

Focus on Influencing Scotland

MAY 2023



Chartered
Institute of
Housing
Scotland

CIH Scotland welcomes the commitment, from the First Minister, to the role housing will play over the next three years, as part of his first major policy statement on 18 April.

It is encouraging to hear the recommitment to the delivery of affordable and social housing and to new prevention of homelessness duties, both of which are crucially important to improve the housing system for everyone. However, beyond these specific policy measures, the announcement of three central missions: tackling poverty, building a green economy, and improving public services, all highlight the key role housing can and must play over the course of this Parliament.

We can't address poverty unless everyone has a safe affordable home, we can't build the green economy without investment and leadership from the housing sector, and we can't improve public services without making high quality housing a key tenant.

We look forward to continuing to work with the Scottish Government to ensure there is the appropriate leadership and funding at national and local level to achieve our shared ambitions for the housing sector.



Callum Chomczuk
National director, CIH Scotland
callum.chomczuk@cih.org

Influencing Our Influencing work

Housing Bill 2023

We have been invited to join a Scottish Government private rented sector (PRS) stakeholder group to provide feedback on proposals for rent control measures for the PRS expected to be included in the Housing Bill. We also met with Scottish Government staff in April to discuss wider measures that are likely to be included in the Bill.

We are planning a range of CIH member events and discussions to get your comments and ideas for the Housing Bill, to ensure that your priorities and expertise are reflected in the Bill. Look out for further details of how you can get involved in May.

Scotland's housing festival 2023

In March, around 800 housing professional attended Scotland's Housing Festival over 2 days at the SEC in Glasgow. The conference heard from the then Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government, Shona Robison MSP and Tenants Rights Minister Patrick Harvie MSP as we made the case for professional recognition of housing practitioners.

Housing to 2040 strategic board

The first meeting of the Housing to 2040 Strategic Board took place in March. The meeting was an opportunity to speak to ministers and officials about the shared priorities of the whole sector and how we work together to measure and track progress. The Strategic Board was co-chaired by the then Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government, Shona Robison MSP and Councillor Chalmers, COSLA Community Wellbeing Spokesperson. It is expected to meet three times per year.

Domestic abuse monitoring and implementation group

We continue to meet regularly with Scottish Government officials to discuss the implementation of the improving housing outcomes for women and children experiencing domestic abuse report. The Government has made a commitment to introducing a domestic abuse policy requirement in the upcoming Housing Bill, however we continue to push for further measures, including a national training resource for social landlords and a leaving fund that will allow victims financial support to set up a new home.

Housing and Dementia

We attended a Scottish Government roundtable in April to get an update on progress with the new National Dementia Strategy. This will be a 10-year strategy setting out the Scottish Government's vision for person-centred dementia diagnosis and care. We expect it to be published at the end of May and to be followed by a detailed delivery plan before the end of the year.

Latest from CIH

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

Social landlords failing domestic abuse survivors

A new report, [Policies not promises](#), published by Scottish Women's Aid (SWA) and the Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH) Scotland has found that the majority of social landlords in Scotland have not put in place adequate policies to support survivors of domestic abuse facing homelessness. Read more [here](#).

Not every house is a home....

In this [new opinion piece](#), published in the Herald, CIH Scotland chair and service manager for access and homelessness at Fife Council Gavin Smith examines what more needs to be done to deliver on the Scottish Government's ambition to end homelessness.

CIH Scotland response to proposed changes to the Additional Dwelling Supplement

[Read our response](#) to the Scottish Government consultation on proposed changes to the Land and Buildings Transaction Tax (LBTT) Additional Dwelling Supplement (ADS).

Ten year housing targets - the reality of dwindling affordable housing investment

In this [article](#) for Scottish Housing News, CIH policy advisor John Perry provides a Scotland-focused overview of the UK Housing Review.

CIH members can now download the [UK Housing Review](#) for free.



T: 0131 225 4544

E: scotland@cih.org

W: www.cih.org/scotland