

Domestic Building Environmental Standards (Scotland) Bill

Submitted in response to the consultation on the proposed private members bill, Alex Rowley MSP, Domestic Building and Environmental Standards (Scotland) Bill:

Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposed bill?

Fully supportive

The rollout of energy efficiency standards across Scotland's homes will be integral to future proofing our economy and our environment in equal measures. It is for those precise reasons that I give my support to my colleague Alex Rowley MSP in the introduction of this Private Members Bill.

The Bill highlights an expedient opportunity to break the retrofit cycle and take proactive steps now that will build homes for the people of Scotland that are fit for the future and the corresponding challenges of tomorrow that we are yet to face – as well as those which we are already grappling with, namely the cost of living crisis and the transition to net zero. The most economically efficient energy, straightforwardly; is that which you do not have to use in the first place. By ensuring that all new build homes in Scotland satisfy these minimum energy efficiency standards, properties and the families who occupy them will see a massive reduction in energy and fuel expenditure.

Do you think legislation is required, or are there other ways in which the proposed Bill's aims could be achieved more effectively? Please explain the reasons for your response.

Yes. I believe we need a legislative mechanism to ensure that any new housing is built to a Scottish legal minimum standard, in order to ensure that ambitions for decarbonisation are realised.

Which of the following best expresses your view of the process set out to ensure that the new standards are met in all new build housing?

Fully supportive – the process will safeguard against performance gaps through verification.

What could be the market effects of the introduction of this proposal?

The introduction of domestic building environmental standards will lead to a growth of the supply chain, creating jobs and boosting the sector economically.

What financial impact do you think this proposal could have if it became law?

As a long term, futureproof investment, a legally enforced set of minimum domestic housing energy standards will have the net outcome of a *reduction in costs* overall.

Any new law can have an impact on different individuals in society, for example as a result of their age, disability, gender re-assignment, marriage and civil partnership status, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation.

The proposals will have a positive impact on those currently living in fuel poverty, something which we know is more prevalent amongst low income families and those living with additional support needs.

Any new law can impact on work to protect and enhance the environment, achieve a sustainable economy, and create a strong, healthy, and just society for future generations. Do you think the proposal could impact in any of these areas?

The proposal will play a vital role in our transition to net zero.

Please provide a way in which we can contact you if there are queries regarding your response. Email is preferred but you can also provide a postal address or phone number. (Note: We will not publish these contact details.)

Contact details:

Data protection declaration

I confirm that I have read and understood the privacy notice Privacy Notice to this consultation which explains how my personal data will be used. I am content for this response to be published and attributed to me or my organisation.