

Dorling, D., 2010, Letter: Boris is right to fight housing cuts, London Evening Standard 1<sup>st</sup> November, page 47.

## **Boris is right to fight housing cuts**

BORIS JOHNSON'S clash with David Cameron was timely. Elsewhere in Europe a broader age and social range of people live in cities than is now planned for London. In coalition governments many issues are not thought through, but it is imperative that people on lower incomes are not forgotten, as Johnson clarifies.

The rise in council house rents for new tenants will make many areas of London unaffordable. In fact, all housing benefit monies go to landlords and many people in work rely on the benefits. The £1.8 billion that is to be saved from public sector pensions by 2014/2015 will mean that many pensioners may have to move from areas of London they can no longer afford to live in.

Meanwhile, many affluent families who lost money with Equitable Life policies will be reimbursed, by £1.5 billion in total; many of these families live in and around London. But there should be more to life and to our great cities than simply attempting to maximise a profit. If these changes are enacted, London will become soulless and cruel

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