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**'The UK is never going to gain the much-needed traction in housebuilding with a change at the top coming so frequently'**

JOE BRADLEY | 14:42 MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023 | 14

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**R**achel Maclean, the Minister of State for the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), has been asked to step down from her role – which is predicted to dampen the already severe housing crisis.

She commented on X: "I've been asked to step down from my role as Housing Minister.  
"Disappointed and was looking forward to introducing the Renters Reform Bill to committee tomorrow and later the Leasehold and Freehold Bill.  
"It has been a privilege to hold the position and I wish my successor well."

The industry is therefore concerned about the lack of stability in this role and the impact this could have on the already struggling housing market.

Pareesh Raja, CEO at Market Financial Solutions (MFS), said: "The merry-go-round continues.

"Creating clear and consistent policies – let alone delivering on them – is inevitably difficult with such frequent changes in personnel, and this impacts homeowners, buyers, renters and investors alike.

- **Differing definitions of net zero could be stalling planet-positive construction with greenwashing, claims developer**
- **'Were it not for the inaction of ministers, there would be an extra 300,000 much-needed homes across the rest of England today'**
- **Harworth Group receives planning approval for industrial and logistics development**

"A sense of stability is important in virtually every industry, and the property sector would certainly benefit from an extended period with a single housing minister."

Michelle Lawson, director at Lawson Financial, commented: "Housing is one of the fundamentals of the UK economy and, given the current housing crisis, needs someone that can turn it around for the better before the whole thing implodes further.

"It needs a long-term plan, not endless short-termism."

Gary Bush, financial advisor at MortgageShop.com, stated: "The UK is never going to gain the much-needed traction in housebuilding with a change at the top coming so frequently"

Gary Boakes, director at Verve Financial, commented: "How can a government department be expected to perform well with so much change of leadership, and this has shown over the last few years with the lack of policies.

"On the one hand, we want new houses to be built, but then we stopped help-to-buy and didn't have an adequate replacement for this.  
"Housing is huge for the UK economy, and we need someone that can lead a department who is in their position long enough to make a mark."

Nick Sanderson, CEO at Audley Group, concluded: "Rachel Maclean being relieved of the role [of Housing Minister] means we are due the 16th Housing Minister since 2010, and the seventh in just two years.


"The housing market needs reform, and that's difficult to achieve without any kind of stability."

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### LATEST NEWS

**Bellway and Banks Group receive green light for 539 homes at Killingworth Moor**  
Bellway has welcomed the decision of North Tyneside Council's planning committee to grant consent to build 539 homes and new infrastructure at Killingworth Moor South.

**MDC and ECF launch first community conversation on £250m mixed residential**  
Stockport Mayoral Development Corporation (MDC) and the English Cities Fund (ECF) – a JV between Homes England, Muse and Legal & General – have launched the first community conversation on the £250m plans to create a mixed residential neighbourhood to the west of Stockport town centre...

**Over 2,000 mid- and high-rise buildings with unsafe cladding still awaiting remediation**  
Around 2,231 residential buildings measuring 11m and over with unsafe cladding which are being monitored by the DLUHC have not had any remediation work done as of 31st December last year....

**ONR serves series of enforcement notices to Bouygues and Laing O'Rourke**  
The Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) has served a series of enforcement notices to NNB Generation Company (NNG) Ltd, contractors Bouygues Travaux Publics SAS and Laing O'Rourke Construction Limited for shortfalls in fire safety at the Henley Point C construction site....

**DPMG publishes roadmap for accelerated digital adoption in land and property market**  
The Digital Property Market Steering Group (DPMG) published its roadmap yesterday (17th January) to drive crucial change in the land and property market which outlines its public commitment to what can, at minimum, be expected in its first year...

**Henry Boot sells 759 plots in Swindon to Vistry**  
Henry Boot PLC has revealed that its land promotion and planning business, Hallam Land Management (HLM), has unconditionally exchanged contracts for the sale of 759 residential plots in Swindon to national housebuilder Vistry Group PLC....

**FCA launches financial advisers' sustainability group**  
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

**FCA launches financial advisers' sustainability group**  
The FCA has appointed Daniel Godfrey as chair and Julia Drexlow as vice-chair of a new working group focused on building capability in sustainable finance across the financial advice sector....

**Delays, cost overruns and insolvency risks 'prevalent' as contractor bankruptcies reach decade-high rate**  
Commercial factors significantly impact the construction industry, introducing a landscape fraught with uncertainty and narrow profit margins....





ing the process to help connect the right people with the right opportunities

Space





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### OPINION

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Company Registration Number 13812429  
VAT Registration Number: 400 1222 84  
Trading Address: One Avenue Group, Dawson House, 5 Jewry Street, London  
EC3N 2JX  
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