



*Programme for
Government*

SNAPSHOT FOR WOMEN

Housing & Homelessness

Housing Construction

- Work with partners across the housing sector to deliver the remainder of the 50,000 affordable homes target as quickly as it is safe to do so given the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Set out a 20-year plan to deliver energy efficient, zero carbon housing with access to outdoor space, transport links, digital connectivity, and community services.
- Publish the Housing to 2040 Vision and Principles and Route Map later this year.
- Commit £300 million of interim funding for 2021-22, ensuring that affordable homes continue to be delivered beyond this current parliamentary term.
- Improve the quality of all Scottish Government funded homes by increasing the conditionality of public investment including developing guidance to target three issues of quality:
 - Carbon: Greater use of offsite construction for new social housing to speed up delivery, reduce waste and achieve quality of construction needed to support zero emission homes.
 - COVID-19 response: Ensure all new social housing offers private or communal outdoor space with room for people to sit outside and space for home working or study.
 - Connected: Drive forward work to make all new social housing digitally-enabled.

Housing Policy

- Establish a new £10 million Tenant Hardship Loan Fund later this year to provide interest free loans to support those struggling to meet their rent costs due to financial difficulty associated with the pandemic. This will focus on those tenants unable to access other forms of support for their housing costs.
- Increase the Discretionary Housing Payments funding by a further £3 million, bringing total funding for DHPs to over £80 million.
- Extend the emergency legislation put in place to protect private and social tenants from eviction during the pandemic up to six months, subject to approval from the Scottish Parliament.
- Continue to implement the homelessness prevention pathways so that people leaving prison, care leavers and victims of domestic abuse have positive housing pathways that support them to keep a settled home and achieve positive outcomes in their lives.
- Take forward plans to remove the requirement for people facing homelessness to have a connection with the local area before they can receive an offer of settled accommodation.
- Conduct a review of purpose-built student accommodation in 2021.

Eradicating Homelessness and Rough Sleeping

- Modify night shelter provision this winter and actively end the use of night shelter and dormitory style provision in future:
 - build on examples in Glasgow and Edinburgh, by forming Rapid Rehousing Welcome Centres.
 - enable an under-one-roof multi-agency triage system to make connections with appropriate services for people at the sharpest end of homelessness.
 - scale down hotel accommodation and night shelter provision and scale up rapid rehousing and Housing First, where overnight and on-site sleeping arrangements will remain a last resort.
- Fund a six-month pilot project to facilitate settled accommodation in the private rented sector for individuals who are currently living in hotels in Edinburgh, having previously been rough sleeping or using the care shelter.

- Fast-track plans to extend the Unsuitable Accommodation Order so that no one will stay in unsuitable temporary accommodation without access to basic facilities and support for more than seven days.
- Continue to work with local authorities in areas where rough sleeping is most prevalent to ensure people currently accommodated in hotel rooms receive person-centred support, coupled with a strong accommodation offer to prevent a return to rough sleeping.