

Liverpool Defend Council Housing

VOTE NO to privatisation

Remember there's no going back to the council if the new Liverpool Mutual Homes company gets into financial difficulty.

124 councils across England, Scotland and Wales have rejected transfer and are keeping their homes. Tenants in another eleven authorities have voted 'No' too.

It is worth defending council housing in Liverpool – for us and our children. Every vote counts – make sure you use yours.

The bigger the NO Vote the more pressure on government Ministers to change policy and fund direct investment in council housing.

Tell the politicians: tenants demand direct investment – not privatisation

Tenants want improvements to our homes and estates but we don't want to give up our secure tenancies, lower rents and the right to elect our landlord. Tenants after privatisation end up with an 'assured' not 'secure' tenancy, higher rents and charges and a landlord that's even harder to hold to account.

Liverpool Mutual Homes will be an unaccountable private company. Calling it 'Community Mutual' doesn't change its legal status as a Registered Social Landlord or the obligation of its directors to look after the interests of the company – not represent tenants!

RSLs are becoming increasingly commercial and more remote. Mergers and takeovers result in multi million pound companies with homes across dozens of local authorities. It is unlikely that LMH will last long on its own. The bigger RSLs are now talking about floating on the stock exchange! A government review is considering deregulating RSLs increasing the threat!

RSLs offer the moon but don't always deliver. If LMH's business plan unravels and they run out of money there's nothing you can do.

Tenants are sick of the bullying, blackmail and bribery. Liverpool Council should use available resources to carry out the most urgent improvements now.

If Ministers can write-off the council's housing debt on transfer and offer an additional £130 million to LMH then they can make the same resources available for direct investment in council housing which is what tenants want.

There is an alternative! A big NO Vote would push politicians of all parties in Liverpool to demand government provide a 'level playing field' for council housing.



You've had the hard sell promoting privatisation from the council. Help make sure every tenant hears the case against transfer. Call the number below now to get hold of leaflets to distribute in your area and to your neighbours, family and friends. Liverpool Defend Council Housing c/o Jack Jones House, 143 Sefton Street, Liverpool L8 5SN **0151 728 2200** email info@defendcouncilhousing.org.uk website www.defendcouncilhousing.org.uk