## Defend Council Housing

## Right to buy 2: stop government theft of Council and housing association homes

We oppose the Government proposal to extend the 'right to buy' for Housing Associations (RTB2), paid for by forcing Councils to sell off the top 30% of homes (by value) on the open market. This will worsen the housing crisis by reducing council and housing association homes for rent, mean longer waiting lists, increase homelessness and overcrowding, while blighting council and housing association home-building programmes.

RTB2 would undermine the finances of local authority Housing Revenue Accounts and the finances of Housing Associations, while underminingCouncil funding to maintain, improve and build new homes.

These proposals would plunge even more people into paying much higher private sector rents, into insecure, unregulated and often poor quality accommodation.

We tenants, trade unions, campaigners, councillors and MPs demand this policy is dropped, and replaced with a programme of investment in council and social housing.

We commit to exposing and opposing the RTB2 rip off. We will form a united and determined coalition of forces linking all tenants of all tenures, trade unions, housing campaigners, councillors and MPs. We call on local authorities and Housing Associations to oppose the Bill and for MPs to commit to voting against it.

## Signed by:

Eileen Short, Chair, Defend Council Housing
Jimmy Devlin, Chair, North West Tenants and Residents Assembly
Jeremy Corbyn MP
Caroline Lucas MP
Councillor Peter Lamb, Leader, Crawley Borough Council
Councillor Steve Allsop, Swindon
Councillor Peter Wheeler, Salford
Gail Cartmail, Asst General Secretary, Unite the Union
Paul Kenny, General Secretary, GMB union

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