Re: Visit us to mark Rural Housing Week 2025

Dear [MP Name],

I am writing on behalf of [housing association name] to invite you to [meet with us/visit our housing association] to discuss the work we do in [insert constituency] and how you can support our call for more affordable homes in rural areas.

This year’s Rural Housing Week (7-11 July) arrives at a significant time for the housing sector, with the government’s long-term housing strategy expected soon alongside the Spending Review. This is a critical opportunity for the government to kickstart economic growth and deliver the affordable homes rural communities urgently need.

Rural areas are hugely impacted by the housing crisis. House prices on average are 10 times average earnings and in some areas, up to 23 times. Only 9% of homes are social housing – this is around half the number in urban areas.

Delivering affordable homes in rural areas will be essential if we are to remove barriers to growth and opportunity.

Housing associations are not-for-profit social landlords. We provide homes that are affordable to people in housing need, who can’t afford to rent or buy a home on the open market.

In [constituency name], we deliver [insert number of homes provided within constituency, any services offered to residents and who uses those services. Include relevant data if you have this e.g. the number of people you help, brief figures on outcomes for those you support. Please use our [local economic impact calculator](https://www.housing.org.uk/resources/local-economic-impact-calculator/) to highlight the local impact of housing associations]

Every year, housing associations save residents £9bn compared to if they were living in the private rented sector, meaning lower income families have more income after housing costs to spend on essentials.

A shortage of somewhere affordable to live is devastating rural communities and holding back social and economic opportunity. The number of rural households on local authority waiting lists grew by 19% from 2021 to 2024, compared to 12% in urban areas. During this period, only 8,225 homes for social rent were completed in rural areas. These are enough homes to house less than a quarter of households on waiting lists in those areas.

Rural communities must sit at the heart of the government’s long-term housing strategy. With the right support and intervention from the government, housing associations stand ready to play their part in ending the rural housing crisis. We would be delighted if you were available to [meet with/visit] us on [insert time/date] to discuss this in more detail. Of course, if the date suggested is not possible, I would be happy to work with you to find a suitable alternative.

I look forward to hearing from you and hope that a meeting will be possible soon. In the meantime, please let me know if there is anything [insert housing association name] can do to support your work.

Kind regards,
[Insert name here]