

Dear All,

We have received the following email from Bude Stratton Town Council.

“Housing was the number one issue that our Cllrs came across when door knocking for May’s election, so they are keen to try and make a positive difference. Although this is difficult within the remit of a Town Council, hence the calls for policy changes at a government level and for Cornwall Council as the Housing Authority to take action. The Council has resolved to lobby government to:

1. End the ‘Right to Buy’ scheme
2. Scrutinise the principles of Affordable Housing with a view to creating links to local earnings
3. New homes must be prioritised for local need and occupancy
4. Second Homes:
 - a. To allow a multiplier of council tax which is passed to local communities
 - b. Scrutiny of the principle of registering houses as businesses
5. Additions to our housing stock should be delivered to high sustainable living standards and offered with secure and humane tenancy agreements

If this situation remains unchecked, we fear fracturing of our communities leading to long term social identity issues, workforce problems, loss of family support networks and empty homes bringing a loss of economic vitality and sustainability of our community. Bude-Stratton Town Council urges Cornwall Council to declare a housing emergency based on the BSTC statement.

The Council is sending this statement to Scott Mann MP and is also passing it to CALC and NALC for circulation to all Town and Parish Councils for support.

We would welcome other Councils passing a similar resolution and adding to the call for action.”

If you have any questions about the proposals please contact the Clerk direct (KCornwell@bude-stratton.gov.uk) and I am sure he would also welcome feedback on the views of your members. Please remember to copy the CALC into your response as the CALC Executive is keen to understand your council’s views.