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Dear Nicola

The importance of the house building sector cannot be over stated in an economy like ours which relies on close working between government and developers to achieve innovation, affordable supply and high value job creation.

I am aware that developers have faced criticism in recent years around their role in the cladding issue. Much has been said about how the UK Government has chosen to tackle the issue using the full range of powers and duties available to it to deliver a solution for England.

It was my fervent hope that the close working between Scottish Government and our colleagues across the UK could achieve a four nations solution to this issue. Regrettably, the UK Government has chosen to focus its efforts primarily on England.

I am aware some of your members have signed up to the UK Government 'pledge' and with it, clear conditions requiring them to address problematic cladding on their former buildings to the PAS9980 standard. I am clear that any pledge relating to England should, morally if not legally, cover any buildings in Scotland.

I am writing to you in the spirit of transparency and good faith to discuss an Accord with the developers operating in Scotland. My aim is that this Accord will grow to include a wide range of bodies and individuals able to contribute in some way to improving fire safety on our homes and resolving critical mortgage and buildings insurance issues for flat owners. This is a problem no one sector or body can or should be expected to fix alone.

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For this reason, I wish to discuss how Home for Scotland and the Scottish Government can work together to create the right conditions to achieve a fair and sustainable solution for Scotland's homeowners.

I hope we can meet in earnest and agree how we might take this forward.



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