

Why homes must be at the heart of recovery

Our homes have never been more important to us than they have been during the coronavirus crisis. For some people, home has been a sanctuary. For others, it has been a prison.

Everyone deserves a safe, secure, comfortable place to call home. Not just now, in the middle of this crisis, but always.

Investing in social housing makes this possible. It will also boost the economy, create jobs and improve people's lives when our nation needs it most.

That's why we've launched Homes at the Heart, a national campaign and coalition calling for a once-in-a-generation investment in social housing.

[#HomesAtTheHeart](#)



**Homes at
the Heart**

Life in lockdown – the effects of coronavirus



of adults – **15.9 million** people – have had **mental or physical health problems** during lockdown because of lack of space, or the condition of their home.

Source: English Housing Survey



of people with a lack of space have been **suffering with health problems** during lockdown.

Source: YouGov



of everyone who said they had a lack of space said this had led them to **seek medical help** or take medication for their mental health.

Source: YouGov



of those in cramped conditions said they **hadn't been able to get enough sleep** because of the lack of space.

Source: YouGov



of all British adults said they **felt depressed** during lockdown because of a lack of space in their home.

Source: YouGov



people are spending lockdown in a home that consists of **just one room**.

Source: English Housing Survey



people are spending lockdown in homes that have **serious issues with damp or mould**.

Source: English Housing Survey



Improving the quality of homes for the future

This crisis has brought into sharp focus the lack of quality and space in many people's homes. Everyone deserves a safe, secure, comfortable and affordable place to call home, not just now, during this crisis, but always. But we still have some way to go.



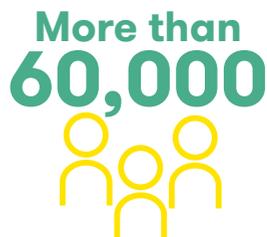
homes in England do not meet the **Decent Homes Standard**, including nearly a quarter of private rented homes.

Source: English Housing Survey



A record high of **3.7m people** are living in overcrowded homes, including **1.6m children**.

Source: English Housing Survey



families are living in temporary accommodation – the **highest number since 2007**.

Source: MHCLG



of homes in England **do not have access** to private outdoor space, rising to 35% for flats.

Source: ONS



Private renters spend **40% of their income** on housing costs. This compares to 30% of social renters and 19% of owner-occupiers.

Source: EHS – Income of HRP and partner



people live in multiple occupation houses, sharing facilities such as kitchens and bathrooms with strangers.

Source: NHF analysis of multiple occupation houses estimates in Local Authority Housing Statistics



of British households do not have **any connection to the internet**, rising to **27%** amongst single person households aged over 65.

Source: ONS

How investment in social housing can make the difference

We need homes where we can be happy, homes where children can thrive, homes where we have communities around us, and homes that help us to live independently and well.

Investing in social housing makes this possible. Social housing is one of the country's greatest assets. Investment in social housing and support for the people who live in it is good for the economy, creating jobs and improving wellbeing. It must be at the heart of the nation's recovery.



210,000

Housing associations and local authorities' day-to-day management of their existing homes adds an estimated **£12.7bn** to the national economy, supporting almost **210,000 jobs**.

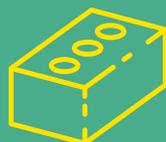
Source: Analysis carried out by CEBR for the NHF



£4.8bn

We need **90,000** social rented homes every year to meet housing need. These homes would add an extra **£4.8bn** to the national economy and support **86,000 jobs**.

Source: Housing supply requirements across Great Britain, Heriot Watt University, 2018 / Analysis carried out by CEBR for the NHF



86,000



Nearly **90%** of social homes meet the Decent Homes Standard, compared with only **75%** in the private rented sector.

Source: English Housing Survey

Support our #HomesAtTheHeart campaign

We've love for you to support our campaign by sharing our message. We've designed some resources, available on our website, to help you do this.



Homes at the Heart

[Housing.org.uk/HomesAtTheHeart](https://www.housing.org.uk/HomesAtTheHeart)