

Bristol's Housing Crisis



Bristol Trades Union Council is campaigning for secure and affordable housing for everyone. We're pushing to stop rogue landlords ripping-off desperate renters and for housing prices to be affordable, so people can choose what type of home they'd like for their family, as well as choosing where to settle.

With typical house prices more than 10 times the average salary, and with high rents, Bristol and South Gloucestershire are expensive places to live.

There are more than 15,000 households waiting to be housed with just a handful of properties waiting for tenants. Many more people are being faced with eviction because they cannot afford the high private housing costs they end up couch surfing; sleeping in vehicles or living on the streets.



Bristol Trades Union Council

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There are currently up to 200 lived-in vehicles on Bristol's streets, a significant increase since the Tories have been in government. There are regular reports of physical attacks on and deaths of homeless people.

This means that some landlords can get away with anything. Even with the high rents and extra fees that tenants often have to pay they also have to put up with living in housing that is in a poor of repair which can result in poor physical and mental health.

We need to change the dialogue around housing to one of making homes for people not for profit. Everyone should have the right to live in a well maintained home and If rented it should have a secure tenancy agreement.

To make this a reality Bristol should build at least 1,000 and South Gloucestershire 400 council houses a year.

There should be compulsory purchase of all buildings that have remained empty for over two years so that they can be converted to council-owned houses and flats. Increasing the council housing supply would ensure the average rent would fall forcing private landlords to follow suit.

housing crisis is unsustainable

People deserve to be able to live and work with dignity, but for this to happen we need housing; higher wages; more financial help from the government and more support from our local councils.

What next?

Demand our council provides suitable homes for all. For this to happen, we must work together in our trade unions. Only by working together can we challenge the whims of landlords, challenge our local councils to reverse the cuts and end this Tory government that has dedicated itself to forcing down expectations and driving up profits.



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