



Dan Norris MP Residents' Survey: Housing consultation

The government has announced that building homes for families will be one of its top priorities over the coming years. But the issue is not as simple as just building houses on empty land. Wherever building takes place, people will be affected. I want to be able to make certain these effects will be favourable for local people. We have to decide on what type of land these homes will be built.

The options vary from so-called 'Brownfield' sites such as empty land within cities, 'Greenfield' sites such as areas of undeveloped land outside urban areas, disused government land such as old Ministry of Defence land no longer used, and the Greenbelt - land outside our main towns and cities that is preserved in its natural state. We have to plan around where these homes will go, what services they will need, and if the homes will be environmentally friendly or carbon neutral.

There are all sorts of issues that we need to consider and I would really appreciate your views on this very important subject. Please answer the following questions and return the form to me at the address overleaf. Thank you.

Dan Norris MP

1. ABOUT YOU

- a) Are you or a family member struggling to buy your first home? Yes No
- b) Do you think that moving up the housing ladder is out of your reach? Yes No
- c) Should public land be released for more housing to be built? Yes No
- d) How important is it to you for the government to tackle:
- | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| Problems faced by first-time buyers | Very important <input type="checkbox"/> | Fairly important <input type="checkbox"/> | Quite important <input type="checkbox"/> | Not at all important <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Homelessness & poor quality housing | Very important <input type="checkbox"/> | Fairly important <input type="checkbox"/> | Quite important <input type="checkbox"/> | Not at all important <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Lack of affordable housing | Very important <input type="checkbox"/> | Fairly important <input type="checkbox"/> | Quite important <input type="checkbox"/> | Not at all important <input type="checkbox"/> |

2. LOCATION OF NEW HOMES

- a) It has been suggested that due to the risk of flooding, new homes should not be built on floodplains. Do you think most homes should be built away from these areas or that more defences should be built for those at greatest risk? (Tick one)
- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Built on floodplains, with the cost of defences paid by taxpayers | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Built on floodplains, with the cost of defences paid by new owners | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Built away from floodplains | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Built on floodplains and accept the risk involved | <input type="checkbox"/> |
- b) Who should make the decision on where housing developments are finally placed? (Tick one)
- Residents in areas affected Councils Government
- If residents or council made the decision, and no one wanted new homes in their locality leading to a lack of space for new homes what should the government do?

3. TYPE OF HOUSING

- a) In building new homes, roughly what percentage should be for sale, for rent or for part-buy, part-rent schemes?
- Homes to Buy _____ % Homes to rent _____ % Part-buy, part-rent schemes _____ %
- b) One of the options we have when building new homes is the type of homes they are. The government is suggesting neighbourhoods with a mixture of homes such as 2 bedroom houses, 3 bedroom houses and some flats. Do you agree with this approach?
- Yes No Don't know
- c) Should local councils be able to stop developments if they do not agree on the type of housing that is desired? For example, if a council wants all council homes, should they be allowed to refuse a development of affordable homes for first time buyers?
- Yes, they have local interests in mind
- No, we need housing regardless and the government should step in Don't know

Please turn over... .

4. THE ENVIRONMENT

- a) The government has said it will continue to preserve green belt land. Do you think this is a good idea?
Yes No Don't know
- b) There are proposals that we develop "Eco towns" where the housing is energy efficient and built to a carbon neutral standard. Do you think there should be more or fewer eco towns? *(Tick one)*
It's a good idea to have eco towns, we should build more
Eco towns are a good idea, but will cost too much
More should be done to upgrade our current housing stock rather than building eco towns
- c) Should all new housing now be built to a standard of energy efficiency even if it costs more to do so?
Yes No Don't know
If yes, who should bear this cost? Taxpayers Buyers/Owners

5. FIRST TIME BUYERS

- a) The government already assists first time buyers through various schemes such as shared equity or key worker priority schemes. Is enough being done to promote these initiatives?
Yes No Don't know
- b) The government is setting out a proposal where first time buyers will be able to get stable mortgages in the form of a bond for the long term of 20-25 years. Do you feel this should be means tested?
Means tested for those in most need of assistance No, everyone should be able to get help
Don't know

6. NEIGHBOURHOODS AND SERVICES

- a) In building new homes, what is the **order of importance** of the following that should be considered when looking on the impact of new homes in an area? *(Please rank 1 to 6)*
- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Transport links | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Local amenities and services such as shops and leisure centres | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ensuring hospitals are adequate enough to deal with the surge in population | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Make sure we have enough new schools for the intake of young people | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Building a super clinic for every housing development that will contain a GP clinic and dentist | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Preserving green spaces for every neighbourhood | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Please use the space below to add any further thoughts or comments you have about housing issues as they affect us here in North East Somerset. For example, what more you think could be done to assist first-time buyers? (Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

First name _____ Surname _____

Address _____

_____ Post code _____

Mobile (or landline) _____

Email address _____

Now please send your completed form to:

Dan Norris MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA. Thank you.

I may contact you with further information on this and other issues. If you would prefer not to receive these updates please write to me at the address above.