Coveney Must grasp the Nettle of a Flawed Housing Report

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Recommended Citation
The beach, a pool, and a spa don’t cut it any more. The latest ultra-luxury holiday homes are all about unique, unforgettable experiences, says Emma Willis

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On 16 July, the Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland published its latest report on homelessness and rough sleeping in the province. This is important reading in April. It interviewed 38 women, men and children affected by homelessness in the past year. It is the third report on housing and various bodies, including councils, have already launched a scathing response. They argue, rightly, that the government is failing to protect the vulnerable. Indeed, as an example of how bad our housing system is, the report confirms that over 50% of people experiencing homelessness are asked to leave their homes around some of the amnesties are no longer safe. This is unacceptable. It is clear that these recommendations are in place now. Homelessness is a complex issue that involves a number of different stakeholders. Most importantly, the government must take action to address the root causes of homelessness. Without it, a nettle will be left to grow. However, despite the recent advances, the government must continue to work towards a solution. The report highlights the importance of affordable housing, and the need for meaningful solutions.