



Irish Council
for Social Housing

Irish Council for Social Housing

Member Services 2018



The Irish Council for Social Housing (ICSH) is the national federation for housing associations. Our members collectively manage 32,000 homes and house 75,000 people including low-income families and individuals, homeless persons, people with a disability and older people. ICSH members operate in every local authority area in the country and in over 500 communities across Ireland. A key aspect of the ICSH's work is offering advice, support and assistance to members on any issues they may be facing.

We would urge all members to contact the ICSH throughout the year for advice or assistance on any issue that they may be dealing with. Full contact details of all ICSH staff are included. So please do not hesitate to contact us throughout 2018.



ICSH Services to Members

- Advice and guidance on housing finance, governance, development & management
- ICSH field advice service, visiting members and meeting with staff and directors
- Assistance with Residential Tenancies Board registration and disputes process
- Social Housing newsletter, ICSH briefing notes and email bulletin
- Garda vetting for staff and volunteers
- Group insurance facility
- ICSH website and Twitter (@icsh_ie) updated regularly with latest news
- Continuing Professional Development seminars
- Biennial National Social Housing and Housing Finance Conferences
- ICSH regional and county meetings
- Guidance on governance and ICSH Governance Support and Consultancy Service
- Guidance and support on collaboration initiatives
- Guidance on finance, property tax and exemption and other regulatory issues
- Representation on local, regional, national and EU fora

2017 Highlights



- 320 delegates attended the ICSH National Social Housing Conference in September 2017
- Outstanding Contributions from shortlisted housing associations for the Community Housing Awards were presented with their awards at the ICSH National Social Housing Conference
- Launch of Community Housing Awards 2017 Winners Brochure attended by Minister Damien English
- Informative One-Day Seminars delivered on Procurement and Compassion Fatigue
- Continued representation of sector on a number of national bodies
- AGM attended by Minister Eoghan Murphy and launch of the ICSH Annual Report 2016
- Over 650 staff and volunteers of ICSH members vetted through our Garda Vetting Service
- Third intake of students on the ICSH / CIH Level 4 Certificate for the Housing Profession, with a new class beginning the Certificate in October 2017
- Continued participation in HAPM, accounting for 18,806 units in the sector
- Over 100 representatives from housing associations across the country attended an ICSH & Residential Tenancies Board Joint Event
- 28,000 AHB tenancies registered with the RTB. Assistance and support was provided by the ICSH
- Continued analysis of *Rebuilding Ireland* progress and increased delivery by the sector
- Supporting housing associations with final registrations for the Residential Tenancies Board
- Governance and regulation support for members engaging with the VRC
- ICSH field advice service for members on management, financial compliance, development, governance and more
- Six regional meetings
- BHP continue to provide an excellent value group insurance scheme to ICSH members, now at 212 members, providing excellent service along with significant savings

Stakeholder Engagement

Submissions made by ICSH to Government with many outcomes sought being achieved:

- Briefing to Minister Eoghan Murphy
- Briefing to Minister Damien English
- Investment Framework for Credit Unions (CP109) submission to the Central Bank
- Submission to the CSO on the Review of the Sector
- Submissions on the National Planning Framework
- Pre-Budget Submission
- Submission and consultation on the Capital Plan
- Submission on the Rebuilding Ireland Housing Action Plan and Review
- Part V
- Review of the processes for approving and advancing housing construction projects
- Budget 2018 submission to the Department of Social Protection
- Homecare 2017 Submission to the Department of Health

The ICSH also sits on many fora representing the interests of members:

Housing for Older People Steering Group, Department of Housing and Health; DCC Strategic Housing Policy Committee; DCC Disability Steering Group; DCC Housing with Care Steering Group; RTB Legislation, Practice & Procedures Committee; RTB Research, Education & Awareness Committee; RTB Stakeholders Group; FEANTSA Housing Working Group; Housing Europe; Dublin Regional Homeless Executive; Housing Agency Board; Interim Regulation Committee

ICSH involvement in the Rebuilding Ireland includes representation on:

Dublin Taskforce; Cork Delivery Group; AHB Pillar 2 Working Group; AHB Services Unit Forum

Issues and Agenda for 2018

- Increased delivery of new homes: meeting targets set out in Rebuilding Ireland through CAS, CALF / P&A
- ICSH Finance and Development Conference 2018: 18th and 19th October 2018
- Continued roll-out of ICSH / CIH Certificate for the Housing Profession course
- Supporting partnerships, joint ventures and collaborations with local authorities and private sector
- Legislation on regulation
- Legislation on the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
- CSO recommendation to reclassify some Tier 3 housing associations as part of the local government sector & examination of status of Tier 1s and Tier 2s
- Transitional accommodation and services
- Continuing focus on governance and compliance issues for the sector
- Regional Meetings to be held around the country from April to June
- Continue to support members through the RTB registration process
- Rollout of EU Erasmus programme (TOP House) for special needs housing
- Development of new education and training events throughout the year
- Models for best practice: Tier 1 collaborative working
- Continued promotion and communication of sector activities





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