

Northern Ireland Housing Conference 2024



Wednesday 20th March • Europa Hotel, Belfast

agendaNi

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Focused conference

agendaNi is organising its annual Northern Ireland Housing Conference, which has become well established as the major annual event for all those with an interest or role in housing in Northern Ireland. As with previous years, it will have a genuine, in-depth understanding of the key issues via a high-level panel of local and visiting speakers. The conference is an important date in the diary of housing professionals across the region.

Challenges ahead

The 2024 conference will take place against a backdrop of high inflation and the worst living standards squeeze on record. Figures from the end of March 2023 show that 45,105 are on the social housing waiting list – the highest number Northern Ireland has seen for years with over 32,000 considered to be in housing stress. At the time of writing, we still have no functioning Executive and Minister in place, further delaying the Housing Supply Strategy, a 15-year plan to deliver over 100,000 homes (including over 33,000 social homes) and address supply-related pressures. Indeed, since the time of publication of the draft Strategy, the original challenges have become even more pronounced. Fewer households are able to access homeownership, due to higher mortgage rates, higher property prices, economic uncertainty and the cost of living crisis.

However, broad consensus on the core aspects of the Strategy has provided confidence to move forward with the development of a first action plan, ensuring work towards implementation is already underway, with most of the actions falling under the remit of the Department for Communities. Early identified draft actions include providing more social and intermediate homes, including the development of a new intermediate rent product; implementation of the Social Housing Allocations review, and progression of regulations to improve the private rented sector.

The Northern Ireland Housing Executive, our Housing Associations and other organisations in the sector also continue to forge ahead, delivering safe, quality homes and other care and support

services. In 2023, it was announced that Housing Associations had successfully exceeded new build targets set by the Department in the financial year 2022/23. However, reductions to the Capital House Building Programme for 2023/24 will directly impact on the number of social homes being built.

The Northern Ireland Housing Conference will bring together key stakeholders and look at how we can fulfil the need for safe, affordable housing both now and in the future.



A high level panel of local and visiting speakers will examine key issues including:

- Future **housing policy outlook** in Northern Ireland
- **Housing Investment Plans (HIPs)** to meet local housing need
- **Shared Housing Delivery:** The **Housing for All** programme
- **Managing risk** for Housing Associations
- The **future outlook** for the **housing market**
- **ESG reporting** in the social housing sector
- **Supporting tenants** through the cost of living crisis
- **Raising professionalism** in the housing sector
- **The evolution of customer service:** Making resident involvement **meaningful and accessible**
- **Innovative technology platforms** to manage assets and deliver better, more simplified services
- **AI, machine learning and big data** in social housing
- **Supporting People:** Blending assistive technology with traditional models of delivery
- The **decarbonisation** of social housing
- **Innovation** in housing: Reimagining better ways to live
- **Collaboration** for better results

Programme

0830	Registration and morning coffee		
0900	<p>Chairman's welcome and introduction Professor Paddy Gray OBE, Professor of Housing, Ulster University</p> <p>Priorities for housing policy in Northern Ireland Mark O'Donnell, Deputy Secretary, Housing and Sustainability Department for Communities</p> <p>Delivering the Housing for All Programme Grainia Long, Chief Executive Northern Ireland Housing Executive</p> <p>The future outlook for the housing market Richard Ramsey, Chief Economist Ulster Bank</p> <p>Raising professionalism in the housing sector Justin Cartwright, National Director, Northern Ireland Chartered Institute of Housing</p> <p>Questions & answers / Panel discussion</p>		<p>ESG reporting in social housing Ad Hereijgers, Director of Business Development, RITTERWALD</p> <p>The evolution of customer service: Co-designing a customer strategy with tenants Pól Callaghan, Executive Director of Customer and Communities Clanmil Housing</p> <p>Innovative technology to manage assets and deliver better services Tom Longley, Head of Business Development, Switchee</p> <p>Questions & answers / Panel discussion</p>
1045	Networking break		
1115	<p>Resilient housing services: Managing risk for Housing Associations Ceri Victory-Rowe, Director Campbell Tickell</p> <p>Supporting People: Blending assistive technology with traditional models of delivery Fiona McAnespie, Director of Care and Support, Radius Housing</p>	1315	Networking lunch
		1415	<p>PANEL DISCUSSION: DECARBONISATION OF SOCIAL HOUSING</p> <p>Pat Austin, Director, National Energy Action</p> <p>Robert Clements, Head of Sustainable Development, Northern Ireland Housing Executive</p> <p>Clára Robinson, Policy and Research Executive, Northern Ireland Federation of Housing Associations</p> <p>Michael McDonnell, Chief Executive Choice Housing</p> <p>Kevin McGarry, Programme Manager, Northern Ireland, Energy Saving Trust</p>
		1515	Chairman's summary and conference close

Sponsorship and exhibition opportunities

There are a small number of opportunities to get involved with the Northern Ireland Housing Conference as a sponsor or exhibitor. Sponsorship underlines leadership status and helps profile an organisation's activities and expertise within the sector. In exchange for sponsorship support, the sponsor will receive an attractive package of benefits designed to maximise their organisation's profile in front of this senior audience and leave a lasting impression upon the key decision-makers in attendance. For further information on how to feature your organisation at the conference contact Olivia Ross on **028 9261 9933** or Olivia.Ross@agendaNi.com.



I wish to:

Reserve ___ places at the Housing Conference
Delegate fee £245 + VAT @ 20% = £294

Discounted rate for Housing Associations and the voluntary/community sector
£195 + VAT @ 20% = £234

Delegate details

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr): _____

Job title: _____

Organisation: _____

Address: _____

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Cancellations/substitutions

Please note that once ordered delegate places cannot be cancelled.

You can unsubscribe from receiving information at any time. Please let us know by emailing info@agendani.com or by phoning 028 9261 9933

Who should attend?

The conference will be of interest to all stakeholders involved in aspects of housing, funding and management including senior managers in the public, private and third sectors in Northern Ireland. The conference will be of particular interest to:

- 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.

Networking opportunity

The conference is structured in a way to provide a high level of interaction between speakers and delegates.

There will be plentiful opportunities for questions as well as discussion in each of the sessions. In the breaks and margins of the event there will also be ample scope for business development.

Benefits of attending

Delegates attending the conference will:

- ✓ Look at the future of housing policy in Northern Ireland
- ✓ Hear about the future outlook for the housing market
- ✓ Analyse all the key issues
- ✓ Discuss innovative solutions being applied elsewhere
- ✓ Network with key stakeholders across the sector

How to register



Online

www.northernirelandhousing.com



By phone

028 9261 9933



By email

registration@agendani.com

Acknowledgement of registration

Confirmation of registration will be sent to all delegates. Joining instructions will be sent out following receipt of registration details. If you have not received your acknowledgement within 48 hours please contact us at registration@agendani.com to confirm your booking.

