

TOLSON CALLS FOR MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING

On the day that the Scottish Federation of Housing Associations (SFHA) holds its annual conference, Scottish Liberal Democrat Communities spokesperson Jim Tolson MSP has challenged the Executive to invest in more affordable housing. Mr Tolson has called on the Executive to abandon the First Time Buyers Grant proposed in their 2007 manifesto and instead invest public money in affordable housing for rent and purchase.

Commenting, Mr Tolson said “In their 2007 manifesto the SNP promised £2000 grants for the 34,500 first time buyers in Scotland every year. This is ludicrous waste of public money. By promising £69 million to those who can already afford to get onto the property market, the SNP are effectively denying it to those really in need of housing support.

I want to see this money used to fund more affordable housing for rent and purchase. This Executive must get its priorities right. We need practical investment that will make a difference, not gimmicks that do nothing to ease the affordable housing crisis identified by the SFHA.”