

PRESS RELEASE

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A NEW HOME FOR SCOTLAND'S PARLIAMENT - NICE FOR SOME SAYS HOUSE BUILDING INDUSTRY

As the Scottish Parliament settles into its nice new home, Scotland's house building industry is taking the opportunity to highlight the plight of the thousands of Scots trying to move onto and up the property ladder.

Bruce Black, Executive Director of Homes for Scotland, the organisation which represents companies building more than 90% of the country's new homes, said:

"The Parliament's new landmark building symbolises the aspirations of a nation but what about the aspirations to home ownership that are being thwarted for many of Scotland's people by a shortage of housing and prices that are out of reach?

It's clear for all to see that Scotland needs more new homes. The house building industry can deliver them – but only if obstacles such as the shortfall of land being made available for housing and development constrained by years of underinvestment in the country's water and drainage infrastructure can be overcome.

Now that the Parliament has a new home, let's hope it will inspire our politicians to ensure that all Scots can realise the same opportunity."

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Notes to editors:

Homes for Scotland (<u>www.homesforscotland.com</u>) is the representative membership body for the home building and residential development industry in Scotland. Its member companies provide over 90% all new homes in Scotland. The largest user of the planning system in Scotland, the industry also contributes more than £3.5 billion to the economy and employs more than 110,000 people.