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Labour Housing Group Newsletter - March 2024

HOUSING

AGM: CHOOSING YOUR REPS

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In the Newsletter

This March 2024 newsletter is Issue 35 and, as usual, it covers a range of “housing issues”. One of the things that I have learned doing this job is just how many factors affect the availability of housing but also how profoundly housing touches our lives.

For instance, Claire Donovan of *End Furniture Poverty* tells us on page 2 about the impact of families living without basic home contents, while on page 3 we look at the ever-increasing unaffordability of housing in the UK.

Concern about carbon emissions covers all sectors of the economy but progress in cutting the damage done by heating homes with fossil fuels has stalled (page 4).

We all want a big programme of housebuilding, but that will demand **a reliable supply of building materials**. A chief element of this is **cement** *but supplies*

may be inadequate as almost two-thirds comes from China or India (page 5).

Britain's much loved but energy-inefficient older homes are a worry (page 6). Poor insulation leads to greater heat-loss and we are among the worst in Europe.

Increasingly, we need to be aware there is a world-wide market not only for building materials but also capital for investment. Two years ago we considered how the financial difficulties of a huge Chinese property company might affect us. Now shares in HSBC, one of our high street banks, have fallen by 80% (page 6).

On page 7 we continue to track Michael Gove's largely worthless pledges as "no fault evictions" keep rising.

Lastly, two items on pages 7 and 8 remind us that **housing problems are personal**, whether it is finding we just don't have the cash to fix the roof or realising that we will only cut the cost of fuel by working together.

Paul Martin (Editor)



Labour Housing Group **Annual General Meeting** **2024**

09th March 2024
Camden
Attend in-person or online

AGM

This is a reminder that registration is still open for our AGM on the 9th March in Camden (with an option to attend virtually). Please register [here](#).

Finally, voting is still live for our Executive Committee election. We are pleased to have a wonderful array of candidates standing for election, make sure you vote before Friday the 8th of March at 5pm.

Labour Housing Group- Annual Report

Please also read our [2023/24 annual report](#) written by our chair Cllr John Cotton, ahead of our AGM this Saturday.

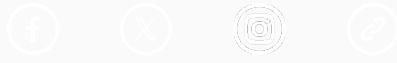
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