



PINS NOTE 01/2018

To: All Inspectors (England)

Relevancy: All Inspectors and Casework Staff

Date of Issue: 29 January 2018

Currency: review on 29 July 2018

MINISTRY OF HOUSING, COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MHCLG)

Action

1. Inspectors should be aware that, following the appointment of Rt Hon. Sajid Javid MP as the Secretary of State for *Housing Communities and Local Government* on **8 January**, the Prime Minister announced that DCLG would be renamed as the [Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government](#). This change is with immediate effect. Dominic Raab MP has been appointed Minister of State for Housing, a role which retains responsibility for planning policy and casework oversight, alongside housing supply policy and delivery.
2. Inspectors and other staff should ensure that any specific reference to the title of the SoS reflects this change, and to correctly refer to the Ministry where this is necessary (either in full or by its new abbreviation **MHCLG**).
3. **Where decision letter templates refer to “an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government”**, Inspectors will need to undertake a manual amendment by deleting reference to Communities and Local Government and simply referring to appointment by the “Secretary of State”. This action will ensure a standard approach for Inspectors whether appointed prior to 8 January 2018 or thereafter. It will not be possible for DRDS or the NSI decision letter templates to be updated to reflect this change in the immediate future.
4. Where producing a report for called-in applications or recovered appeals etc, Inspectors should, however, refer to the Secretary of State’s new title in the banner heading, i.e. “Report to the

Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government."

Background

5. Following his formal appointment, the Secretary of State said:

"Building the homes our country needs is an absolute priority for this government and so I'm delighted the Prime Minister has asked me to serve in this role. The name change for the department reflects this government's renewed focus to deliver more homes and build strong communities across England."

6. Melanie Dawes, Permanent Secretary for the Ministry, indicated in a message to staff that:

"Our new name does not mean any change in our responsibilities, but it better reflects the true breadth of the department's work. Housing is the number one domestic priority for the government, but our role working with communities and local government remains a central part of what we do."

Contacts for further information

7. Salaried Inspectors should contact XXXX regarding any general queries on this Note. NSIs should contact XXXX in the first instance.