



**NEW DEAL  
FOR TEACHERS**

**POLITICAL BRIEFING**

## **Priced Out**

**– Housing Pressures Faced by Teachers and  
the Urgent Need for an Affordable Housing  
Programme**

# Priced Out

## – Housing Pressures Faced by Teachers and the Urgent Need for an Affordable Housing Programme

MAKE CHANGE HAPPEN

### Introduction

Housing affordability has become a pressing issue for teachers across the UK, impacting their ability to live and work in areas where they are most needed. The chronic shortage of affordable housing, coupled with stagnant wages, has exacerbated this problem, leading to significant consequences for the education sector.

### Analysis of Housing Pressures

Successive governments have failed to meet housing targets, perpetuating a shortage of affordable homes. Despite pledges to build new homes, the current rate of construction falls short of the required 300,000 per year, as outlined in government commitments.

The failure to address this issue has resulted in soaring housing costs, particularly affecting key workers like teachers.

### NASUWT Survey Findings

A survey conducted among NASUWT members aged 30 and under revealed alarming statistics regarding housing pressures:

- 88% supported the call for affordable housing schemes.
- 71% stated housing costs influenced their long-term career plans in teaching.
- 32% reported an increase in mortgage or rent payments, impacting their finances.
- 32% noted that their housing situation affected their ability to teach effectively.
- 42% indicated that housing costs influenced their choice of teaching post.
- 72% believed there was insufficient affordable housing for teachers in their area.

### Consequences for Teachers

The inability to afford suitable housing has forced many teachers into challenging situations:

- Cutting back on essential expenses such as food, heating and clothing.
- Increasing reliance on credit, loans and second jobs.
- Commuting longer distances to work due to unaffordable housing in local areas.
- Leaving teaching positions or considering leaving due to housing constraints.

### Call to Action

- Government must prioritise affordable housing for teachers.
- Extend discount schemes for rental and first-time buyers.
- Implement new policy responses to tackle the shortage of affordable homes.
- Recognise the impact of housing costs on teacher recruitment and retention.

### Conclusion

No teacher should face the dilemma of choosing between a career in education and securing housing. Urgent government intervention is needed to ensure that teachers have access to affordable housing, enabling them to focus on their vital role in shaping the future generation. It is imperative that policymakers prioritise this issue to safeguard the integrity of the education system and the wellbeing of teachers nationwide.

### About Us

NASUWT is The Teachers' Union and is the voice of the teaching profession.

Our aim is to improve and protect the status, morale and working conditions of the teaching profession so that teachers and headteachers can provide the best education and support to children and young people.

We are committed to ensuring that teachers and headteachers are recognised and rewarded as highly skilled professionals with working conditions that enable them to focus on their core role of leading teaching and learning.

**Further Information**

For further information please email [campaigns@mail.naswt.org.uk](mailto:campaigns@mail.naswt.org.uk)

**NASUWT**  
The Teachers' Union

[nasuwt.org.uk](https://nasuwt.org.uk)