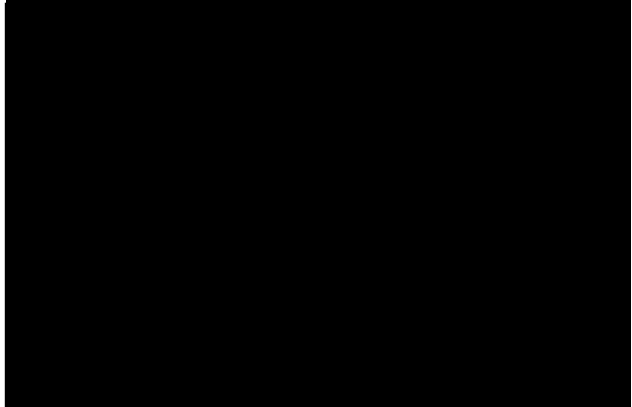




Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Rt Hon James Brokenshire MP
*Secretary of State for Housing, Communities
and Local Government*

**Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local
Government**



Clive Betts MP
Chair of the Housing, Communities
and Local Government Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Clive,

7 December 2018

Thank you for your letter of 13 November about post-legislative scrutiny and seeking an update on several Acts. I welcome the important role the Committee plays in scrutinising the work of my department and the relations that have developed between our officials.

Taking each Act in turn, in the same order as your letter:

Localism Act 2011

Work is currently underway on a memorandum setting out the Department's post-legislative scrutiny assessment of the Localism Act 2011. This will be submitted to the Committee and published in due course.

Mobile Homes Act 2013

Work is almost complete on the memorandum and we intend to submit this to the Committee and publish it in the coming weeks.

Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014

The Act only fully came into effect on 1 April 2018, when principal authorities became subject to audit under the new localised framework. This means that the first audit for these bodies (for the year 2018/19) will not be completed until Autumn 2019. We are therefore planning to undertake post-legislative scrutiny of the Act in early 2020, so a full evaluation can take place. A memorandum setting out the Department's approach to post-legislative scrutiny will be submitted and published in due course. However, the Committee may wish to be aware of the initial scoping and baselining study undertaken by RAND Europe, which was published earlier this year. Page 74 of the report also suggests scrutiny over this timescale and can be found at:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/691006/Local_audit_reforms - RAND research report.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/691006/Local_audit_reforms_-_RAND_research_report.pdf).

Yours ever,

RT HON JAMES BROKESHIRE MP