

## ATHA national Organising Meeting on 07/11/16 – action points

### 1. Update

Civil servants announced that optional **extension of Right to Buy** to housing associations has been postponed for 6mths. Therefore no case for Councils to sell off 'higher value' council empties.

**Planning** part of the Act: reports that automatic planning permission in principle for Brownfield sites will no longer be automatic with local councils given some discretionary power.

**Pay to Stay:** Most councils say this can not be imposed yet.

Some councils are sending out demands for tenant income information. We will write a short statement for resident use in reply, challenging the request. An example will be posted on website. Agreed these can be sent out local papers.

### 2. Very positive response to the summit and wide range of participants. Good attendance of tenants, trade unionists and councillors.

Follow up on agreed action:

- Lobby of Housing minister - at advice surgery Croydon c3 Dec
  - Nov 23 Demo from 12 noon, as big as possible. Our new leaflet available from Fri 11 Nov. All to circulate.
  - We will produce an 'alternative Autumn statement for housing', and invite all supporters to contribute quotes and support on what Government must do to address housing crisis.
  - Building the protest at Olympia (Trade Fair for local councils & property developers/consultants). Meet 9am on 17 Nov. Some campaigners will attend: book your free place here <http://www.speeddata.co.uk/Forms/Default.aspx?FormRef=HomB6Visitor>
  - Model motions and petition available here:
- Reminder to follow up local Labour supporters following their Conference decision to campaign against the Act and supporting repeal – see <http://www.axethehousingact.org.uk/labour-conference-2016housingcomp9/>
  - We will check out the legal implications if none of regulation are introduced
  - Proposal to set up working group to come up with proposals for alternative legislation, based around our Autumn statement for housing – get in touch if you want to get involved
  - Cuts and reduced caps to benefits, with high private rents and lack of really-affordable housing, are devastating more households. Special fundraising screening of 'I Daniel Blake' with Q&A including Ken Loach's team, 25 Jan at the Genesis Centre, Mile End. Also people encouraged to set up their own local screenings– contact [Glynrobbins@aol.com](mailto:Glynrobbins@aol.com) for details
  - London Mayor Sadiq Khan has not yet made a public statement against the Act, despite requests – follow up directly and through deputy mayor for Housing James Murray.

Can you help leaflet at following events in November

**Sat 12:**

9-10am leaflet outside London Labour conference, TUC Congress centre Great Russell St WC1B 3LS

From 10.30am stall at Unite the Resistance conference Bloomsbury Central Baptist church 235 Shaftesbury Ave WC2H 8EP

<http://uniteresist.org/2016/10/book-now-for-building-fighting-unions-in-the-era-of-jeremy-corbyn-conference-saturday-12-november/>

Mick Patrick (Harlow) to speak for AtHA at workshop.  
those going will help with leafleting & take banner.

5pm Holloway Prison Protest –support campaign for council housing and other community facilities on this site after prison closes:

<https://www.evensi.uk/reclaim-holloway-flash-demo-hm-prison-holloway/191012942>

**Wed 16:**

6-8pm Affordable Housing seminar parliament

<http://taxpayersagainstopoverty.org.uk/news/tap-parliamentary-affordable-housing-seminar>

**Thur 17**

9am lobby at *Homes* Trade fair: <http://www.homesevent.co.uk/>

6.30-7.30pm SERTUC Young Workers network meet up register:  
jowilliams@tuc.org.uk

**Mon 21**

8.30am to leaflet 9am-1pm London Mayor's consultation event – you need to register to attend <https://www.surveygizmo.eu/s3/90018382/Housing>

**Wed 23 AtHA protest lobby at Parliament –from 12:00**

**Fri 25** 6pm Public meeting with Jeremy Corbyn on Holloway Prison site: at Williamson Street Community Centre N7 0SS

<https://www.crimeandjustice.org.uk/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=139>

**Sat 26 10.30am** Croydon Peoples Assembly Ruskin House CR0 1BD

<https://insidecroydon.com/2016/11/07/attila-the-stockbroker-to-open-peoples-assembly-nov-26/>

**Next organising meeting: Saturday 19 November 11am at Unite office, 128 Theobalds Rd WC1X 8TN**