

Social Housing (Regulation) Bill [HL]

AMENDMENTS
TO BE MOVED
IN GRAND COMMITTEE

Clause 9

LORD WHITTY

Clause 9, page 7, line 37, after “housing” insert “including their mental health and wellbeing”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to ensure that the impact of unsafe or overcrowded conditions on the mental health of residents of social housing is recognised, by explicitly including mental health and wellbeing in the remit of the health and safety lead.

After Clause 30

LORD WHITTY

After Clause 30, insert the following new Clause –

“Registered provider consultation by ballot

- (1) Where a registered provider consults social tenants by ballot, whether in accordance with any enactment or otherwise, the regulator may intervene to ensure the consultation is conducted reasonably, transparently and equitably, including in relation to –
 - (a) the wording and timing of any questions on the ballot,
 - (b) the presentation of options,
 - (c) the provision of information on each option before the ballot,
 - (d) the equitable funding of advocacy of all options, and
 - (e) the identification of all entitled to respond to the consultation.
- (2) This section applies to, among other things, major proposals for regeneration, demolition or retrofit, and ballots on stock transfer or equivalent.
- (3) Social tenants may appeal to the regulator or the housing ombudsman on matters under this section.”

Member's explanatory statement

In instances where ballots on regeneration or stock transfer have been conducted, there have been complaints about the form of the question, about who is entitled to vote and about resources and one-sided information funded by the provider or developer. This provision would help ensure a balance of information and equity of being able to make the case to all who will be affected.

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