11.50 – 12.00

(Pages 126 – 131)

Attached Documents:

Paper 5: Legislative Consent: Absent Voting (Elections in Scotland and Wales)

Bill: Draft report

8 Legislative Consent: Pension Schemes Bill: Consideration of Legal Advice Note

12.00 – 12.10

(Pages 132 – 136)

Attached Documents:

Paper 6: Legislative Consent: Pension Schemes Bill – Legal Advice Note

9 Housing support for vulnerable people: Consideration of the Welsh Government response

12.10 – 12.20

(Pages 137 – 148)

Attached Documents:

Paper 7: Housing support for vulnerable people – Welsh Government response

10 Forward work programme

12.20 – 12.30

(Pages 149 – 152)

Attached Documents:

Paper 8: Forward work programme

11 Reviewing Committee Effectiveness in the Sixth Senedd

12.30 – 12.40

(Page 153)

Attached Documents:

Paper 9: Reviewing Committee Effectiveness in the Sixth Senedd – Letter from the Chairs Forum

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Jayne Bryant MS
Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government
Welsh Government

4 June 2025

Welsh Government building safety programme

Dear Jayne,

Thank you for your letter dated 4 April 2025 regarding the Welsh Government's building safety programme which we considered at our meeting on 7 May.

We noted that your letter states that as of March 2025, of the 152 developer-responsible buildings identified as having either internal and/or external fire safety issues, 42 per cent have either been completed or works have started. We believe that this figure is actually for buildings overall, not just developer-responsible buildings, and that the percentage for developer buildings may be lower. We would therefore be grateful if you could clarify whether the data is for developer-responsible buildings only.

Yours sincerely,



John Griffiths MS

Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.



Eich cyf/Your ref PO/JB/320/2025
Ein cyf/Our ref PO/JB/320/2025

1 July 2025

Dear John,

Thank you for your letter of 4 June in which you brought to my attention an error in the figures provided to the Committee in my letter of 4 April. You correctly identified the figures related to the overall number of buildings in the programme and not solely to those which were the responsibility of developers. Please accept my apologies for the error.

For the record I can confirm the figures which should have been shared on 4 April are as follows:

There were **156** buildings included in the developer contracts, **5** of these buildings had been confirmed as not requiring works.

The **151** remaining developer-responsible buildings had been identified as having either internal and/or external fire safety issues and the status of the works were:

- **29%** either completed or works had started
- **66%** had plans in place to begin remediation, subject to surveys, tendering, permissions etc., and
- **5%** had no plans in place to start works but were awaiting the review of available information to determine whether works are required

As you would expect these figures change and, therefore, I am happy to provide the Committee with a more up to date picture. The figures below set out the current position:

There are now **161** buildings included in the developer contracts, 5 of these buildings are confirmed as not requiring works. The increase in building numbers is because of ongoing data verification identifying a development as having six separate buildings, whereas up until March this had been recorded as one building.

Of **156** developer-responsible buildings which have been identified as having either internal and/or external fire safety issues (noting that **5** have been confirmed as not requiring works), the status of the works is:

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Gohebiaeth.Jayne.Bryant@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Jayne.Bryant@gov.Wales

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.

- **31%** either completed or works have started
- **64%** have plans in place to begin remediation, subject to surveys, tendering, permissions etc., and
- **5%** have no plans in place to start works but are awaiting the review of available information to determine whether works are required

The building safety team would be happy to provide additional information or a technical briefing to Committee members if that would be helpful. The team can be contacted by email at: BuildingSafety@gov.wales.

Once again thank you for bringing the error to my attention and for giving me the opportunity to correct the record.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jayne Bryant". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jayne Bryant AS/MS

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Lywodraeth Leol a Thai
Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government

John Griffiths MS
Chair
Local Government and Housing Committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

3 July 2025

Dear John,

We write to you further to the Local Government and Housing Committee meeting on Wednesday 7th May which was an evidence session with Welsh Government as part of the Committee's inquiry into the role of local authorities in supporting hospital discharges. As you will be aware, Faye Patton, Policy & Insights Manager at Care & Repair Cymru gave evidence to the committee as part of the same inquiry on 3 April 2025.

We were pleased to see that Care & Repair was mentioned by Shelley Davies, Deputy Director Futures & Integration in the evidence session on 7th May, particularly as it was in the context of areas of good practice for hospital discharge.

We would like to take this opportunity to clarify a few of the points mentioned by Shelley Davies and provide some further information about how our services which support hospital discharge are funded. Our Hospital to a Healthier Home service works to enable older people to return safely to their homes. We operate the service in 17 hospitals across Wales and work with hospital staff to identify older patients who have housing issues that may delay their return home. We then work with patients and their families to carry out home improvements needed to enable safe discharge, helping to speed up safe discharge and fill gaps in service provision that would otherwise lead to delays in discharge. In the financial year 2023-24, the service completed over 7,500 home adaptations and home improvements to a value of over £1.76 million and saved the Welsh NHS over 24,000 bed days, directly supporting over 4,100 patients to leave hospital more quickly and safely. The service reduces a patient's length of stay in hospital by 6 days on average and reduces readmission rates by half. Our experience delivering Hospital to a Healthier Home shows that the third sector is used to 'pick up' and 'problem solve' issues that neither the hospital nor the Local Authority can, for example same day adaptations essential for hospital discharge such as key safes to allow a package of care to go ahead, furniture moving, and/or plug socket installation for medical equipment. The third sector is therefore vital to improving patient flow and keeping people at home.

It was stated that Care & Repair services are funded by Regional Partnership Boards and Local Authorities. Our Hospital to a Healthier Home service is currently funded locally by 4 Local

Health Boards and 1 Regional Partnership Board. In addition, we are able to complete adaptations such as mobility aids (like handrails, grab rails, ramps, stair rails) and small bathroom adaptations (such as handrails around showers to enable personal care as part of a package of care) because our specialist Hospital to a Healthier Home caseworkers are able to leverage capital for works via our national Rapid Response Adaptation Programme (RRAP) which is funded by Welsh Government, and in some cases additional Local Authority monies.

If you would like any further information from us about our services and how we work with Local Authorities to support Hospital Discharges, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Jones
Chief Executive, Care & Repair Cymru

Agenda Item 6

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Agenda Item 7

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Agenda Item 8

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