

Focus on Influencing Scotland



Chartered
Institute of
Housing
Scotland

SEPTEMBER 2020

What we've been doing

Scottish Housing Day

The fifth annual Scottish Housing Day focussed on the value of social housing and we were pleased to see more organisations than ever take part with over 120 signing up to support the campaign. Many took to Twitter to share ideas and discuss social housing and you can catch up by searching for #ScottishHousingDay. A [special report](#) was published by the Scottish Housing Day group.

And CIH Scotland Director, Callum Chomczuk wrote an [opinion piece](#) highlighting the contribution that social housing makes to our communities.

We also hosted an online event with the Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning, Kevin Stewart MSP, Alison Watson, Director of Shelter Scotland and Leonora Montgomery, Chair of the Aberdeen Citywide Multi Storey Group. If you missed the event, you can access a recording [here](#).

Influencing

Homes at the Heart: a manifesto for Scotland's housing sector 2021-2026

In September we launched the CIH Scotland Manifesto calling for housing to be at the heart of our social and economic recovery from Covid-19 and to be prioritised in all party manifestos ahead of the Scottish Parliament elections next year.

You can read the manifesto [here](#).

And our press release [here](#).

Parliamentary evidence

The Scottish Parliament's Local Government and Communities Committee put out a call for evidence on the financial impact of Covid-19 on local authorities across Scotland. Our response highlights significant concerns around increasing rent arrears, the ability to deliver services, maintain and build new homes and increased pressure on homelessness services. You can read our submission [here](#).

Member briefings

What you need to know about the Programme for Government

The Programme for Government (PfG), [Protecting Scotland, Renewing Scotland](#), was introduced by the First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon on 1 September 2020. In her speech, the First Minister highlighted the need to continue focussing resources on dealing with the Coronavirus pandemic but also stressed that we are presented with an opportunity to make changes to the way that services are delivered and to create a greener, fairer Scotland.

Read the member only briefing [here](#).

In the media

Should the housing sector worry about the UK single market?

Earlier this month saw the UK government close their consultation on their Internal Market Bill. A piece of legislation most of the housing sector may understandably think was focused on homogeneity of food, drink and pharmaceuticals for international trade deals. But could the proposed Bill affect how [Scottish housing policy](#) is determined in the future?

A tribute to Alan Ferguson

Everyone associated with Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH) is saddened by the passing of our former Scotland director, [Alan Ferguson](#). Alan personified CIH in Scotland during 21 years with the organisation. His drive and enthusiasm for change were an integral part of leading the sector to support the end of the right to buy and increase professionalism for the entire housing sector in Scotland.

Improving housing outcomes for women and girls experiencing domestic abuse

Last summer the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government, Aileen Campbell MSP announced the creation of a Scottish Government working group to consider how Scotland could improve housing outcomes for women and children experiencing domestic abuse. This [blog](#) outlines the group's progress.

What's coming up

While some of our physical events have had to be postponed due to COVID-19, we have been busy developing a range of online conferences, webinars and training to keep you up to date with the latest developments.

Events

Scotland's Housing Leaders Exchange, 28 October 1:45pm – 5:00pm

New challenges need new solutions, new thinking, new ways of working. As organisations and teams work flat-out to respond to the ever-changing demands of the current pandemic alongside a rapidly changing social and economic environment, an investment into the future of leadership in housing is becoming increasingly important.

This new online event is free for CIH members.

View the programme and book your place [here](#).

Training courses

Introduction to social housing for new staff

Are you new to social housing in Scotland? This is the perfect two-day training course, spread over two sessions, for those who are working in the sector for the first time and want to broaden their understanding of social housing and its context in Scotland.

Find out more about [part 1](#) running 15 October.

And [part 2](#) running 22 October.

Scotland's Housing Leaders Exchange

28 October 2020 • 1.45pm - 5:00pm

Free for members
£50+VAT for non-members

Virtual event

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