



Tameside Independent

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To

Cabinet Office Media Team

Request for Comment – Housing Delivery in Tameside

Dear Media Team,

I write in my capacity as Reporter and Founder of Tameside Independent, a citizen-led platform dedicated to public-interest journalism and investigative reporting across Greater Manchester.

Following Deputy Prime Minister Angela Rayner's recent public statements on social and affordable housing—namely the commitment to deliver 1.5 million new homes, establish a £22 billion National Housing Bank, and expand the provision of social rent—I am seeking a formal response on how these pledges will translate locally in high-need boroughs such as Tameside.

Recent figures show that over 7,000 households are currently on the waiting list for social housing in Tameside, while allocations continue to favour age-restricted or "affordable rent" properties often out of reach for working residents and families on low incomes.

Accordingly, I respectfully request your comment on the following:

1. What proportion of funding or development support has been allocated to Tameside Council or its partners under current national housing initiatives?
2. How will the government distinguish between "affordable" and genuine "social rent" when evaluating delivery outcomes—especially in areas with significant affordability gaps?
3. What oversight or accountability mechanisms will be applied to ensure national housing targets result in tangible benefit for traditionally overlooked boroughs like Tameside?
4. Will there be scope for independent or civic monitoring (via FOI, ONS, or housing registers) to help verify delivery claims and community impact?

This request reflects rising public concern that national-level housing promises are not yet mirrored by meaningful action or visible outcomes at the local level—particularly in post-industrial communities facing severe shortages.

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I would welcome a written response or formal statement to include in upcoming coverage. I remain available for any clarification, and I appreciate your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Reporter. FOI Advocate. Citizen Investigator.

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