

# Focus on Influencing Scotland



Chartered  
Institute of  
Housing  
Scotland

## FEBRUARY 2022

At the beginning of February, we launched Walking the talk - An overview of the right to adequate housing and human rights issues for landlords in Scotland.

We know if someone does not have an adequate home, it is hard for them to exercise their other human rights, including the right to family life, privacy, work and health. Therefore, adequate housing should be central to any human rights discussions.

Our sector has a part to play, housing providers should be championing the need for an ongoing national dialogue on adequate housing, how it could be interpreted from a practical and operational perspective and the practical steps that could be taken to progress it considering available resources.

Amongst all of this it is of particular importance that progressing human rights takes place in a way in which vulnerable or disadvantaged groups are not left behind. We look forward to working with you to make sure the priorities of the housing sector are reflected as the Scottish Government develops and implements new human rights legislation, ensuring that housing is at the forefront.



**Callum Chomczuk**  
National director, CIH Scotland  
[callum.chomczuk@cih.org](mailto:callum.chomczuk@cih.org)

## Influencing Our Influencing work

### Whole Rented Sector

Following our report on the [whole rented sector](#), we have met with officials from the Scottish Government and back bench MSPs from the Scottish Greens, Scottish Labour and SNP to discuss our recommendations and make the case for recognition of housing professionals and housing CPD

### Domestic Abuse

We met with tenant rights minister Patrick Harvie MSP to discuss the progress of the monitoring and implementation group in embedding the recommendation of the improving housing outcomes report. The next meeting on the group will take place in February.

### National Care Service

We met with the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government Shona Robison MSP and minister for social care Kevin Stewart MSP to discuss the Scottish Government plan for a national care service alongside the CEs from Blackwood, Horizon Housing Association and Viewpoint Housing. We discussed the proposed national care services and the need to embed housing in the structures of any new model of care delivery.

### National Housing and Dementia Forum

The Forum co-chaired by CIH Scotland and the University of Stirling is continuing to gather evidence on the role of housing in supporting people living with dementia. The findings of the Forum will be reported to the Scottish Government later this year with a view to ensuring that housing is firmly embedded within the next iteration of the National Dementia Strategy.

## Latest from CIH

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

CIH Scotland launches *Walking the talk* - An overview of the right to adequate housing and human rights issues for landlords in Scotland.

*Walking the talk* was published on 27 January 2022 and officially launched at a webinar on 1 February. This publication provides landlords with an overview of housing and human rights within Scotland and includes a helpful checklist for human rights approach and principles.

The publication can be viewed [here](#).

There is also a summary version of the publication available [here](#).

### Will EESSH2 achieve net zero in social housing?

In January 2022, we held a CIH Ideas Lab with attendees from the sector in Scotland to look at progress towards EESSH2, elements of the standard, air quality, alignment with the net zero target, and how the standard fits with changes needed across other tenures. Further information and a link to the recording is available [here](#).

### Championing equality, diversity and inclusion in the housing profession

Callum Chomczuk, national director of CIH Scotland shares an update on CIH's commitment to build on the rich diversity of every individual in housing.

Read the article [here](#).

### Council planning, decision making and capacity in relation to net-zero: consultation response

[Response](#) to the consultation by the Scottish Parliament's Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee on the role of local authorities in supporting the target to reach net-zero emissions by 2045.

### Framework for the Resource Spending Review: consultation response

This is a [response](#) to the consultation by the Scottish Parliament's Finance and Public Administration Committee on the Scottish Government's Resource Spending Review Framework.

### Review of letting agent qualification 2022: research scope

This [document](#) sets out the scope for research into the impact of mandatory qualifications for letting agents that operate in Scotland.

### Esther Wilson's final CIH blog - reflecting on my time as chair of the CIH Scotland Board

Esther Wilson looks back over her time as chair of the CIH Scotland board between 2018 and 2021 in her final blog for CIH Scotland. Esther touches on some of the highlights from her time as chair. The blog is available [here](#).

---

T: **0131 225 4544**

E: [scotland@cih.org](mailto:scotland@cih.org)

W: [www.cih.org/scotland](http://www.cih.org/scotland)