

**Westminster Social Policy Forum conference:
The future for social and affordable housing in England**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 1st July 2025

Taking Place Online



**WESTMINSTER
SOCIAL POLICY
FORUM**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Examining policy developments in the social and affordable housing sectors**
Senior academic
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.25 **Supporting social housing - budget concerns and service delivery**
Senior representative, local authority
- 9.35 **Assessing key changes to the social and affordable housing sector and priorities for the retention of housing stocks**
addressing declining social housing stocks | proposed exemptions to Right to Buy and measures to safeguard the retention of newly built social housing | long-term impact of reforms on social housing stocks and home ownership | stakeholder perspectives on changes to eligibility requirements, restrictions and discounts | changes to Right to Buy discounts and impacts on stakeholders | priorities for local authority reinvestment of Right to Buy | impacts of cost floor protection periods for newly built social housing
Darren Hooker, Partner, Capsticks
Senior speaker confirmed from **Social Housing Action Campaign**
Senior representative, housing association
- 9.50 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.10 **Supporting investor confidence, attracting capital for new developments and upgrades, and assessing the impact of proposed sector reform**
Michael Figg, Head, Social Housing, Barclays
- 10.20 **Practical considerations for the delivery of new social and affordable housing**
strategies for supporting delivery | encouraging private and public sector investment | priorities for proposed fixed multi-year rent settlements and assessing impact | practicalities for the use of Compulsory Purchase Orders and key proposals in the Planning and Infrastructure Bill | stakeholder perspectives on affordable housing requirements in the National Planning Policy Framework | placemaking considerations | allocation and delivery of funding in the Affordable Homes Programme and Local Authority Housing Fund
Steve Partridge, Director and Head, Affordable Housing Consultancy, Savills; and Chair, Stockport Homes
Nicholas Boys Smith, Chair, Create Streets
Senior representative, construction
Senior representative, local authority
- 10.40 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.00 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.05 Break
- 11.15 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.20 **Next steps for regulatory oversight and enforcement of social and affordable housing standards**
Fiona MacGregor, Chief Executive, Regulator of Social Housing
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.50 **Improving social and affordable housing standards, and key policy considerations for supporting the sector going forward**
changes to funding formulas and distribution of Right to Buy receipts | long-term strategies to ensure housing standards are met | enforcing Awaab's Law | delivery of upgrades under the Warm Homes Act | stakeholder perspectives on the direction of regulatory oversight
Victoria Curran, Partner, Browne Jacobson
Senior representative, local authority
Senior representative, charity
Senior representative, property developer
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Policy priorities for standards, delivery and retention of social and affordable housing**
Olivia Shillabeer, Deputy Director, Social Housing Strategy, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Social Policy Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Westminster Social Policy Forum