



The Chartered Institute of Housing

# HOUSING 2011 CONFERENCE



## Housing 2011 Session Information

# An alternative vision – Labour's responses

**Labour has a new Shadow Housing Minister and has launched a review of its housing policy. What should this cover? What scope for action will Labour have if it wins the next election? Or will it just be picking up the pieces? What ideas would housing professionals and others outside the review want to feed into it?**

### KEY FACTS

Labour's record:

- Only 10% of social housing in England was still 'non-decent' in 2010.
- Social housing new build (England) fell to an average 25k annually 2001-06, although picked up to an expected 52k in 2009/10. But in 1991-96 average output was 52k annually.
- Homelessness is now on the increase in England and Wales having fallen continuously since 2003.
- An estimated 1.8 million households are on social housing waiting lists.
- The current *UK Housing Review* estimates that 100,000 buyers can't enter the UK housing market because they can't afford deposits, compared with the position before 2008.



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### BACKGROUND

Labour can look back on achievements in housing such as:

- Making much greater investment in council housing and coming close to its 2010 target of getting social housing up to the Decent Homes Standard.
- Significantly reducing homelessness.
- Establishing a performance regime for social housing that saw considerable improvements in performance in many key areas.

But on the other hand:

- New build output was never sufficient to meet need.
- Homelessness began to increase last year.
- Its target to eliminate neighbourhood disadvantage ('no one to be disadvantaged by where they live') was quietly dropped.

### OTHER INFORMATION

The latest edition of the CIH's *UK Housing Review 2010/2011*  
<http://members.cih.org/bookshop/Catalogue.aspx>

The CIH *UK Housing Review Briefing* to be launched at Harrogate and available from the CIH stand.



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