



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

*Department for Communities and Local
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Dear Mr Hickling,

Thank you for your letter of 12 September to Brandon Lewis MP about Sarah Teather MP's Tenancies (Reform) Bill, and for your suggestions on how we could improve the recently published How to Rent Guide. This has been passed to me for reply.

As you will know, the Tenancies Reform Bill is a Private Member's Bill which seeks to protect tenants from the small minority of rogue landlords who, rather than meet their legal duty to keep their properties at a reasonable standard and remove health and safety hazards, instead evict tenants simply for asking for essential repairs to be made. At the same time the Bill also seeks to improve the evictions process for landlords. Ministers have given their backing to the Bill, on the condition that it only targets the very small minority of bad landlords, and cannot be used by tenants to frustrate legitimate evictions. We look forward to the second reading of the Bill on 28 November.

We are grateful for your suggestions on how we can improve the How to Rent Guide. These have been passed to colleagues in the team who deal with the publication, and will be taken into account when the guide is next updated.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Martin