

Mary Weastell

CE City of York Council

12/04/2018

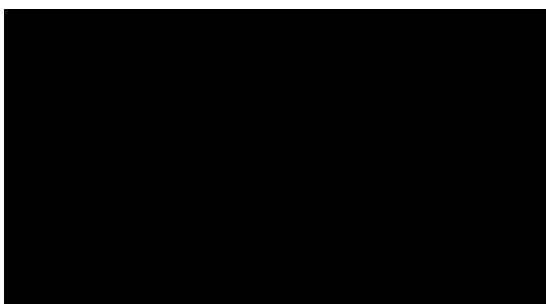
Dear Ms Weastell,

Please find enclosed a summary for my petition on affordable housing in York, where we call on City of York Council to adjust the planning rules to restrict the amount of luxury flats and student accommodation in the City, and to focus the housing mix more on affordable housing and family homes. I feel this petition represents the voice of the people of York who are frustrated and angry at the high rents, high house prices and lack of social housing in York Central. Please follow the link in the enclosed summary and read the comments from the signatories, as I feel some of these comments paint the situation and feeling of residents (and ex-residents, as some have been priced out of the City) more than the numbers can.

With the York local plan set to lock in all of the City's biggest brownfield sites in for the foreseeable future, it has never been more important to look at the mix of housing in York than now.

If you would like to discuss the housing situation, I would be more than happy to give my insight.

Kind regards,



## Approve more houses for lower income residents in York

<https://www.change.org/p/city-of-york-council-approve-more-houses-for-lower-income-residents-in-york>



Find the petition online with this QR code



We hereby call on City of York Council to change its planning permission procedures, making applications for planning permission to build/ convert luxury flats or student accommodation harder to encourage property developers to instead focus on more housing for low to medium earners, who make up a much larger proportion of the population than the luxury flat market. Rents and house prices in York are amongst the highest in the North of England, and the Council needs to address this by fixing the mix of accommodation approved.

# 1,011 signatures

As of 11/04/2018

### Some quotes from affected locals:

My husband and I are first time buyers who live in York city centre. We are trying to buy a house but we are struggling to find something we can afford. We both live with my parents. [REDACTED] We used to rent but the cost was so high that we'd never have saved for a deposit so we moved back to my parents. That was two years ago and we still can't afford to buy. [REDACTED]

I work 5 days a week, have two jobs, am not a big spender, and spent nearly 4 months couch surfing because there was so little affordable housing it had gone before I even got to a house viewing. At the same time one of my colleagues was living in his car— [REDACTED]

I couldn't afford to live in my home city once I left my parental home. I was working as a police officer at the time and my husband was working, too. It's lousy when a place is too expensive to live in. People with lower incomes deserve a place to live and to be part of the community. [REDACTED]

I am a dad of 2 with my partner and we are struggling to even get on the council list - [REDACTED]

My family is priced out of the housing market despite being hard working people. We can't even get accepted into the social housing list so are trapped in the expensive private rental sector. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] work hard for York ambulance service They work long unsocial hours. Their salaries are eaten up by paying private rental. We need affordable housing to give people like them to stay here in York. Why should people who were born here and work here have to move away on order to have their own home? [REDACTED]

I'm a 30 year old resident of York, I've lived here my whole life and have no prospects of ever getting on the property ladder here. [REDACTED]

My son & Daughter-inLaw have had to move towards Leeds to afford to buy - no family round them and a young baby - it's a disgrace— [REDACTED]

I pay near 10k in rent per year to someone who owns multiple properties in the city. Properties now worth almost 3 times their initial purchase price. I can't save enough. I can't buy. I watch more and more friends pushed out of the city. At this rate my children will only be able to live here if they come back as students [REDACTED]

Working 70 hour weeks just to afford somewhere to sleep is man. Private renting is sooo over priced [REDACTED]