

McKenna A (Ann)

From: McDowell J (Joanne)
Sent: 22 June 2017 11:41
To: Smith DR (Deborah); Director for Housing and Social Justice
Cc: Pathirana S (Stephen)
Subject: Meeting with Nicola Barclay and David Ogilvie, Homes for Scotland on Help to Buy

Lesley, Deborah

Just a quick note from my meeting with Nicola Barclay and David Ogilvie this morning.

- We discussed the future of Help to Buy beyond 2018/19. HfS are keen that HTB should continue for at least 2 years until 2020/21 in line with England and because new build LTVs have not yet recovered. I asked that they provide us with evidence around both the need for HTB and also the impact of ending it. I asked them to focus not just on the housing impact but the wider economy, house building industry jobs, etc. I explained the constrained FT position going forward in broad terms and said it would also be useful if they could think about what type of HTB support was really required. Nicola mentioned that some of their members would like the HTB price cap to increase to £250k again but she herself thinks HTB is working well at £200k. I was clear that it wouldn't be going back up to £250k!
- I explained that we want to ensure Ministers make a fully informed decision on the future of HTB taking into account both the financial and policy position. Therefore it would be better to hold off on a final decision until early next year. They understand this but their members would prefer to know sooner for planning purposes.
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Joanne

Joanne McDowell | More Homes Division | Scottish Government | 0131 244 2023 | 07387 233 616

Area 1G South, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ.

Working pattern: Monday to Thursday