



What you need to know about the Queen's speech 2016

The Queen's speech was presented to Parliament on Wednesday 18 May. It gives an overview of legislation and policies that the government intends to introduce in the next 12 months. This note gives CIH members an overview of the forthcoming legislative agenda - there are a few measures that will be relevant to people with an interest in the housing sector.

Some proposed pieces of legislation relate to devolved areas of policy and will therefore only apply in England (or in some cases England and Wales).

Significant pieces of legislation

The following bills are those most likely to impact on or be of interest to our members:

Neighbourhood Planning and Infrastructure Bill

This Bill is intended to support the government's commitment to deliver 1,000,000 new homes. The key areas covered include:

- Improving neighbourhood planning to give local people more power and strengthen the responsibility of local authorities to provide support
- Privatisation of the Land Registry
- Addressing planning conditions on new developments that may slow down developers starting on site
- Increasing the role of the National Infrastructure Commission

- Making the compulsory purchase system clearer, faster and fairer and introducing a new statutory framework for paying compensation based on the existing market value of land.

Children and Social Work Bill

The part of this Bill, applying to care leavers, may be of interest to housing providers, as it will place a duty on local authorities to publish an offer to care leavers setting out what services they are entitled to. They will also have a responsibility to offer a personal adviser to all care leavers until they reach the age of 25.

Lifetime Savings Bill

The Bill will establish a help to save scheme for recipients of universal credit and working tax credits. If they can save up to a maximum of £50 a month the government will give them a 50 per cent bonus up to a maximum of £600 after two years. If they can continue to save for a further two years they will be eligible for a further bonus of up to £600.

Other noteworthy pieces of legislation

British Bill of Rights

The aim of this Bill is to reform the UK human rights framework. It is part of the government's manifesto pledge to introduce a British Human Rights Bill and to reform the Human Rights Act.

Local Growth and Jobs Bill

This Bill will include measures to allow local authorities to keep up to 100 per cent of business rates and set out in law some of the new powers being devolved to local authorities.



Initial reaction from CIH

At a time when more and more people are becoming homeless, we are disappointed that Government has not taken this opportunity to introduce a new duty for local authorities to prevent people losing their homes. We've seen the positive impact that a homelessness prevention duty has had in Wales with a 70 per cent success rate in the first three quarters of 2015/16 – so we urge Government to consider seriously the scope to introduce similar measures in England.

We are also concerned about the proposals to privatise the Land Registry and have recently responded to the [consultation](#) on the proposals pointing out our concerns that privatisation could compromise the integrity of the register.

If you are interested in getting involved with our policy work, why not join our [Member opinion panel](#) and take part in our short surveys about new legislation and government consultations.