

Labour Conference 2016 Composite 9 - Housing passed 27th Sept

On 9 August 2016 Shelter published research highlighting the plight of millions of working families who are struggling to afford sky-high housing costs. Shelter's chief executive said these families are 'stretched to breaking point and barely scraping by from one pay cheque to the next.' The research also reveals that a fifth of working parents face the prospect of being immediately unable to pay their next rent or mortgage payment if they lose their job.

This Conference agrees that the Housing and Planning Act is an exercise in social cleansing, gerrymandering and a threat to all except landlords and developers making money from the housing crisis. Conference recognises that the Tories' Housing and Planning Act will, if implemented, disastrously increase the problems facing those in need of decent and affordable housing.

Conference supports calls from councils across the country for the government to pause and review the Act's provisions. Conference opposes measures in the housing act that will:

- Introduce a 'tenant tax' to increase the rent for many social housing tenants to unaffordable levels.
- Force councils to sell off void council dwellings and ask registered providers to operate the Right-to-Buy, thus massively reducing stocks of vitally needed social rented housing.
- Scrap the permanent, secure, social housing tenancies which provide stability to our most vulnerable communities.
- Replace the planning requirement for social rented units with that for unaffordable starter homes.

Labour will lead a campaign against the housing act and welcomes the Labour leadership's commitment to repeal the housing act and deliver 'genuinely affordable housing'.

Labour is committed to campaign for and in government Labour will deliver:

- A massive increase in the supply of council housing, including social rented housing.
- A housing strategy that uses public money and land to increase the supply of council housing with security of tenure at genuinely affordable rents;
- A massive council house building programme which will both rebalance the economy by creating jobs and also empower local authorities with the necessary resources.

(15 constituency Labour Parties sent in motions on this)

Mover: Gravesham CLP

Seconder: South East Cornwall CLP