



For people to live fulfilled lives they need a decent home at a cost they can afford. But that simple ambition is getting further and further out of reach. Britain has failed for decades to build enough homes, and in many places property prices and rents have risen beyond what normal working families can afford. Meanwhile many older people in homes that are no longer right for their circumstances would like to move but do not have suitable options.

We have made a start in addressing this. The supply of affordable rented housing has been increasing. We have liberalised the planning system, while protecting important green spaces. We have pushed government departments to release unwanted sites for homes.

But the problems are now in danger of becoming a crisis, with home ownership plummeting among the under 40s, many young people priced out of even renting a place of their own, and the risk of a new housing bubble, focused on London and the South East. We have to speed up house building and stop prices from getting any further out of reach of families.