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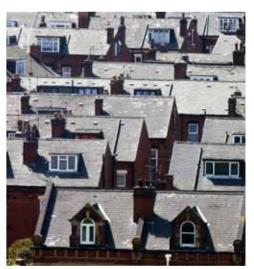




What to expect at Light Night

Leeds one of top in UK for building new homes - but it's not enough

ESTILLN IRE HOUSES



PROPERTY ISSUE: Leeds needs more homes.

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LEEDS IS building more homes than almost anywhere in the country - but messy planning laws and a "fetishisation" of the green belt are hampering efforts to create enough new housing to help the city reach its economic powerhouse potential, it is claimed.

New analysis of official Government data reveals Leeds is behind only Tower Hamlets in London and Cornwall in the number of homes it has built on average every year in the last decade

since the economic crash. This works out at around 84 per cent of current government annual estimates of need to 2026. However the numbers are not enough to meet long term demand.

The city still has the fourth highest long term annual need outside London according to Government estimates, and the second highest need in the whole country according to the city council's own assessments. The discrepancy between the two numbers is also one of the biggest in the country.

The analysis \bar{by} the BBC's Shared Data Unit - a comprehensive examination of regional house building rates across the country as compared to local estimates of need - found that a decade after the recession, more than half of English areas have still not got back to supplying new homes at the same rates they were before the economic crash.

Special Report: Pages 4-5

Volunteers wanted to try hearing aid

Volunteers are wanted to try out a revolutionary new hearing aid.

A new invisible hearing aid that can be worn for months at a time is now available at the Nuffield Health Leeds Hospital.

The Lyric is a new type of hearing aid that can be worn all the time and is fitted deep in the ear. It is extremely simple to use, with no cleaning or battery changing necessary. Kevan Bailey, a hearing aid audiologist at the Nuffield in Leeds, said: "This is a significant step forward for people with hearing difficulties.

"The Lyric is placed inside the ear canal in clinic and patients can then wear it continuously for up to three months - in the shower, when jogging or using headphones, even when they are asleep.

The Lyric 3 is now available at the Nuffield

The hospital is looking for eight volunteers to try it out free of charge for 30 days.

If you would like a free assessment to see if you meet the criteria: email:- help@fcmilnes.co.uk or call: 0800 138 5434

