



**Craig Whittaker MP**

**CALDER VALLEY**

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**HOUSING AND PLANNING ACT 2016 and the lack of suitable local housing.**

Thank you for contacting me about the Housing and Planning Act 2016 and the lack of suitable, local housing

The previous Labour Government left this country with a housing crisis. In 2010, housebuilding had reached its lowest level since the 1920's, the number of homes available for social rent had decreased by 420,000 and the number of people on social housing waiting lists nearly doubled to 1.8 million.

Significant progress has been made in the last five years to tackle this crisis. Nearly 900,000 new homes have been delivered in England since 2010, including over 300,000 affordable homes. I understand that still more can be done and I believe that the Housing and Planning Act will help us achieve this.

The Act increases the pace of housebuilding through planning permission in principle and the brownfield registers. The Starter Homes programme will see thousands of homes built specifically for first time buyers at a price that they can afford.

The requirement to introduce local plans will also ensure that local people have a say on where development takes place in their area.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

Craig Whittaker MP