

MODEL Axe the Housing Act motion

This TRA/Community group/Union branch notes:

The Government's Housing and Planning Act means higher rents, less security and less chance of a home you can afford. The Act:

- Makes councils sell off existing council homes
- Removes secure tenancies
- Introduces a "pay to stay" scheme, a tax on social housing tenants if two household members' gross income is more than £31k (£40k in London)
- Means increased rents and longer waiting lists
- Reduces travellers' rights
- Makes councils provide unaffordable "Starter Homes" instead of affordable housing for rent
- Makes councils set up a Brownfield Register and give planning "Permission in Principle" to all land on this register

The Axe the Housing Act Campaign has already organised protests, lobbies and meetings aimed at exposing, resisting and bringing the Act down, or making it unworkable.

This TRA/Community group/Union branch believes:

The Housing and Planning Act will not solve the housing crisis. It will make it worse. It will force people from their homes, families and communities, into insecure private renting.

This TRA/Community group/Union branch calls on xxxxxxx Council to refuse to implement the Housing Act and in particular to:

- Not collect data on the incomes of tenants
- Not introduce higher rents for some tenants as part of the government's pay to stay scheme, or any local variant involving a taper system
- Continue to issue secure tenancies to all new tenants
- Not sell off "higher value council homes" and refuse to pay the levy imposed by the government to fund Right to Buy to housing association tenants
- Not place social or council housing estates on the Brownfield Register
- Call on the Council Trade Unions to support non co-operation with the Housing Act and resist any attempt by council chief officers or Government appointees to force through implementation
- Call on tenants' groups to support the Council's position of non-co-operation with the Housing Act
- Propose a joint campaign of non-co-operation with other Councils opposed to the Act

This TRA/Community group/Union branch resolves:

- To add its name to the Axe the Housing Act Campaign
- To publicise the Axe the Housing Act Campaign and send representatives to its organising meetings
- To support lobbying, demonstrations and other events called by the campaign