

## **CIPFA Housing Panel,**

### **SUBJECT Comprehensive Spending Review 2019**

#### **Spring Statement 2019**

On 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019 the Chancellor presented his Spring Statement. The Chancellor confirmed that the government will hold a Spending Review which will conclude alongside the Autumn Budget. This will set departmental budgets, including 3 year budgets for resource spending, *if an EU exit deal is agreed*.

Of course, the Key words in this are those in italics.

On 1st May, The Guardian suggested that the government could abandon plans for a three-year spending review in favour of a one-year programme because of Brexit turmoil and uncertainty over Theresa May's future.

With rumours rife that the Chancellor might resign if the retiring PM pushes through certain legacy expenditure and also warning future PMs that there spending plans are unsustainable, the future is as clear as mud.

However, that has not stopped various bodies preparing advice to the government on what should be included in the spending review with National Housing Federation calling for investment in homes, investment in bringing the country back together and investment to enable people to thrive.

CIPFA will, of course, be putting forward its priorities for expenditure and Panel members are asked what priorities they might like to be considered in relation to housing.

#### **Some of the issues we have touched on as a Panel**

We have discussed many areas over the last few years where we feel that money is needed. The main one being the need for investment in more social housing, but we have also under taken work on Local Housing Allowance, Universal Credit and the Safety of Tenants in safe, well maintained homes.

#### **Panel Action**

Panel Members are asked for their comments and ideas to be forwarded to those preparing the CIPFA submission to the Comprehensive Spending Review.