



03/12/17

To, Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London
City Hall, The Queens Walk
London SE1 2AA

RE: Proposed Plan for Thousands of Homes

I saw the article front page of the Evening Standard Wednesday 29th November titled: Sadiq: Now Build in Your Back Gardens. I know the media like to report things in ways that are not always correct and I am hoping that you can come up with a better strategy than this for improving the housing shortage. People building in their back yards will only lead to more and more overcrowding in areas where people don't speak up for themselves and are not politically active to defend their spaces.

In my view and I am sure many would agree with me the problem isn't a shortage or lack of properties; it is the fact that most of the properties being built are way outside of the price range of average workers salaries. Even housing built by Housing Associations supposedly affordable housing on a shared ownership basis fall way above what is affordable for even well qualified professionals. I recently wrote to the Evening Standard and the Mero highlighting how shared ownership is just a big '**Rip off**' I gave the following example from the advert featured in the Metro Tuesday 28th November, Metro Property page 7

Shared Ownership New Metropolitan Home:

Wembley Park, 2 bedroom Apt; £125.625 for 25% share (full price £125.625 x 4 = £502.500)

Brixton, 1,2,&3 bed Apt; £159.250 for 35% share (full price £159.250 x 4 = £637.000)

Colliers Wood, 1,2,3 bed Apt; £111.250 for 25% share (full price £111.250 x 4 = £445.000)

NB: I have added the full price myself, this was not a feature of the advert

There are lots of young people wanting to secure their own accomodation but their income and the inflated price of properties stunts their plans. I think it's urgent that serious action is taken to help especially the young secure affordable housing. It cannot be right that people cannot afford to secure housing in the country in which they live. I also believe that housing built by the Housing Associations with tax payers money should always be affordable to people earning an average living wage. As a pensioner and grandmother my main concerns are for young people who are in a very difficult situation with regard to housing availability. Given that you are in a position to bring about real change, I would urge you to look very critically at the real issues and not just go on regurgitating what mainstream media report as the problem and see how real action can be implemented to bring real change.

Sincerely

Nzingha Assata (Ms)

