



**An Gníomhaireacht  
Tithíochta**  
The Housing Agency

## Newsletter

September 2025

Welcome to the latest edition of The Housing Agency newsletter.

In this edition we spotlight our public awareness campaign highlighting disabled people's Journey to Independent Living, bring you details of upcoming information evenings for stakeholders in multi-unit developments and flag some of our recent research publications.

We hope you enjoy this newsletter. For the best viewing experience, please open it in your browser.

### Understand me, Include Me

“

Moving to my own accommodation where I'm living independently has been a wonderful thing for me.

”

Disabled people have a right to accessible information and communication to allow them to live independently.



**Home and  
Supports Hub**

Find out more



#journeytoindependentliving

### JOURNEY TO INDEPENDENT LIVING

## 'Understand Me, Include Me'

The National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027 sets out a clear vision – to support disabled people to live independently, with choice and control over where, how and with whom they live, and to make sure housing is accessible, inclusive and supported in the community.

A national campaign 'Understand me, Include me' a continuation of 'Journey to Independent Living' has been launched to raise awareness around the housing options

and associated supports that are available to disabled people who wish to live independently in their communities. A key element of this is communication and the accessibility of this. Everyone has the right to access information to help them make informed choices and participate fully in society. To find out more about independent living visit [www.HomeAndSupportsHub.ie](http://www.HomeAndSupportsHub.ie)

The campaign features four videos where Eoin, Richie, Helen and Gerry talk about their own individual journey to independent living.

**WATCH**

## Outreach Events for Stakeholders in Multi-Unit Developments

Wednesday, 10 September	Landmark Hotel, Carrick on Shannon
Wednesday, 17 September	Clayton Hotel, Galway
Wednesday, 24 September	Louis Fitzgerald Hotel, Newland's Cross, Dublin
Wednesday, 1 October	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Santry, Dublin
Wednesday, 15 October	Castletroy Park Hotel, Limerick
Wednesday, 22 October	Clayton Silver Springs Hotel, Cork

Events are free to attend and start at 7pm.  
To register and for more information please visit  
[www.housingagency.ie/news-and-events](http://www.housingagency.ie/news-and-events)



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## THE HOUSING AGENCY MUDs Outreach Events

Throughout September and October The Housing Agency is holding a series of outreach events for stakeholders in multi-unit developments (MUDs). Owners of apartments and homes in MUDs are invited to attend information evenings that aim to help them to take a full and active role in their owners' management company (OMC).

The number of apartments and MUDs in Ireland continues to grow and it is estimated that there may be as many as 10,000 OMCs operating nationally. OMCs are responsible for looking after the shared spaces, facilities and services in a housing development, such as an apartment block.

David Rouse, MUDs Adviser with The Housing Agency, explains: "The OMC is responsible for the repair and maintenance of the common areas of the estate, for example lifts, corridors, hallways, stairs, gardens and car parks. Services for which it is responsible include building insurance, security, cleaning and waste management."

OMCs can face a range of issues, from making sure all owners pay their annual service charge on time and in full, to establishing a building investment fund to replace parts of the building such as lifts and roofs.

Information evenings are taking place in Carrick on Shannon, Galway, Dublin, Limerick and Cork. While events are free to attend, registration is required.

[CLICK TO REGISTER](#)



## THE HOUSING AGENCY

# Community Gains Day

Over the last few years the staff of The Housing Agency have fundraised and volunteered their time for Community Gains Project. In July we helped refresh the outdoor spaces at St Michael's House Special School in Baldoyle, Dublin, a special needs school that provides incredible care and support to its students.

Together we planted flowers, painted fences and murals and tidied the grounds. We were especially honoured to help create a memorial rose garden, a quiet space for reflection and remembrance within the school.

Thank you to the school community at St Michael's House for their warm welcome. It was a privilege for our staff to contribute to such a meaningful project.

# UNLOCKING POTENTIAL



## A Comparative Analysis of Approved Housing Body Models in the European Union



RESEARCH PREPARED BY:



ON BEHALF OF:



An Ghníomhaireacht  
Tithíochta  
The Housing Agency

WITH THE SUPPORT AND COOPERATION OF:



### EUROPEAN RESEARCH

## Analysis of Approved Housing Body models in the EU

Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) are independent, not-for-profit organisations that provide affordable rented housing for people who cannot afford to pay private sector rents or buy their own homes.

The Housing Agency commissioned Housing Europe research to examine how AHB-type bodies operate elsewhere in the EU.

The research report, 'Unlocking Potential – A Comparative Analysis of Approved Housing Body Models in the European Union', looks at examples in Belgium, Denmark, Finland and the Netherlands and shines a light on approaches that are of note to housing policy and practice in Ireland.

[READ THE REPORT](#)



# EMBODIED CARBON AND THE CLIMATE IMPACT OF OUR HOUSING

Philip Comerford  
BArch MSc MRIAI



## NEW REPORT

### Climate Impact of Housing

The housing crisis and the climate crisis are intertwined, and we cannot solve one without addressing the other.

The Housing Agency has published a new report prepared by architect and UCD researcher Philip Comerford entitled 'Embodied Carbon and the Climate Impact of our Housing'.

Current regulations in Ireland focus mainly on the emissions created by the running of buildings, known as operational carbon and measured through the Building Energy Rating system. Less well understood is the carbon emitted through the construction and maintenance of buildings, known as embodied carbon.

An innovative aspect of this study is that, in addition to measuring the environmental impact of dwellings themselves, the surrounding neighbourhood is also considered together with its external landscaping and road infrastructure.

[READ THE REPORT](#)



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

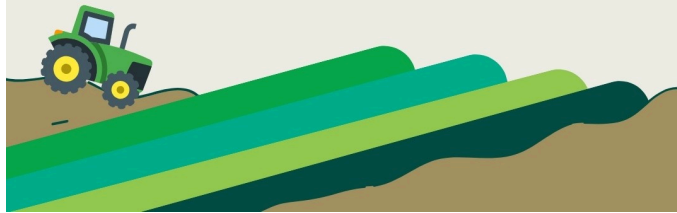


## National Ploughing Championships 2025

Government of Ireland Village

**16 - 18 SEPTEMBER 2025**

[gov.ie/ploughing](https://gov.ie/ploughing)



### NATIONAL PLOUGHING

## National Ploughing Championships 2025

The National Ploughing Championships return to Co Offaly this month for the first time in seven years and The Housing Agency will be there!

Running from September 16th -18th in Screggan, outside Tullamore, around a quarter of a million people are expected to attend.

The Housing Agency will have an exhibition stand in the Government of Ireland Village where the theme this year is 'Your Government, Your Community'. We will have staff on hand to talk about the work of the Agency, including the supports available to bring vacant and derelict homes back into use. Please drop by!



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## Housing Education Bursary Scheme



### EDUCATION

## Housing Agency Bursary

The Housing Agency Bursary scheme supports students and housing professionals to enrol in a range of courses.

There is still time to apply for the bursary to study for the Irish Council for Social Housing / Chartered Institute of Housing Level 4 Certificate in Housing which starts in January 2026. The closing date for applications is October 13th at 5pm.

Bursary awards are intended to support those who would otherwise be unable to secure funding for the full course fees from their organisation or other sources. Completed application forms should be returned to [training@housingagency.ie](mailto:training@housingagency.ie) by the closing date.

**APPLY NOW**

## Events and resources



### **Summary of Social Housing Assessments 2024**

The SSHA for 2024 gathers information provided by local authorities about households

### **Repair and Leasing Scheme, Call for Expressions of Interest**

The Housing Agency is currently seeking submissions for the Repair and Leasing

### **The Housing Manual**

The Housing Manual is a resource for housing practitioners as it includes circulars, guidance documents and toolkits from across the housing sector.

that are qualified for social housing support but whose social housing need is not currently being met.

### **Age Friendly Homes**

This website provides support and information on housing topics of relevance to older people

### **Affordablehomes.ie**

This website allows visitors to browse affordable purchase and cost rental homes in their area and see which developments are coming soon.

Scheme through an open Expression of Interest.

### **The Housing Training Network**

The Housing Training Network is a website that provides Housing Professionals with information on upcoming training, courses and events.

### **Home and Supports Hub**

The Home and Supports Hub website is a central resource which contains information, supports and services needed to access independent living.

### **Housing for all E-Zine**

Subscribe to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage newsletter at this link - [Housing for All E-Zine](#)

## **The Housing Agency**

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