

## Action Charter for the Housing Crisis



he housing crisis is out of control. People can't afford to rent or buy a decent home, and Councils are being bled dry. Private landlords and property developers are dominating public policy.

Instead of this car crash, we need public investment in homes and communities. Council housing, funded by central government development grants, is the central part of the answer. Building new council homes, with Right to Buy ended, will pay for itself in rents and reduced benefit costs.

There must be funding for renewal and fire safety, and for retrofitting to create accessible homes and reduce the 15% of greenhouse gas emissions in the UK which arise from



housing. Let's improve and insulate, and reclaim empty homes, instead of mass demolition.

Debt cancellation must be part of the package. From 1994 to 2008 councils got £31 billion less to manage their homes, than tenants paid in rent. The £31 billion difference was more than the outstanding historic debt in 2008.

There must be proper regulation of housing associations to ensure social rent housing of good quality, in return for the £billions of public funding they get. And the planning system needs to robustly resist the property developer lobby which wants small, unaffordable homes.

Private renters need secure tenancies and rent control, to ensure rent rises are not used as a back door route to eviction.

Support our five point plan.

Debate the model motion (overleaf) and let's organise together to support campaigns that prioritise the homes we need, now.

## Support this five point plan calling for radical policy changes to address the housing crisis.

Government investment in a mass council housing building programme, including requisitioning of empty homes and abolition of 'right to buy'

Rent controls and secure tenancies in the private rental sector. Robust regulation of housing associations

- New funding to repair and refurbish existing council housing do not demolish
- Adequate funding for accessibility, fire safety, and for retrofitting and thermal insulation
- Planning for the people and the planet, and not for developers' profits

## **Contacts**



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Scan to sign the five point petition