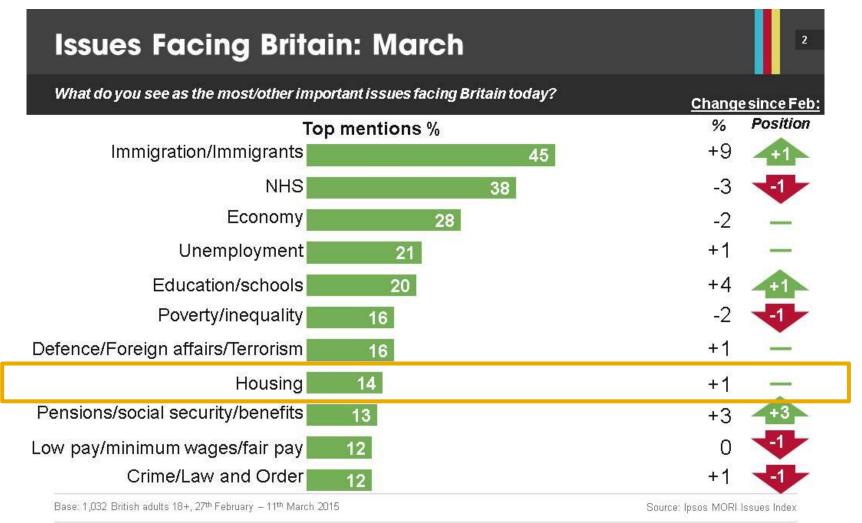
### Rural Housing A Policy Perspective

Gill Payne Director Policy & External Affairs National Housing Federation



### key issues





### Queen's Speech

The speech highlighted:

- Full employment
- Welfare Benefits
- Housing Bill and extension of right to buy
- More devolution to cities and local government
- Increased NHS spending

# Housing Bill

"Legislation will be introduced to support home ownership and give housing association tenants the chance to own their own home"

#### The purpose:

- Help provide more hard working people with a chance to own their own home
- Increase housing supply and access to home ownership

### **Clear Intentions - Budget**

- "Moving Britain from a low wage, high tax, high welfare economy to a higher wage, lower tax, lower welfare economy"
- "Delivering on the promises on which we were elected"
- "Rewarding work and supporting aspiration"

## Budget- housing impact

- Reduce Benefit Cap from £26K to £23K London and £20K elsewhere
- Massive changes to tax credits system
- Abolishing automatic entitlement to housing benefit for 18-21 year olds
- Working age benefits frozen for next 4 years
- Rents reduced by 1 % a year for 4 years (12% reduction by 2021)
- Extension of pay to stay provisions
- Review of life time tenancies
- Local Housing Allowance frozen for 4 years

# Challenges and opportunites

- Housing high on agenda housing crisis acknowledged
- Our offer- housing supply; jobs; partnerships
- Successful private public partnership £75bn private investment
- Focus on meeting aspiration and affordable home ownership :

Right to Buy – an offer to tenants

- Best utilisation of assets
- Welfare reform
- Devolution and LEPs for local towns, county deal with Cornwall etc
- Investors and cost of borrowing
- Apprenticeships