

**From:** Director of Housing Supply Policy

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## **FITNESS STANDARD**

Dear Mr Hanna

Thank you for your correspondence of 24 September to the Minister which has been passed to me for reply. The Minister is aware of and has noted the council motion passed on the 1<sup>st</sup> September.

The Department is currently carrying out a comprehensive review of the role and regulation of the private rented sector to ensure the regulatory framework and supporting policy improve standards for the benefit of both tenants and landlords. The areas being reviewed include:

- Supply
- Affordability
- Security of tenure
- Tenancy management
- Property standards
- Dispute resolution

The Minister for Communities is currently considering the way forward in terms of implementing the findings of the review and I expect that this process will complete shortly.

Additional proposed recommendations will be further researched, developed and consulted upon during this mandate. These include a Fitness Standard Review across all tenures.

In relation to conditions in the social housing sector, the Northern Ireland Housing Executive has advised that the Housing Executive's capital and revenue programmes are designed to maintain properties to a decent standard and maintenance programmes are ongoing.

I hope this is helpful

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Polley', written in a cursive style.

**DAVID POLLEY**