



CIH Scotland: looking back on 2021

Introduction

2021 has been another busy year for the housing sector. This briefing gives an overview of some of the key policy developments and CIH Scotland publications throughout 2021.

Housing to 2040

The Scottish Government's 20 year vision for the housing sector, [Housing to 2040](#), was published in March, setting out an ambitious plan to improve standards across the whole housing sector.

Housing to 2040 includes a commitment to develop a shared understanding of 'affordability' and a commitment to develop a Whole Rented Sector Strategy, currently being consulted on.

We worked with members and stakeholders to develop a set of principles which should guide the discussion on affordability [and a briefing](#) setting out initial ideas on priorities for the Whole Rented Sector Strategy.

The Government has since increased the affordable housing target from 100,000 homes over ten years to 110,000 affordable homes, 70 percent of which should be for social rent.

Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Protection Bill

The Domestic Abuse (Scotland) (Protection) Bill was passed in March, giving greater power to landlords to evict the perpetrator of abuse without making the victim homeless. Read the What you Need to Know briefing [here](#).

National Housing and Dementia Forum

CIH Scotland was invited to co-chair a new National Housing and Dementia Forum. The group gathered evidence throughout 2021 and will report recommendations on the actions needed to support people with dementia to live well at home in 2022.

Evidence sessions covered:

- [Housing options and adaptations](#)
- [Access to advice and information](#)
- [Support for people living with dementia](#)
- [Moving home in later life](#)

Rapid Rehousing Transition Plans and housing options

In early 2021 we carried out a survey of local authorities across Scotland asking about progress with implementing Rapid Rehousing Transition Plans (RRTPs) and the impact of the pandemic. 30 local authorities responded, informing a [report and a set of recommendations](#) on what is needed to achieve the ambitions set out in RRTPs.

We are now working to progress recommendations in three key areas:

- Resources for RRTPs
- Monitoring and reporting
- Access to the PRS

Integration of people seeking protection and refugees

We worked with the Scottish Refugee Council to support the publication of updated guidance, [A housing practitioners' guide to integrating people seeking protection and refugees](#). The guidance gives a summary of the asylum process for new arrivals to the UK and includes practical examples and links to further information.

Scottish Housing Day

This year Scottish Housing Day took place on 15 September and focused on housing and the climate emergency. Over 130 organisations signed up to support the day, taking part in online events and social media activity. Research was commissioned looking at public awareness of and attitudes towards housing and the climate emergency for a [new report](#).

CIH Professional standards

The CIH professional standards build on seven characteristics developed, tested, and refined to enable members to think about their professional development needs. You can find out about the standards, assess your own performance against the standards and access a range of materials to support your professional development on the [CIH website](#).