

The social housing sector is holding the UK Housing Awards ceremony at the O2 Arena. They will congratulate themselves on the great job they have done over the last year.

The Wrong Awards

The awards will be given to councils and housing associations, and in some cases to the private companies they work with.

Instead of plaudits, these organisations should hang their heads in shame over their collective failures to provide safe, secure, genuinely affordable homes.



Their Golden Tickets

A seat at the event will set you back £345+, but prices rise to £4,495+ for a 'poseur' table for 10 in the VIP section. The ticket includes the chance to mingle with VIPs, a professional photograph, and meal with champagne and branded chocolates. Obscene displays, given the housing conditions of their tenants and residents.



Reasons to be Ashamed

Housing associations have a combined social rents operating surplus of £4.4bn, and assets of £174.4bn. Yet ...

- ★ **Homelessness** Since 2010, rough sleeping has increased 52%. Government reports that c2688 people sleep rough every night but in reality it is many more.
- ★ **Housing Supply** The number of council and housing association homes being let at social rent fell by 210,000 between 2012 and 2020.
- ★ **Overcrowding** At least 1.5 million people live in overcrowded social homes – an increase of more than 40% in just 5 years.
- ★ **Unsafe homes** Over 1.2 million people in rural areas can't keep their homes warm during winter. Around 7.5 million people living in cities struggle with toxic mould, damp, and condensation.
- ★ **Cladding** Unsafe cladding blights and risk lives. In England alone, c274,000 high-rise homes for up to 657,000 people, are affected by unsafe cladding. Government wants to make tenants and residents pay remediation costs.
- ★ **Evictions** Housing associations now make up the bulk of social landlords. In 2019, between October and December 2019, 60% (15,370) of all eviction claims were from social landlords.

The Social Housing Action Campaign

brings together housing association and co-operative residents, tenants, housing activists, and housing workers.

We fight for social housing, and oppose its commercialisation.

Our demands include:

- ★ Housing under tenant and resident control.
- ★ Genuinely affordable rents.
- ★ An end to service charge abuse.
- ★ Improved repairs and maintenance.
- ★ Safe homes.
- ★ No cladding remediation costs on residents.
- ★ Decent pay and conditions for housing workers.

