

[British Ambassador inaugurates new project to help vulnerable children in Honduras](#)

British Ambassador to Honduras, Tom Carter, inaugurated today the project "Alas" in Talanga, Honduras (32 miles away from the capital Tegucigalpa). The programme started last year to help reach vulnerable and street-connected children, and recently has been loaned a house in the town in order to start a mentoring centre.

The project aims to benefit 24 children who have been identified at the highest risk in the town. The goal is to empower the children to leave the streets behind for good and become independent, support them even when they have found employment to ensure that they don't find themselves at risk again.

Currently, the centre has one full time member of staff and the implementers are looking to employ a part time tutor and a manager. You can find more about the project and how to help by visiting their [Facebook page](#).

Ambassador Carter said:

I've seen the remarkable work Street Kids Direct is doing in several countries, and I'm glad they are changing the lives of vulnerable kids in Honduras. All of us here want to thrive into this charity's vision which is to see a world where children and young people do not need to depend upon the streets in order to survive.

[Changes to shared ownership to help more people get on the property ladder](#)

- Plans for a new national model for shared ownership will help thousands of lower earners step onto the housing ladder
- People will be able to buy their home in 1% chunks – rather than being forced to stump up 10% at a time

- Changes made to Help to Buy to make it easier for people to take out a mortgage

A package of measures to help people on lower incomes get onto the housing ladder has been unveiled by Housing Secretary Robert Jenrick today (28 August 2019).

The government will review a new national model for shared ownership to make it easier for people to buy more of their own home, including allowing them to buy in 1% increments.

This step will help to fulfil the Prime Minister's priority to level up the whole country, closing the opportunity gap and helping millions of young people into home ownership.

At present, they have to buy an increased share in 10% chunks, which can be as much as £45,000 per time. This process of increasing the stake until the property is bought outright is known as "staircasing".

People use shared ownership to buy a proportion of their home – which can be as little as 25% – and then pay a subsidised rent on the rest.

Housing Secretary Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP said:

Building the houses this country needs is a central priority of this government. We know that most people still want to own their own home, but for many the dream seems a remote one.

My mission is to increase the number of homes that are being delivered and to get more young people and families onto the housing ladder, particularly those on lower incomes.

That's why I am announcing radical changes to shared ownership so we can make it simpler and easier for tens of thousands trying to buy own their own home.

Help to Buy, the cut to Stamp Duty and our home-building programmes are already making a real difference, but I am clear we need to go much further if we are to make the housing market work.

I will be looking at ensuring young people from Cornwall to Cumbria aren't priced out of their home areas and how we can build public support for more house building and better planning.

This government will help a new generation to own their home.

The Housing Secretary also announced he will look to reform the planning system to increase housing delivery and make home ownership more affordable for people looking to buy their first property, particularly in areas which are least affordable.

This could include increasing the number of homes sold at discounted prices to people trying to get onto the property ladder, boosting homeownership and helping build local support for new development.

Homeowners buying a property under Help to Buy will be given new freedoms which will make it easier to take out a 35-year mortgage, in measures announced today.

The government has also today closed a loophole with immediate effect that prevented people from taking out a mortgage with a term of more than 25 years.

The change means homeowners can reduce their monthly mortgage repayments by spreading their borrowing over a longer period.

How will it work?

- A family in a £450,000 shared ownership 4-bedroom property could buy an initial 25% stake with a mortgage for £112,500, while paying subsidised rent on the remainder.
- They would then have to stump up £45,000 at a time to increase their stake, and decrease their rent – which is beyond the reach of many.
- Under our plans, shared owners would be able to stump up 1% at a time – or £4,500.

Chancellor confirms Spending Round will be delivered on 4 September

The fast-tracked Spending Round will set departmental budgets for 2020/21. As announced earlier this month, a full multi-year Spending Review is now due to take place in 2020.

Chancellor Sajid Javid will announce the conclusions of the Spending Round in a statement to Parliament.

The Spending Round will deliver on the Prime Minister's priorities – including health, schools, and the police – while still meeting the existing fiscal rules.

Thanks to the hard work of the British people over the last decade, we can afford to spend more on the people's priorities while still meeting the

fiscal rules.

Additional information

- This is a one-year Spending Round which will fund departments' day-to-day spending 2020/2021. It will meet the current fiscal rules.
- In 2020 a full Spending Review will be held, reviewing public spending in the round and setting multi-year budgets.
- Departmental day-to-day spending is financed through resource budgets and covers important priorities such as pay or schools' running costs.
- Capital budgets, used for long-term projects such as infrastructure, are already in place for 2020/21.

Tackling terrorism and extremism before it starts

Well, thank you very much, Mr President. And may I start, of course, by thanking Vladimir and Michelle for their briefings today, which I think sets out very clearly, as does the Secretary-General's report, just how much of a challenge remains because, while military successes have removed Da'esh's territorial control of the so-called caliphate, Da'esh and foreign terrorist fighters continue to pose an ongoing and serious challenge to our individual and collective security. Not just Da'esh – I think other colleagues have also talked about other groups, particularly Al-Qaeda and Al-Qaeda affiliated groups. We must be very concerned by those.

And I think that faced with a problem which affects many countries in many regions of the world, member states naturally look to the United Nations and in particular look to this Council through its resolutions, through its committees to give guidance and support. And I think that means we need a not only timely and effective set of responses, but also even better coordination and evaluation. So we welcome as the UK the number of guidance products being developed to assist states in navigating some of these complex new challenges. But I would stress – I'm sure I'm preaching to the converted to my left – but I would stress the need to ensure that these are complementary and reflective of a whole-of-UN approach. And I think to that end, we would particularly encourage CTED to continue to, of course, conduct its assessment visits, to strengthen its own dialogue with member states and for member states to engage CTED in requesting those. And I can say that the United Kingdom is looking forward to its own CTED assessment in October this year.

And I would also stress the need for proactive follow-up by CTED and its partners. And of course, this is where the Office for Counterterrorism particularly comes in with its capacity building capabilities. It's so important that where CTED has carried out that assessment in partnership with a member state, that there is the capacity building and support there for

those member states to be able to really make a difference. So I think that would be where I would start, if I might, in responding to the briefings I heard.

The Secretary-General's report colleagues, sets out a number of challenges. Let me just focus on a few. Firstly, I share the concerns raised by a number of colleagues and by our briefers about the conditions in the camps in northeast Syria, particularly for family members and for children. This should be of great concern for us all. And we welcome the United Nations' increased attention on the challenge of addressing these conditions while also integrating efforts to prevent violent extremism and incitement of terrorism among camp populations. And that's clearly a task beyond not only the United Nations. It is for all member states to think about how we can support such work.

And an important element of this is accountability for Da'esh's crimes. I was really pleased to hear from the colleague from Equatorial Guinea on this. We, like you, fully support what UNITAD is doing in Iraq, particularly when it comes to sexual and gender-based violence. We've increased our funding for UNITAD at and I hope we all support their efforts to collect, preserve and of course, we hope use that crucial evidence.

It is also alarming that Da'esh still reportedly has \$300 million in reserves. Now we know that terrorist attacks are increasingly low cost and low tech. And we've seen in recent cases that transfers of small amounts of money, using new technologies, inspired by narratives both online and offline, can terrorise our citizens. So that amount of money could cause huge damage. We need again collectively to tackle the financing of terrorism and ensure we are doing so in a way which keeps pace with modern money flows – and that is a job for us all.

Thirdly, I want to say how much we agree with the Secretary-General's report's analysis of the risk of radicalisation and mobilisation taking place in prisons. Now, prisons, of course, are a place of risk, but at the same time, they can be an important place for disengagement and rehabilitation efforts. So we would encourage the UN and its partners to support member states to develop measures in this area. I would note that this Council has placed a great emphasis on prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration. And that's something which we've taken to heart in the United Kingdom, where, if I may just say a couple of words about our experience, in the United Kingdom, rehabilitation work focuses on a broad range of individuals, not just those serving a prison sentence for terrorism-related offense and not just those in prison. We also work with those on probation in the community and those subject to other sorts of court orders such as returnees from Syria.

Let me finish by expressing our concerns over the increase in the terrorist attacks motivated by extreme right-wing ideologies. We know that terrorist narratives, incitement and resources are moving across borders, both real and virtual. We fully support the Christchurch Call To Action and efforts to remove terrorist content online while protecting human rights and freedom of expression. And we look forward to working with our partners in member states, the United Nations and the technological industries to strengthen

these efforts and combat incitement.

Across all forms of terrorism and extremism, let me say that we strongly support the United Nations Preventing Violent Extremism initiatives which place civil society at their centre.

The cornerstone of the United Kingdom's own Prevent model is our local work with communities and civil society organisations. We support civil society organisations across the country to build their awareness of the risks of radicalisation and their resilience to terrorism and violent extremist narratives and propaganda. And as I've said before in this chamber, there's not something that can be done from outside of a community, from outside of a country; it can only be done from local or by communities themselves being empowered to tackle extremism and terrorism before it starts. And that's one of the places in which the UN could be so very helpful in sharing best practice. And I encourage you to step up your efforts even further in this area.

Thank you very much, Mr President.

PM call with President of the European Commission: 27 August 2019

The Prime Minister spoke to the President of the European Commission Jean Claude Juncker by phone this evening. They had a positive and substantive conversation, where the Prime Minister updated Jean Claude Juncker on his recent discussions with EU leaders, including at the G7.

The Prime Minister set out that the UK will be leaving the EU on October 31, whatever the circumstances, and that we absolutely want to do so with a deal. The PM was also clear however that unless the Withdrawal Agreement is reopened and the backstop abolished there is no prospect of that deal.

The Prime Minister reiterated his commitment to Belfast/Good Friday Agreement in all its parts. He underlined the importance of ensuring the peace, prosperity and security of Northern Ireland and said that we will never place infrastructure, checks, or controls at the border.

The leaders noted that their teams would continue their informal discussions and they agreed to remain in touch.