



An Ghníomhaireacht  
Tithíochta  
The Housing Agency

# National Housing Strategy for Disabled People

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# Strategy Overview



- The new National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027 was launched in **January 2022**
- Sets out the future plan for housing for disabled people over the **next 5 years**.
- Aims to build upon the work achieved through the previous National Housing Strategy for People with A Disability (2011-2016 (extended to 2021)).
- The new strategy is informed by the **UNCRPD**.

# UNCRPD



- The Strategy needed to be informed by the UNCRPD
  - Article 19 – Living independently and being included in the community
  - Article 4.3 - General Obligations
  - Article 9 - Accessibility
  - Article 28 – Adequate standard of living and social protection
- The Strategy preparation in the first instance needed to be consultative, participatory and reflective of disabled people's input.

# Language/Terminology



- So important to people and HA were tasked with making recommendations with regards to usage in the strategy
- Research and Consultation
- Use of different terms
  - Disabled People
  - People with an Intellectual Disability
  - People with Mental Health Difficulties or Psychosocial Disabilities

# Vision



## The Vision for the Strategy is:

To facilitate disabled people to live independently with the appropriate choices and control over where, how and with whom they live, promoting their inclusion in the community.

To further enable equal access for disabled people to housing with integrated support services.

Overarching principle of living independently in the community



# Implementation Plan



- Outlines the actions required to achieve each outcome under the various themes
- The strategy reaffirms that the **Housing and Disability Steering Groups** as the most effective forum for the delivery of the outcomes of the Strategy at a local level.
- Informed by several national policies including, Housing for All, Time to Move on, Disability Capacity Review, Sharing the Vision, Wasted Lives, and many more
- Due to be published by the end of 2022

# Housing and Disability Steering Groups (HDSG)



- Key to the delivery of the Strategy and its Implementation Plan at local level
- Detailed actions in the Implementation Plan
- New Terms of Reference, addressing issues such as:
  - Frequency of Meetings
  - Membership
  - Disabled Persons Organisation
  - Quarterly Reporting

# Housing Agency Role



- Enhanced to be more proactive
- Monitoring and Reporting on activity both directly related to the strategy but also on housing delivery
- Training and Information
- Coordination of various groups locally, regionally and nationally
- Producing accessible information



# Work to date 2022



- Strategy published and launched in January
- Implementation Plan Development
- Assisted Decision Making (Capacity) Act 2015 - Training
- Expansion of Mental Health Tenancy Sustainment Officers service
- HDSG quarterly reporting template
- Compiling data from LAs allocations for disabled people
- Revised Housing Options guide

# Tenancy Sustainment Officers (TSOs)



- The MHTSO role is being rolled out through the AHB sector.
- The TSOs will work with local authorities and AHBs to support people with psychosocial difficulties or mental health difficulties to **sustain their tenancies**.
- The TSOs will assist their clients with a range of things, such as
  - budgeting,
  - setting up utilities,
  - settling into their home,
  - accessing services they may require, and
  - helping them to sustain their tenancy into the future.
- Under the NHSDP, the number of TSOs will be 14 on a regional basis

# Work by year end



- Launch of the NHSDP's Implementation Plan
- Policy Mapping document
- NHSDP Awareness Campaign
  - Videos, advertising and posters
- Information and Communication Strategy
  - Guidelines for communicating with disabled people across various platforms
- HMD Form-1 Review



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# Thank You