Unveiling England's Housing Crisis: Rising Rents and Declining Standards

In December 2020, Awaab Ishak died from mould-induced respiratory failure in the Rochdale private-rented property his family resided. This tragedy follows as there is a greater proportion of mould in private rented housing. The estate Awaab passed in has yet to resolve the mould almost 3 years after his death and almost a quarter of English private-rented properties did not meet the Decent Home Standard in 2021. Worryingly, we see the proportion of people privately renting properties has increased in the last 2 decades across England, especially in the North-West and London where at least 1 of 10 families have been displaced into private renting.

Further, the prices of these mould-ridden properties have doubled every decade, lowering disposable income able to be spent on essentials like food, heating and leisure yearly. These living conditions need to be addressed by ministers.

