



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Lord Greenhalgh
Minister of State for Building Safety and Communities

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Dear Judith

22 July 2020

I am writing to you as the Chair of the Industry Safety Steering Group (ISSG), to thank you and the ISSG members for your second report on the work of the group.

It is good to see the progress set out in the report, which makes a marked change from last year when little progress had been seen. There are many positive examples of organisations being proactive in changing their own practices to prioritise safety and drive culture change in the industry ahead of legislation. I welcome the work the group has done in supporting the Competence Steering Group, where we have seen significant progress towards an overarching system of competence for the new building safety regime.

The commitment shown by parts of the industry to drive culture change, particularly the leadership shown by the Construction Leadership Council in making "delivering better and safer buildings" a strategic priority, is encouraging. Many of the organisations identified in your report, alongside the Early Adopters, are notable exemplars in influencing and shaping a positive culture.

Your report makes clear that there is still more work to do to, in particular:

- challenging those parts of the construction industry who are waiting for legislation to make the required changes, and supporting industry to overcome blockages to progress in delivering safer buildings;
- encouraging leadership within the industry to drive meaningful and lasting change by recognising and highlighting those who are making buildings safer; and
- engaging with all of industry to further communicate the message of culture change.

The publication of the Draft Building Safety Bill has now provided further clarity to industry on what is expected. It is vital that the industry is preparing and making these changes now, and I thank you for your support in driving this through the ISSG. MHCLG officials will continue to work closely with you, providing any support that is required.

Yours sincerely,

LORD GREENHALGH