

Support for New House Construction in the UK has Increased

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New data from the British Social Attitudes survey, which was published by the Government, has revealed a big fall in opposition to house building since 2010.

NatCen's survey asked the public whether they would support new homes being built in their local area, and revealed that between 2010 and 2013 opposition fell by 15 percentage points.

- In 2010, 46% said they would oppose new homes being built in their local area, compared to 31% in 2013;
- Support for new house building increased from 28% in 2010 to 47% in 2013.

The fall in opposition to new house building was biggest among those aged over 65. In 2010 over half of over 65s (51%) were opposed to new homes being built in their local area and this fell to less than a third (30%) by 2013.

The 35-54s need the most convincing, 36% of them say they oppose or strongly oppose new homes being built in their local area.

Penny Young, Chief Executive at NatCen Social Research, said: "These findings suggest that the difficulties faced by young people seeking to get on the housing ladder have cut through with the public as a whole. In particular, the parents of "Generation Rent" have recognised that if their children are going to see the benefits of homeownership then new houses are needed."