

Scottish Government has built more affordable homes than promised



The Scottish Government said today that it has built more houses which fall into the category of 'affordable homes' than it had planned to in five years.

The government hoped to build 30,000 affordable homes by March 2016.

As part of the target, the Scottish Government pledged to deliver 20,000 social rented homes including 5,000 council homes, both of which have also been exceeded.

Speaking ahead of a housing debate in the Scottish Parliament, Social Justice Secretary Alex Neil said:

"I am delighted that we have now met our commitment to deliver 30,000 affordable homes ahead of our target date of March 2016.

"We believe in a Fairer Scotland for all and good quality affordable housing is central to making that a reality.

" Despite a challenging financial environment, we have invested in excess of £1.7 billion to meet the target, reintroduced council house building and protected existing housing stock through abolishing the right to buy.

"High quality, energy efficient, affordable homes form the

cornerstone of socially and economically sustainable communities.

“We have worked hard with the housing sector to deliver these homes as well as develop innovative funding initiatives, such as government guarantees, loans, grant recycling and new sources of private funding, to help both buyers and developers. T