



Stewart Baseley
Executive Chairman, House Builders Federation
By email to: Stewart.Baseley@hbf.co.uk

18 November 2022

Dear Stewart,

Thank you for your letter dated 11 November 2022 regarding the forthcoming first longstop date for Help to Buy completions of 31 December 2022.

I would like to thank you for your support appreciating the need for an orderly closure of the scheme and recognising how vital it is for our customers' applications to be processed in time to purchase homes finished to a high standard and legally completed by 31 March 2023. I appreciate home builders are also working hard to deliver homes within the longstop dates set out in the Funding Administration Agreement to minimise homebuyers being impacted.

I am sure you are aware the first Longstop date has been set, in agreement with both HM Treasury and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, to ensure homebuyers have sufficient time to legally complete their home purchase by the second and final Longstop date of 31 March 2023.

We have already received some requests for exceptions regarding the first longstop and we have consistently continued to enforce this obligation. Allowing any exceptions now would not be fair to home builders who have already had to release potential homebuyers from their contract as well as those homebuyers themselves who have not been able to proceed to purchase their home through Help to Buy as a result.

I realise this may be disappointing, but I am sure you appreciate that, as a government agency, we are required to act in a fair and equitable manner to all our stakeholders. Please let me know if I can offer you any further information or clarification.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Denton
Chief Executive Officer, Homes England

Copied to: Rt Hon Lucy Frazer KC MP, Housing Minister
Peter Freeman, Chairman, Homes England