

Everyone should have a home

**James Jopling**

**Head of Campaigns**

Shelter

## Questions

- What has today's topic got to do with Shelter?
- Whats the evidence?
- How do we deal with the problem?

## The homelessness crisis



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## 'Hello' reporting

### **More homes on 'millionaires' row'**

**Sales of £1m properties in Scotland rose by 138% in 2007, according to research from the Bank of Scotland.**

Although they far outstripped the 3% rise in total property sales, £1m properties accounted for just 0.2% of all Scottish property sales in 2007.

Edinburgh came second only to London in the number of properties being sold for £1m or more last year.....

**Source:BBC News Online May '08**

## The house price “story”



## From “Hello” to “Oh Hell”

Waiting lists for social housing top 200,000

Nearly 10,000 households in temporary accommodation

Prices for first time buyers have doubled in the last five years.

Significant challenges in meeting targets on fuel poverty, housing quality and the need for accessible housing

## The political importance of housing

Which subjects do you receive most letters about in your postbag or receive most approaches about in surgeries?

<b>Housing</b>	<b>86%</b>
<b>Health</b>	<b>79%</b>
<b>Education</b>	<b>72%</b>
<b>Crime / law&amp;order</b>	<b>66%</b>
<b>Transport</b>	<b>65%</b>

*Source: IPSOS / MORI: December 2007*

## No Foundations?



## **Long term changes**

1. Housing supply
2. Revamping planning

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## Short term changes

### The 'safety net'

1. Ensure the advice and representation network reaches homeownersn
2. Scottish led initiatives
  - Expansion of Mortgage to Rent
  - Lenders to inform LAs of impending repossessions
3. Keeping pressure on UK

## Summing up

- Is the real problem being presented?
- What is the evidence of the nature of housing challenges Scotland may face?
- Being prepared...