



Ministry of Housing,
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Sir Nicholas,

Following my predecessor's interim response of 27 November 2017, I am now able to respond in full to the Law Commission's report on Event Fees in Retirement Properties.

I am very grateful for this well researched and considered report and its proposals to improve fairness and transparency in the leasehold retirement sector. The Government will implement the report's recommendations, with exception of two issues which we wish to explore in further detail.

Firstly, we agree with the aims of the recommendation to establish an online database to provide information to prospective buyers. We would, however, like to understand the best means to achieve this, and to this end commission some research. We have received a number of recommendations for further consideration and will be reporting back on the report's recommendations in due course. For information, a copy of that report can be found here: <https://mhclgdigital.blog.gov.uk/>.

The Government also wants to further consider the recommendation for spouses' and live-in carers' succession rights to stay at a property, without payment of an event fee. We also agree with the aims of this recommendation but wish to understand better the implications for both consumers and new supply. We will be looking into this issue and potentially consulting on the matter later this year.

I very much look forward to implementing these recommendations and providing retirees greater confidence in the purchase of their housing-with-care home.

I will place a copy of this letter in the libraries of both Houses.

MRS HEATHER WHEELER MP

