



Tameside Independent

**The Rt Hon Angela Rayner MP
Deputy Prime Minister
Secretary of State for Housing
Member of Parliament for Ashton-under-Lyne**

**House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA**

5 August 2025

Open Letter: Urgent Accountability on the Tameside Housing Crisis

Dear Ms. Rayner,

For months, *Tameside Independent* has been investigating the severe social housing crisis affecting your constituency. We have issued press enquiries, published open letters, and tagged you publicly. You are not just our local MP you hold the national portfolio as Secretary of State for Housing. Yet you have remained silent on the crisis unfolding on your own doorstep.

This is not an accusation. It is a documented fact:

- 22nd June 2025: We submitted a formal press enquiry to the government press office concerning the Tameside housing crisis. It was ignored.
- July 2025: We published an open letter to you. Following widespread public attention, your department finally responded.
- The Response: Your office issued a generic statement, which failed to address any of our specific questions. It cited a waiting list figure of 1,005 from TMBC internal wait list and not the true number, a number we know to be false. As the Local housing provider jigsaw confirm the actual figure exceeds 7,000 overall.
- The Follow-Up: We formally challenged this discrepancy and gave your department a deadline for clarification. That deadline passed without response.

Your office has provided flawed data. Your department has sidestepped critical questions. And in your dual role as both Ashton-under-Lyne's elected representative and the country's housing lead your silence is a profound failure of representation.

The public deserves answers. This is our final public request for you to provide them.

Yours sincerely,
Jason Nield
Editor, *Tameside Independent*