Jayne Bryant AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Lywodraeth Leol a Thai
Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Our Ref: JB/PO/51/26

Peredur Owen Griffiths MS
Chair Finance Committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

28 January 2026

Building Safety (Wales) Bill

Dear Peredur,

Following my letter of 19 December 2025 in response to the Finance Committee's recommendations, I am pleased to provide additional information below.

Further to my response to recommendation 3, I said I would write to you with information on the funding allocated to local authorities, along with an explanation of activities that the funding can be used to deliver.

£410,000 has been awarded to 13 local authorities in this financial year to begin preparatory work for the new regulatory functions under the Bill.

The funding may be used to prepare for the forthcoming building safety authority functions or delegation of those functions, including:

a. Identifying relevant skills gaps within the local authority,
b. Activities aimed at addressing relevant skills gaps,
c. Provision of relevant learning and development opportunities for staff,
d. Activities aimed at supporting effective joint working between the future enforcing authorities under the Bill,
e. Other activities to assist the local authority in preparing to take on the functions of the building safety authority,
f. Any work undertaken with the Welsh Government to prepare for implementation of the Bill (for example, to support the costs or workforce workstreams).

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

As the Bill will be implemented in a phased manner, we have determined that funding for the current financial year should be prioritised for those local authorities with Category 1 buildings.

For this tranche of funding, 13 local authorities are eligible, as indicated in Annex 1. We have allocated a baseline of £20,000 for each local authority, with the remaining funding being allocated based on the proportion of Category 1 buildings in each authority area.

We have asked local authorities to provide reports setting out how this funding has been utilised by 31 March and I will ask officials to provide a further update once those reports have been received.

Further to my response to recommendation 6, I undertook to provide an update on the costs workstream.

We began to test the initial assumptions underpinning the Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) with local authorities in January 2025. Then in the summer of 2025, I wrote to all local authorities about our plans to establish a costs workstream to build on the work we had already undertaken for the RIA. That workstream met for the first time in September and has been attended by a number of local authorities along with representatives of the WLGA. The group has met monthly, and there have been additional meetings held to focus on progressing specific aspects of the work. This work will contribute to updates to key elements of the RIA, including the transitional costs and costs relating to the building certificate function and enforcement. Overall, this has resulted in an increase to the 10-year PV cost estimate for the building safety authorities of approximately £2m, with the majority of the changes relating to enforcement in Category 1 buildings and transitional costs. The updated cost estimate will be included when I issue a revised RIA after Stage 2.

The work to date on this has been extremely valuable, and I would like to put on record my thanks to the local authorities that have engaged with us in this endeavour. But there is more to do. The costs workstream will be continuing its work to review and develop the cost analysis, which will include ensuring that it reflects the discussions we are having with local authorities about the identification of a host authority for each of the three building safety authority regions.

I hope this information is helpful.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Local Government and Housing Committee and Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee.

Yours sincerely

Jayne Bryant AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Lywodraeth Leol a Thai
Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government

Annex 1: Allocations for Transitional Funding 2025-26

Local Authority	Cat 1 buildings	Total
Cardiff Council	99	**£102,500**
Conwy County Borough Council	1	**£20,833**
Flintshire County Council	3	**£22,500**
Gwynedd Council	4	**£23,333**
Isle of Anglesey County Council	3	**£22,500**
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council	1	**£20,833**
Neath Port Talbot Council	8	**£26,667**
Newport City Council	7	**£25,833**
Pembrokeshire County Council	1	**£20,833**
Swansea Council	42	**£55,000**
Torfaen County Borough Council	3	**£22,500**
Vale of Glamorgan Council	6	**£25,000**
Wrexham County Borough Council	2	**£21,667**