



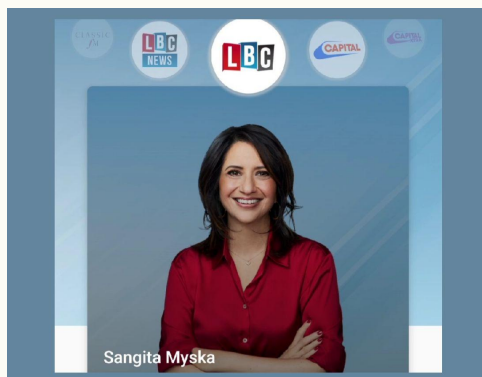
Social Housing Action Campaign

Dear Suzanne

Our update for 10th March 2024

SHAC on LBC Parliament: End Service Charge Abuse and Inquiry Event Reminders

## SHAC on LBC Radio



**SHAC** on the radio

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The news Jeremy Hunt tried to bury was another attack on council housing in order to fund cuts in National Insurance worth a couple of pennies to the pound.

SHAC was interviewed by LBC to comment on this story which will reduce council housing budgets by around £200 million.

Very few media outlets have picked up on this announcement. The Financial Times and LBC are among the exceptions.

LBC shared a [clip on their Twitter feed](#) and it has so far had nearly 22,000 views, over 400 likes, and over 200 shares - performing way better than any other clip on their feed for a long while.

This isn't because of any clever soundbite but because such housing issues are so important yet still under-reported in the context of the sheer scale of the crisis.

Hopefully this will encourage LBC and other channels to carry more housing articles.



## SHAC to Give Evidence at Parliamentary Inquiry on Housing

SHAC will be giving evidence at a parliamentary evidence session for the *All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Council Housing*.

The session entitled 'The Future of Council Housing' is an inquiry into the current and future demands for council homes. It is being held on Monday 25th March in Westminster.

The evidence session is convened by the Centre for Inequality and Levelling Up (CIELUP) at the University of West London on behalf of the APPG for Council Housing.



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## George Howarth MP: Open Letter to Michael Gove

George Howarth MP has agreed to include **all our service charge demands** in his open letter to Michael Gove, which is great news. George will be asking all MPs to sign the letter and we will too!

You can see the full list [here](#), compiled from the items in our poll plus additional items sent by members. We are now writing the covering text and will share the final letter next week for everyone to lobby their MP.

In budget week, we are reminding Michael Gove and Jeremy Hunt that the biggest benefits cheats are housing associations getting money from the welfare system for services they falsely claim to have delivered.

**Please share our graphics** (links on the left).

Help us build resistance - [Sign SHAC's Pledge to Freeze Rents and Cap Service Charges](#)

## Rent & Service Charge Strike Workshop



[Add to My Calendar](#)

## 11am, Saturday 16th March, by [Zoom](#).

Over the last two weeks we have been increasingly inundated with requests from tenants and residents seeking to find out more about withholding payment, either in protest or because people are unable to meet the extortionate demands of their landlords.

This workshop aims to answer questions about how to manage effective rent and/or service charge strikes, and how to do so as safely as possible.

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## Protest at 6.30pm, Weds 13th March Projection on Parliament

Please let us know if you can come along by responding [here](#).

Next week, SHAC and the Homes for Us housing coalition are taking a message to Parliament: Mould is Political! We will assemble at the Covid Memorial Wall, South Bank, Westminster Bridge, London [SW1A 2JH](#).



[Join Nextdoor](#)

## Nextdoor Network

Posting a message on the Nextdoor app is one great way to encourage tenants and residents from your landlord (or other housing associations) to join SHAC and build critical strength.

Nextdoor is a Facebook-style social networking site that links people in the same locality. You can find out more and get set up [here](#).

Some of our members have been very successful in using it to raise awareness of SHAC's work, in one case getting 1,800 views for a single post, and recruiting neighbours who are also residents of her landlord.

## Missed an Update?

Previous newsletters can be downloaded [here](#).

## WhatsApp Campaign Groups

SHAC members increasingly use WhatsApp to communicate between meetings, provide peer support, and plan action. Click on the relevant links below if you would like to join in.

## SHAC Campaigns - all welcome

[Clarion](#) | [Hyde](#) | [MTVHA](#) | [Notting Hill Genesis](#) | [Riverside / One Housing Group](#) | [L&Q](#) | [Southern](#) | [Peabody](#) | [Guinness / SBHA](#) | [Home Group](#)

## Take Action

[Sign the Unfair & Uncapped Pledge](#) | [Make a Donation](#) | [Join an Event](#)

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