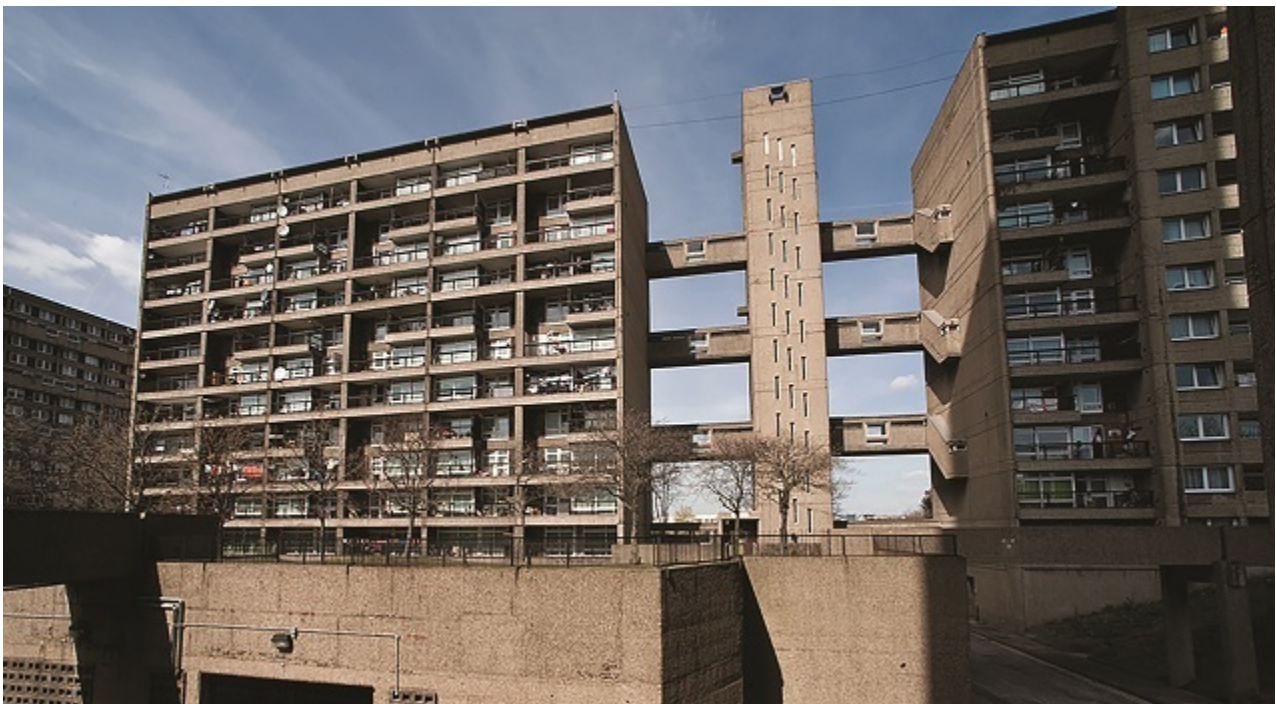


Government reviews pledge to transform 100 'sink estates'

20 October 2016 | By [Helen Crane](#)

The government is considering rowing back on David Cameron's pledge to "radically transform" 100 "run-down" council housing estates through a £140m regeneration programme.



Carradale House in Poplar: a site the scheme could target - Source: [Chris Guy/Flickr](#)

Housing minister Gavin Barwell and former deputy prime minister Lord Heseltine, who head a government panel on **estate regeneration**, are reviewing the scope of the scheme, ahead of the launch of a consultation.

Former prime minister David Cameron announced the estates transformation programme in January and said the new estate regeneration panel's first task would be to identify the 100 worst "sink housing" estates that would be targeted for renewal.

While the number of estates in the programme could now be scaled back, the size of the funding pot is expected to remain unchanged.

A consultation on the plans is due to be published **ahead of the Autumn Statement on 23 November** and will be followed by a prospectus for developers detailing the sites and setting out the bidding process.

"The intention is still to go ahead, but [Barwell and Heseltine] are working around the final details," a Department for Communities and Local Government spokesperson said. "They are looking at how the bidding process will work and starting to put a prospectus together."



Will housing minister Gavin Barwell row back on the estate regeneration plans of his predecessor? —

Source: [Jon Cardwell](#)

A senior market source said that "the general consensus was that public land was going to be made available" to developers through the fund, but that little had been heard about the scheme since January.

At the time, Cameron wrote in *The Sunday Times* that the worst housing estates were "entrenching poverty" and that "decades of neglect have led to gangs, ghettos and anti-social behaviour."

The aim of the programme was to "radically transform [the estates] or, in the worst cases, knock them down and replace them with high-quality homes", he added.

The project would focus on areas such as London where land values were high, because the sale of private homes could fund the regeneration of wider estates, Cameron added.

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