## Westminster Legal Policy Forum keynote seminar: Next steps for leasehold reform in England and Wales

Timing: Morning, Friday, 29th November 2024

\*\*\*Taking place online\*\*\*

Draft agenda subject to change

8.30 Registration

# 9.00 Chair's opening remarks

Baroness Thornhill, Liberal Democrat Lords Spokesperson (Housing)

#### 9.05 <u>Leasehold reform - the current legislative framework and proposals for reform</u>

**Professor Martin Dixon**, Director, Cambridge Centre for Property Law, University of Cambridge Questions and comments from the floor

# 9.30 Key issues for implementation of the Leasehold and Freehold Reform Act 2024 and assessing the draft Leasehold and Commonhold Reform Bill

examining key provisions in the Act | impact on new and existing leaseholders | priorities for stakeholders as the new Government takes forward the Law Commission's recommendations | leasehold enfranchisement, ground rents and forfeiture | key issues for landlords and future challenges in the leasehold and property market | implications of the Renters' Rights Bill

Sebastian O'Kelly, Director, Leasehold Knowledge Partnership

Henry Griffith, Policy and Campaigns Officer, Propertymark

Anna Favre, Partner, Cripps

John Baguley, Principal, Mortgage Policy, UK Finance

Natalie Chambers, Director, Residential Freehold Association

Charmaine McQueen-Prince, Chair, Leasehold Reform Subcommittee, Residential Freehold Association

Questions and comments from the floor

#### 10.30 Chair's closing remarks

Baroness Thornhill, Liberal Democrat Lords Spokesperson (Housing)

10.35 Break

## 10.45 Chair's opening remarks

Senior Parliamentarian

## 10.50 Dispute resolution in leasehold law - preparing for change

**Judge Siobhan McGrath**, President, First Tier Tribunal (Property Chamber), Courts and Tribunals Judiciary Questions and comments from the floor

## 11.15 Key challenges for lenders in implementing commonhold

Rob Stevens, Head of Property Risk, Nationwide Building Society

## 11.30 Key issues and challenges in implementing commonhold and options for reform of freehold

establishing an effective legal and regulatory framework for commonhold | promoting public and professional awareness and understanding | mortgage lending risks and uncertainty | simplifying the transition from leasehold | conversion challenges and the potential impact of proposals to restrict the sale of leasehold flats | strategies for building upon current legislation | potential options for reform of s.121 and freehold rent charges | impact on property values | management and governance | market adoption

Karolina Zoltaniecka, CEO and Director, Commonhold Now

Beth Rudolf, Director of Delivery, Conveyancing Association

Mike Somekh, CEO, The Freehold Collective

Anne-Marie Fowler, Managing Director, Priory Law

Andrew Bulmer, CEO, The Property Institute; and Member, Commonhold Council

Questions and comments from the floor

## 12.30 'The Law Commission, leasehold reform and the Leasehold and Freehold Reform Act 2024'

**Professor Nicholas Hopkins**, Commissioner, Law Commission of England and Wales Questions and comments from the floor

#### 12.55 Chair's and Westminster Legal Policy Forum closing remarks

Senior Parliamentarian

Sean Cudmore, Westminster Legal Policy Forum

