

EXHIBIT (2)

2 PAGES.



Department for Levelling Up,
Housing & Communities

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24th January 2022

Thank you for your email of 8 October, on behalf of your constituent Mr William MacGeagh who has written with his support for the Bacon Review and the Self and Custom Build Action Plan. Please accept my apologies for the delay in replying.

This Government strongly believes that self and custom build housing can play a crucial role as part of a wider package of measures in securing greater diversity in the housing market, as well as helping to deliver the homes people want.

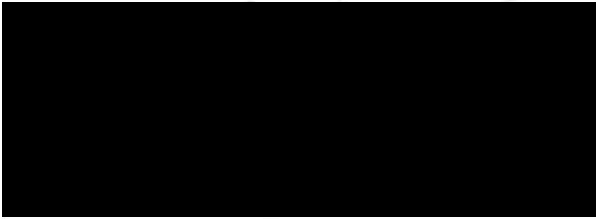
Earlier this year, the Prime Minister commissioned Richard Bacon MP to undertake a review to establish a plan to scale up self and custom build housing to boost capacity and overall housing supply and provide recommendations to Government. The Review published its findings in August which included six overarching recommendations to support the sector. The Government will respond to the recommendations in due course.

As your constituent is aware, we have brought a range of interventions together to support the self and custom build sector under an Action Plan. Our interventions seek to make self and custom build a more viable, affordable and mainstream option both for people buying or building their own home.

On 26 November, the prospectus for the £150 million Help to Build equity loan scheme was launched to deliver low deposit mortgages and improve affordability of home ownership for self and custom build builders, similar to the Help to Buy scheme. Customers are now able to register their interest ahead of the scheme's launch in the new year. Further information can be found on the Government's OwnYourHome website here: <https://www.ownyourhome.gov.uk/scheme/help-to-build/>.

More widely, our Secretary of state is currently considering the best way forward in relation to proposals to reform the planning system. This Government is committed to improving the planning system, which we are delivering through a new digital system, that provides more certainty and better outcomes for the environment, growth and quality of design. An announcement on our proposed way forward will be made in due course.

I hope Mr MacGeagh finds this information helpful.



RT HON CHRISTOPHER PINCHER MP