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The First Minister today announced a £80m funding boost to the Affordable Housing Supply Programme. This will support a continuation of the National Acquisition Programme which last year allocated over £60m and delivered more than 1,000 affordable homes. This will provide up to £40m in 2024-25, with an equivalent commitment in 2025-26.

We recognise that this is a challenging time for the housing sector. This additional funding will further the positive impact of the National Acquisition Programme, which has been an important tool in our efforts to tackle child poverty and reduce inequality across Scotland.

In addition to continuing to work together to deliver the Affordable Housing Supply Programme, I appreciate that we are meeting on 29 May for a discussion on the impact that bringing void homes back into use could have on reducing reliance on temporary accommodation. In advance of this I would welcome a discussion with you on how I can best support this to be an action-focussed session that enables us to make rapid progress on this pressing issue.

I would be grateful if you could advise my office of your availability at your earliest convenience.

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