# **Focus on Influencing** Scotland



FEBRUARY 2021

# What we've been doing

### What you need to know briefings

#### What you need to know about the Infrastructure Investment Plan

The Scottish Government published the Infrastructure Investment Plan (IIP) 2021/22-2025/26 on 4 February. The IIP sets out spending plans for affordable housing supply, energy efficiency and decarbonisation of heat. This 'what you need to know' briefing provides an overview of the key parts of the plan.

Download the briefing here.

#### What you need to know about the Independent Review on adult social care in Scotland

The Scottish Government published the findings from an **Independent Review of Adult** Social Care in Scotland on 3 February 2021. This 'what you need to know' briefing provides an overview of some of the main findings of the Review in relation to housing.

Download the briefing **here**.

### What you need to know about the draft Scottish Budget 2021-2022

The Scottish Government presented it's draft Budget for 2021-2022 to the Scottish Parliament on 28 January 2021. This 'what you need to know' briefing provides an overview of the main areas of the Budget which will have an impact on housing.

Download the briefing here.

Read our reaction to the Scottish Budget here.

#### What you need to know: new immigration rules after Brexit

This 'what you need to know' briefing focuses on some of the implications of new rules for the housing sector in Scotland following Brexit, namely eligibility and access to benefits for EU citizens and the need for EU nationals who wish to remain in the UK to make an application under the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) by 30 June 2021.

Download the briefing here.



#### What you need to know about the Unsuitable Accommodation Order Guidance

In May 2020 the Unsuitable Accommodation Order was extended to all homeless households in Scotland. This briefing summarises various amendments that have been introduced and new Scottish Government guidance setting out how the changes should be implemented.

Download the briefing **here**.

### CIH Scotland member survey

# Succession planning in Scotland's housing

Anecdotal information suggests that we will see a large number of people leaving the housing profession in the next five to ten years. This short member survey has been designed to find out what CIH Scotland can do to support

succession planning in the sector and how much interest there is amongst members for regular forums to share advice and good practice.

Take the survey **here**.

# **Influencing**

### In the media

CIH Scotland reacts to the Scottish Government's Infrastructure Investment Plan

The Scottish Government published the Infrastructure Investment Plan (IIP) 2021/22-2025/26 on 4 February. The IIP sets out spending plans for affordable housing supply, energy efficiency and decarbonisation of heat. The IIP announced a total budget of £3.3 billion for the Affordable Housing Supply Programme (AHSP) over the next five years.

Read our reaction to the plan here.

Affordable housing should be the 'cornerstone' of Scotland's Covid recovery, says joint letter to Kate Forbes

An alliance of more than 25 advocacy, support and housing organisations, including CIH Scotland, SFHA, Shelter Scotland, Citizens Advice Scotland and Scottish Women's Aid have written to Cabinet Secretary for Finance Kate Forbes, asking her to make social and affordable homes "the cornerstone of Scotland's recovery" in Scotland's budget. The letter states that greater supply of high-quality housing will impact directly on the population's "health, happiness and wellbeing" as well as reducing child poverty, improving mental and physical health, and helpin Scotland to meet its climate targets.

Read more **here**.

Read our response to the Budget announcement here.

T: 0131 225 4544

E: scotland@cih.org
W: www.cih.org/scotland

# 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**

Housing and Dementia Framework online workshop - 24 March 14:00 - 15:30

These free online workshops delivered in partnership with Healthcare Scotland's ihub, focus on practical aspects of the Housing and Dementia Framework based on feedback from the sector. If there is a topic you'd like to hear more about, please get in touch with our policy and practice manager Ashley Campbell ashley. campbell@coh.org

You can find out more and register for the next workshop <u>here</u>.

CIH Scotland's Housing festival, 09-10 March 2021, 09:30 - 17:00

Over our two-day iconic festival, we'll be bringing you the most thought-provoking and innovative sessions to get you inspired, energised and motivated.

Across the festival's main and supporting virtual stages, you'll hear from expert keynotes; get involved with top level debates; and speak with influential innovators from across the sector. There will be something for everyone – plus more exciting opportunities than ever to network at sessions like the Aico sponsored afternoon tea, and dedicated meet ups.

Find out more and book your tickets **here**.

