

Focus on Influencing Scotland

JUNE 2022



Chartered
Institute of
Housing
Scotland

CIH Scotland was thrilled to be back at Glasgow's SEC last month for our annual Housing Festival, which saw over 600 delegates, speakers and exhibitors come together to discuss the latest issues, opportunities and challenges in Scotland's housing sector.

While there were undoubtedly a number of challenging issues to address, most notably the current cost of living crisis, the event was also an opportunity to celebrate some of the great work going on in the sector. In particular, we were delighted to formalise a new partnership agreement with Fife Council to promote the Housing Profession in Fife and to undertake work to develop a new framework for local authorities to track progress on Rapid Rehousing Transition Plans (RRTP) to help end homelessness. The partnership agreement will also see Fife Council sponsor and support a number of key CIH Scotland events, including the Housing Festival, Scotland Awards and The Big Conversation, and all Fife Council training academy students will become CIH members.

You can find out more about this work in our [joint blog](#) with Fife Council's head of housing John Mills, and if you missed the Housing Festival, you can catch up on all of the highlights on our [You Tube channel](#).



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Influencing Our Influencing work

Domestic Abuse Implementation Group

As part of the Scottish Government's domestic abuse implementation and monitoring group, CIH Scotland is supporting the delivery of a report on 'Improving Housing Outcomes for Women and Children Experiencing Domestic Abuse' and a third meeting of the group took place in May 2022. The group is due to last two years and will conclude by the end of 2023.

Letting agent CPD review

As part of our review into the impact of letting agent CPD, CIH Scotland has now issued a survey to Scottish PRS landlords and Scottish letting agents about the impact of the qualification and CPD on their performance and tenant outcomes. The report is due in the autumn.

Skills roundtable

CIH Scotland recently chaired a roundtable with Paul McLennan MSP on the future of housing skills in Scotland, the findings of which will be used to inform future work for CIH Scotland.

Achieving net-zero by 2040

CIH Scotland is one of the founding members of the [Existing Homes Alliance Scotland \(EHA\)](#), an organisation that campaigns to improve the condition of our homes to meet climate change and fuel poverty targets. EHA has published new research, [Owning the Future: A framework of regulations for decarbonising owner-occupied homes in Scotland](#), considering how we can best support improvements in the owner-occupied sector. Follow EHA on Twitter for regular updates [@existinghomes](#)

Dementia awareness week 2022

Dementia Awareness Week ran from 30 May to 5 June. Follow us on Twitter @CIHScotland for updates on our work on housing and dementia or check out the [Housing and Dementia Framework](#) and see how it can support your organisation to be more dementia friendly.

Reducing youth homelessness in West Dunbartonshire

CIH Scotland is part of the Governance Group for a partnership project between West Dunbartonshire Council and Action for Children focussing on early intervention with young people at risk of homelessness. The project, funded by the Big Lottery Fund, has been working with schools, community groups and the Housing Options team to test a range of interventions. The project will conclude in August and will report on outcomes and lessons learned.

Latest from CIH

A round up of some of our latest news, policy, blogs and publications

CIH Scotland responds to consultation on new Rented Sector Strategy

CIH Scotland has responded to the [Scottish Government consultation](#) on the rented sector setting out recommendations on where changes should be made to improve housing outcomes for all tenants. Specifically, CIH Scotland calls on the Government to ensure housing and home standards are equalised across the rented sector, that the Government develops a private rented sector charter which sets out tenants and landlords' responsibilities and that there is recognition and support for housing as a profession, as a means to improve housing standards. Read the full response [here](#).

This new [blog](#) by Ashley Campbell, CIH Scotland's policy manager, also takes a look at some of the findings from the second wave of the Rent Better research project and considers how standards in the private rented sector might be improved.

Blog: We're all getting older and we need to plan for the future

Dementia Awareness Week ran from 30 May to 5 June and in this new blog, CIH Scotland's policy manager Ashley Campbell takes a look at housing's role in supporting people to live well with [dementia](#).

Follow us on Twitter [@CIHScotland](#) for updates on our work on housing and dementia.

Blog: Latest statistics reveal impact of Covid on housing supply

This new blog by CIH Scotland's policy and practice officer Susanne Flynn provides a summary of the latest [housing statistics](#) for Scotland published by the Scottish Government.



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