



HOMES FOR ALL

Don't fall for the lies...

Migrants and refugees DON'T cause the housing crisis!

Homes for All is a grassroots alliance of tenants, trade unionists and local housing campaigns. We reject any attempt to divide us and shift the blame. Ministers too often spread racist ideas about housing, to cover their own failures. The far right exploits this, spreading myths and lies.

Failed government policies are driving the housing crisis and undermining council housing. If the Burnham government allocated all the £39 billion from the Social and Affordable Homes Programme to council house building, as promised, this would have made a real difference. Instead

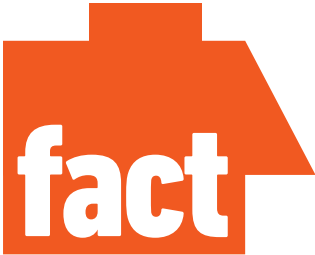
private developers and Housing Associations will continue to build homes we can't afford, as "strategic partners".



**GET
THE
FACTS**

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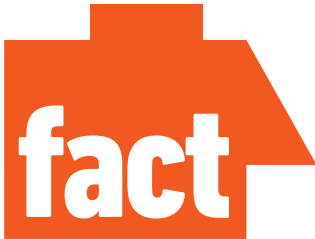
fact

Immigrants DO NOT jump the housing queue

In most recent government statistics, almost 90% of social tenants are UK nationals. Refugees accounted for just 2.3% of new lets to social housing last year. Housing is allocated on the basis of eligibility and “priority need”.

Migrants often face additional barriers when accessing housing, being denied access to benefits,

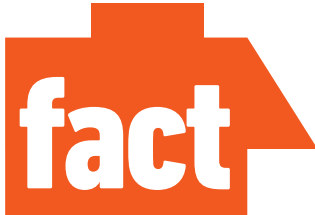
language barriers, discrimination, and lack of savings and proof of renting in the UK. In recent years, there has been a significant increase in the number of refugees who are sleeping rough. This is a direct result of racist government immigration policies.



fact

We do have enough space for the homes we need

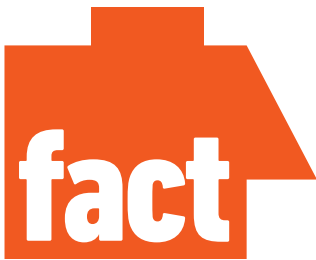
Less than 15 per cent of land in the UK is built on.



fact

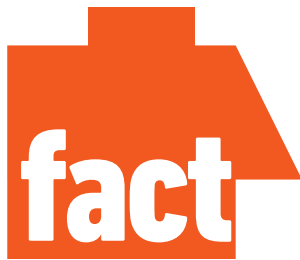
We can afford to build more homes

Due to the lack of affordable housing in the UK, councils have increased pressures on homeless services and spent over £2bn on housing homeless families in temporary accommodation last year alone. The government has pledged to increase house building, but has yet to meet the targets. Council housing pays for itself in the long run through rent and is far cheaper than expensive temporary accommodation.



There would be enough homes for everyone – if they were used

The UK has 303,185 long-term empty homes, as well as thousands of second and third homes that are left empty for most of the year. Bringing these properties back into use, renovating and requisitioning, and through initiatives such as the National Empty Homes Scheme Grant in Wales, could provide homes for many of the 1.34 million people currently stuck on the council housing waiting lists. Instead, England has seen a loss of 16,291 social homes last year, as they were sold off or demolished.



The richest, not migrants, get all the homes

Immigrants and people from ethnic minorities are far more likely to be homeless or live in sub-standard housing. Two thirds of white British householders own their home; two in five householders from any other ethnic group. When people from Asia and the Caribbean first came to the UK there was tremendous discrimination – the famous ‘no dogs, no blacks, no Irish’ sign was one of many signs, as Black and minority ethnic people were pushed into the worst private rented housing. Among renters, People of Colour are 51% more likely to face poor conditions and are 22% more likely to

have experienced damp or mould compared to White British renters.

There has also been an increase in homelessness amongst black and minority ethnic families in recent years. Black-led households are 13 times more likely to be stuck in temporary accommodation than white-led households, and are also more likely to stay there for longer.

Racism and discrimination remain a pernicious factor in accessing housing in both the public and private sector.

As a result, millions are facing ill health, homelessness and long term financial hardship in the private rented sector, and Black and minority ethnic groups face continuing discrimination.

Council housing has been neglected for decades and deprived of the government funding needed for repairs and maintenance, and to decarbonise and retrofit existing homes. Reform UK ignores this, instead proposing evictions for households (including pensioners, the ill and disabled people, we wonder?) who fail to decorate and maintain their gardens!

The government's recent consultation on housing allocations is a warning of its aim to sow division and divert attention from the real causes of the housing crisis. Both the Labour and Tory party have helped fuel racism by their anti immigrant statements.

The growth of far right and racist parties, including Reform UK, is a stark reminder of the dangers such division can bring.

Oswald Mosley and his Blackshirts exploited such racist ideas in the 1930s, just as Enoch Powell did in the 1960s and the National Front in the 1970s and '80s. In 1993, the fascist BNP exploited the lack of council housing to win a by-election on the Isle of Dogs in east London. Only to lose it again within weeks, when the community got the true facts out.

Nigel Farage has repeatedly spread lies about housing policy to scapegoat minorities – and Reform UK's housing policy threatens to strip migrants of their social housing and to deport them if they refuse to move into private rented accommodation.

Reform UK say they will prioritise “married working couples” (citing pre 1960s allocations) in the UK. They propose to bar anyone born to foreign parents, regardless of parents being married, or having lived in the UK most of their lives.

Homes for All rejects any attempt to divide us and shift the blame for the crisis away from those who have caused it. We want to build a confident, united, national housing movement that can win a fundamental change in government policy – one that enables everyone to afford a place to call home.



**Join us
as part of
HOMES
FOR ALL.**

Sources:

Spending on housing benefit: Bill for homeless accommodation soars by 25%, hitting £2.8 bn – Shelter England

Figures on empty homes: Action on Empty Homes

Number of people on housing waiting lists: Social housing lettings in England, tenants: April 2024 to March 2025 – GOV.UK

Loss of social housing figures: Nearly 4,000 social homes lost last year as more people are pushed into homelessness | Crisis | Together we will end homelessness

Shelter stats: Racism in our housing system – Shelter England

**HOMES
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