

Northern Ireland Housing Conference



Determining the new housing landscape

Thursday 30th January 2014 • Crumlin Road Gaol, Belfast

MENU

The housing sector in Northern Ireland is facing a period of unprecedented change. With the planned break-up of the Housing Executive, the structure of the sector will change fundamentally. There is also a limited stock transfer programme underway. In an era of increased demand, there are ambitious new-build targets to 2015. This is against a backdrop of continuing difficult economic times and the prospect of welfare reform, which will add pressure on already hard-pressed tenants.

This conference will bring together all the key stakeholders in the housing sector to discuss and debate the wide range of issues that are shaping the future landscape. The opening session will focus on the policy and strategic issues, with an opening address from Andrew Hamilton from the Department for Social Development. Stewart Smyth will look at the evolving issues around future funding in the sector, while Anita Conway from Fold Housing will examine the challenges around new build in social housing. There will also be a speaker from the Glasgow Housing Association who will detail their experience in restructuring and funding.

The second session will focus on some of the specific housing issues. Professor Paddy Gray will present the findings of the review of the common selection scheme. Our second visiting speaker, Mark Henderson from Home Group, will explore the challenges they have faced in improving access to affordable housing. Mickey Brady, MLA will give delegates an update on the Social Development Committee's view of the implementation of welfare reform.

The conference will finish with a discussion panel that will cover the strategic issues. This will give delegates the opportunity to participate in the discussion and hear the views from a range of stakeholders.

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Sponsorship opportunities

There are a number of opportunities for interested organisations to become involved with this conference. Sponsorship of this event is an excellent way for organisations to raise their profile with a key audience of senior decision-makers from across the housing sector in Northern Ireland and beyond. For further information on how your organisation can benefit, **contact Lynda Millar on 028 9261 9933.**

Who should attend?

- Professionals in housing policy and delivery;
- Government departments and agencies;
- Those providing benefits advice;
- Housing associations;
- Policy / public affairs advisors;
- The construction industry;
- Project funders;
- Legal advisors;
- Housing and planning consultants;
- The community / voluntary sector / NGOs;
- Local elected representatives.

Benefits of attending

- ✓ Discuss the proposed changes to the structure of the sector
- ✓ Hear about experience elsewhere

- ✓ Learn how the challenges in financing housing can be overcome
- ✓ Look at the impact of welfare reform on housing
- ✓ Discuss how to make the consultation process more effective

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