

**Question for written answer E-002951/2013/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Andrew Henry William Brons (NI)

Subject: UK convergence programme

I refer to the Commission Recommendation for a Council Recommendation on the United Kingdom's 2012 national reform programme and delivering a Council opinion on the United Kingdom's convergence programme for 2012-2017 (COM(2012)0309)¹.

Recommendation 2 states:

'Address the destabilising impact of high and volatile house prices and high household debt by implementing a comprehensive housing reform programme [...]. Pursue further reforms to the mortgage and rental markets, financial regulation and property taxation to prevent excessive volatility and distortions in the housing market.'

Will the Commission kindly explain what type of reforms it has in mind, especially with regard to property taxation?

Under what obligation is the UK to implement these recommendations?

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/pdf/nd/csr2012_uk_en.pdf