

## Contemporary Motions 2012

**The deadline for receipt of contemporary motions is 12 noon on Friday 21 September.**

Details on how to submit them may be found at  
<http://www.labouremail.org.uk/emails/9460/2/2816/1441/6611/d5887792e912ec682ba68db0d253a4f0/>

### **Prioritise investment in a sustainable programme of affordable housing**

On 13 August 2012 the homelessness charity Crisis published their analysis of the Ministry of Justice statistics which revealed that in the last year 36,211 landlords had been granted a court order to evict their tenants. The Director of Policy at Crisis said: ‘Private tenants face a dreadful combination of high unemployment, underemployment, draconian cuts to housing benefits and soaring rents..... We are in desperate need of more social and affordable housing in order to rein in the soaring rental market.’

The overwhelming interest of private landlords is the return on their investment, not the needs of tenants. The private sector will not, therefore, provide the good quality, genuinely affordable homes with security of tenure that millions on council waiting lists need. For this reason, we are concerned about the increased emphasis by both the Tory government and the Labour Party on the private sector as a solution to the housing crisis and the low level of funding they are prepared to commit to social housing.

The only sustainable solution to the housing crisis is a large scale, national social house building programme. We call upon the Labour Party to campaign for greater investment in public housing.

We also call for a commitment that the next Labour government will prioritise a publically funded programme of social house building of an appropriate scale to ensure that all those in need of a decent, secure and affordable home, have one.

*247 words (maximum 250 words)*