

Liverpool Defend Council Housing

VOTE NO to privatisation



Across the UK council tenants are resisting privatisation of our homes. There have been more NO Votes to transfer in the last year than ever before.

Tenants want improvements to our homes but we're sick of the bullying and blackmail. We aren't prepared to trade our secure tenancies, lower rents and the right to elect (and kick out) our landlord for a new kitchen or bathroom. We want both!

A big NO Vote from tenants in Liverpool – alongside NO Votes in other areas – will add to the pressure and win a change in government policy for us and our children.

What EXACTLY have you been promised and by when?

New landlords often promise the earth. Everyone is meant to believe that they will get all the improvements in the glossy photographs. But what exactly has been promised to you personally – and by when? Have you got a personal contract from LMH on improvements – NO!

Read the small print... There's lots of 'where needed', 'if necessary' and 'where possible'. Not everyone will get what they thought – and that's if everything goes smoothly and there are no financial 'surprises'!

● **Talk to your family, friends and neighbours – every vote counts. Use yours.**

● **Help distribute this leaflet where you live, at work, clubs, bingo, community centres, etc.**

● **Phone/pop in to get leaflets to hand out in your area.**

DON'T BE BLACK-MAILED INTO PRIVATISATION

Demand direct investment to improve our homes and estates. Remember there's no going back if the new company gets into trouble!

What kind of animal is 'Liverpool Mutual Homes'?

💣 Supporters of selling off council housing claim it's not privatisation - they're wrong. Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) are private companies in law and will borrow against your homes.

'Community Housing Mutuals' are no different. They're a wrapper meant to sound more 'tenant friendly' to con us into accepting sell-off. They're the same animal underneath.

●*Evictions up

We lose our 'secure' tenancies. Evictions by Registered Social Landlords are much easier under their 'assured' tenancies, and their eviction rate is higher.

●*Rents Up

Rents after transfer increase in many areas and a government review may take away protection! RSLs get around the existing rent formula in a number of ways and their rents are higher (fact).

●*No Accountability

The board of Liverpool Mutual Homes will be unaccountable, bound by confidentiality clauses and required to follow the advice of the company secretary – not represent tenants interests.

●*Mergers and Takeovers

Most transfer associations do not stay small and local. There is a high risk that they either expand into a huge business empire or get taken over by a bigger company.

●*Higher Costs

Transfer will cost £millions and the company will have to pay high interest rates on its borrowing. This money could be used instead to carry out the repairs we need! Who will end up paying?

●*More Homeless

Shelter, the homeless charity, reports that 43% of councils after transfer said they were having trouble getting the new landlords to deal with homeless applications. It let's the council off the hook.

Demand direct investment