**Building Safety Resourcing Background**

**Background on the Division’s work**

The Housing Safety Standards and Regulation Division is part of the Housing and Regeneration Directorate within the Education and Public Services Group of Welsh Government. The core purposes of the division are to work in partnership across the directorate, wider Welsh Government, and with external governments and partners to:

* deliver policy and practice that ensures that people live in homes that are safe and of the highest quality and standards;
* protect tenants and public investment in social housing; and
* work in partnership across Government and the sector to deliver the Welsh Government’s ambitions for carbon reduction of homes and buildings

**Background on the Building Safety team and their work**

The Building Safety Programme Team was established in response to the tragedy at Grenfell. As part of the Welsh Government’s response to the Grenfell Tower fire we are committed to the comprehensive review of existing arrangements which govern the building regulations which concern higher risk residential buildings; building control arrangements and the responsibilities of landlords and building owners with regards to safety issues to do with multi-occupied buildings.

In January 2021 the team published the Building Safety Regime [White Paper](https://gov.wales/safer-buildings-wales). The paper sets out comprehensive proposals to reform the existing building safety system in Wales to make multi-occupied buildings safer for residents. The team are working to develop these proposals into a comprehensive legislative proposal (including the development of primary and secondary legislation) as well as reforms to bring about culture change which will ultimately establish a new Building Safety Regime for Wales.

The Building Safety team is expanding in order to provide sufficient resources to develop and deliver the Building Safety Regime at pace. The team will work collaboratively across a number of different departments within Welsh Government as well as liaising with colleagues in the public sector (Local Authorities, the Fire Service and Registered Social Landlords) as well as working with other sectors with an interest, for example the construction sector, the finance sector, private landlords and various professional bodies to support the development and implement of these reforms.

Key aspects of this work include:

* Creation of new legal roles and responsibilities for the design, construction and management of multi-occupied buildings to ensure proper management of in-scope buildings across their life cycle
* Development and implementation of new safety measures to improve building safety in multi-occupied buildings, strengthening fire and structural safety
* Development and implementation of new regulatory models supported by robust enforcement and sanctions
* Creation and implementation of competence standards to ensure competent and consistent standards of qualification and expertise across the built environment and building management
* Creation and development of policy interventions to support culture change and improvement across the sector to ensure building safety is ‘built in’ to multi-occupied buildings
* Management and evaluation of the effectiveness of a large capital investment programme to support building safety remediation works.

**General overview of the skills needed**

Posts will require strong experience of policy development, ideally from an end-to-end perspective of developing new policy and taking through to primary legislation. Due to the significance of the reform proposals, roles will involve consideration of a complex system and so skills in analysis, research and report writing, assessing and interpreting evidence, and considering risks and benefits will also be required. At latter stages some experience of implementation could also be desirable to support developing proposals into a deliverable system.

Posts will also require strong experience of stakeholder engagement and management, and strong communication skills both written and verbal.

Additional desirable skills required will includeprevious experience of Government Business (e.g. Ministerial correspondence, Treat Officials, FOIs and Written and Oral Questions etc). In addition, experience of briefing Ministers and senior colleagues on complex matters as appropriate according to grade.

**Who they will be working with, internal & external**

The roles will involve ongoing engagement with a wide range of internal and external stakeholders including:

* Policy leads across Welsh Government on connected/related/impact areas
* Welsh Government Legislative Programme Unit
* Welsh Government Legal Services
* UK Government (predominantly the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government) and other devolved administrations
* Social Landlords
* Residents and tenants and representative groups
* Property management stakeholders
* Social and private landlords
* Building control bodies
* Fire and Rescue Services
* Local Authorities