

STANLEY 11/5



Press & Public Relations
Department.

Phone: 01-222 0151/8
01-222 9000

Conservative Central
Office.
32 Smith Square,
London SW1P3HH

JOHN STANLEY MP

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Statement by John Stanley MP, (Tonbridge and Malling), Minister for Housing and Construction.

The Labour Party's clear intention to prevent the increase in the mortgage tax relief ceiling from £25,000 to £30,000 from taking place would be a bad blow for the housebuilding industry and a bad blow for a lot of people buying new houses. In London and much of the southern part of the country, it is impossible to buy a family sized house for under £25,000. Labour's action will have created serious financial uncertainty for thousands of people in the process of buying a house and will have made it impossible for some house purchasers to proceed at all. What is more, Labour have shown once again that they are a party that is hostile to home-ownership. Every house owner and would-be home owner should note this clearest possible evidence of Labour's harmful intentions towards home-owners .

The Government have given a clear commitment to-day that the Conservatives will be maintaining the increased mortgage tax relief ceiling of £30,000 if a Conservative Government is re-elected. Providing the Conservatives are re-elected on June 9th no one who has bought a house since the Budget on the assumption that the mortgage tax ceiling would be at £30,000, should suffer financially.

End.