Carla Denyer MP
Member of Parliament for Bristol Central
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Andy Burnham MP
Prime Minister

19/11/2026

Dear Prime Minister,

Re: More support for private renters in Bristol Central.

As an MP, I have worked consistently to champion renters' rights and to end homelessness. I believe in the right to warm, safe, affordable homes for everyone. Unfortunately, this is just not the reality for millions of people, particularly in Bristol Central.

I know you share my commitment to tackling this issue – in 2016 you successfully ran for Mayor of Greater Manchester pledging to 'seek powers to regulate rent increases and property standards', something we're still pushing for in Bristol. In 2023 you joined me in signing an open letter to the Conservative Government, urging them to implement an immediate freeze on private sector rents. As recently as July you signalled this was something you might still consider to deal with the terrible burden of spiralling rents faced by millions in this country.

When the Renters' Rights Bill was introduced to Parliament, I fought for amendments that would have improved security of tenure, energy efficiency, accessibility and rent affordability. Without these, I was concerned my constituents wouldn't see much real difference in their situations as a result of the new laws, and I was right. Although the majority of respondents to my Bristol Central Renters Survey this September said the Renters' Rights Act had made them feel more secure in their home, only 4% said it had gone far enough to tackle the high cost of rent in Bristol.

Over the summer, Bristol was named the least affordable city for private renters in England, ahead of Greater London. The survey responses I received have been sobering. The majority of respondents do not feel they are paying fairly for the service they receive from their landlord, while at the same time 70% of those surveyed reported using things like credit cards, loans, support from friends and family or taking on extra shifts to cover that rent in the first place.

I know you recognise that there is a homelessness crisis in this country, but what of the crisis of people in precarious living situations, people going into debt just to keep a roof over their head, or young people who cannot imagine having a home of their own in the foreseeable future. We need to do more across the system. Renters in

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Bristol need an emergency brake on rents to stop the endless increases on an already staggering average, and the anxiety that comes with them. This can give the Government space to deliver a fair deal for renters - including rent controls.

Please find attached the full results of my Bristol Central Renters Survey. I hope you will take into account the views expressed by my constituents when you consider your next steps on housing policy in this country.

Yours sincerely,



Carla Denyer MP
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