

housing association tenants. We will keep you up to date as the Bill passes its key milestones.

Help to Buy: ISA

The Government's new Help to Buy: ISA, set up to help people save for a deposit for their first home, launched on 1 December. If you're a first-time buyer you can save up to £200 a month towards your first home with a Help to Buy ISA and the Government will boost your savings by 25%. That's a £50 bonus for every £200 you save, up to a maximum Government bonus of £3,000 towards buying your first home. In practice, this means if you save £12,000, the Government will boost your total savings to £15,000.

You can also save an additional £1,000 when you first open an account, meaning you can save £1,200 in the first month and get a top up from the government of £300.

You can find all the information you need on the Help to Buy [website](#).

Own your home campaign

If you find that you're not eligible for Right to Buy, have a look at other government schemes available to help you own your own home. [OwnYourHome.gov.uk](#) has information on schemes such as Help to Buy, shared ownership and Self Build.

This website is part of a campaign to make sure people know about all the schemes available to help them onto the housing ladder. Commenting on the campaign, Housing and Planning Minister Brandon Lewis MP said:

"We want to ensure that anyone who works hard and aspires to own their own home has the opportunity to do so. Already more than 230,000 households have been helped into homeownership through Government-backed schemes since 2010, but we want to go further."

"That is why we have launched the new Own Your Home campaign, so you can find out what Government support may be available to help you own a home of your own. And I would urge anyone who believes ownership is out of reach to visit the Government's [Own Your Home website](#) and take a second look. There is a wide range of support on offer."

Spending Review 2015

In the Spending Review at the end of November the Government announced the biggest affordable house building programme since the 1970s. The affordable housing budget will be doubled to £8bn from 2018/19 and the Government will deliver at least 400,000 affordable homes over the next few years, including:

- 200,000 Starter Homes
- 135,000 new Help to Buy Shared Ownership homes and
- 10,000 Rent to Buy homes.

The Government will also create a London Help to Buy scheme with a 40% equity loan maximum (elsewhere the limit is 20%), release enough land owned by public bodies to build 160,000 homes, and provide £310 million of funding to deliver 15,000 homes at Ebbsfleet, the first garden city in the UK for nearly 100 years.

And finally...

Why not have a look at whether you could become a homeowner through Right to Buy in 2016? There is plenty of help available and we've just released three online videos about Right to Buy that might give you the start you need: [Own Your Home Youtube Channel](#)

Yours sincerely,

The Right to Buy Team