

Shelter Classroom Kit

Secondary lesson plan

Social Studies

Should we build more homes?

Third and fourth level. People in society, economy and business, SOC 3-15a, SOC 3-16a, SOC 4-15a, SOC 4-16a, SOC 4-16b.

In England: Citizenship, KSIII 2.2
Advocacy and representation.

Objective:

- to debate the arguments for and against building more homes.

Preparation:

- print off the debate cards PDF, photocopy and cut out.
- try to find and photocopy some information on a new home-building project in your area, including arguments for and against it.
- if there isn't one, you could pick one of the proposed eco-town projects and use that as an example. There are booklets to download at shelter.org.uk/ecotowns. For some of the proposed eco-towns, opposition websites exist which would provide an alternative view.

1 On the interactive whiteboard, watch the film **'Does Britain need more homes?'**

2 Have a class discussion. Do the students agree with Shelter's view that Britain needs more affordable homes? What do they think the arguments are for and against new home-building projects at a national and local level? Why do they think people's views might change when it's happening in their area?

3 Distribute the information about the local new home-building project or eco-town project around the class (they could read this in advance of the lesson as homework). Distribute the **debate cards** equally around the class.

4 Have a class debate about the project with students taking the position of the characters on the cards. At the end, can anyone be persuaded to change sides?

