



National Housing Training &
Development Programme



NHTDP 2017-18

Housing Policy Seminar Series

The Housing Policy Seminar Series comprises four one-day seminars for middle-management in the housing sections of Local Authorities [Grades 5-8] involved in the implementation of housing policy and practice.

Current housing policy and practice present Local Authorities [LAs] with challenges of an unprecedented nature – particularly for LAs in implementing the *Action Plan: For Housing and Homelessness*. The purpose of the Housing Policy Seminar Series is to raise awareness amongst key Local Authority housing staff who are involved in addressing new housing challenges.

The seminars will take the form of a presentation followed by a discussion on relevant themes associated with current housing policy and practice. Discussions will be moderated by Eddie Lewis, Associate Lecturer with the IPA and former Principal Officer, Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.

FOUR 1-DAY SEMINARS



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Dates and Venue:

17 October 2017:
Housing Strategy & the Policy Environment

28 November 2017:
The Housing Market

23 January 2018:
Housing Management

20 February 2018:
Housing Regulation & the Housing Authority

Venue:

Midlands Park Hotel, Town Centre,
Portlaoise, Co. Laois

Series Coordinator:

Eddie Lewis – elewis.ipa@gmail.com

Fees and Application

The cost of the Housing Policy Seminar Series is €600 per person for the four days. Bookings can be made online on the IPA website - www.ipa.ie



Course Requirements

As part of the Housing Policy Seminar Series participants will be invited to undertake a small group research exercise into some aspect of their work and to present their findings to the class.

Session 1: Housing Strategy & the Policy Environment

Policy is often driven by events; this is the reason why a strategy is needed - to provide a framework within which decision making can take place. In addition to the formulation of policy, it is equally important to have a good understanding of how ideas are converted into policies - and these in turn implemented.

Looking at the implementation of housing policy in Ireland, the nature of the relationship between central government and housing authorities is key. Housing practitioners are in the front line, frequently required to interpret the intent of the policy makers.

The first session of the Housing Policy Seminar Series considers the nature and direction of housing strategy in Ireland and how this translates into policy.

Session 2: The Housing Market

The provision of social and affordable housing does not take place in a vacuum. In the first instance one must explain how the different segments of the housing market fit together - and how the Government's vision that every household has access to secure, good quality and affordable housing in a sustainable community can be achieved.

This session looks at the demand for, and supply of, social and affordable housing and how this is linked to the overall functioning of the housing market.

Session 3: Housing Management

There is a danger of history repeating. Housing policy in Ireland must go beyond simply seeking out new sources of supply to address the current shortages. While the lack of output of social and affordable housing over the past seven years is at the heart of the current crisis, the traditional model of social housing provision needs to be critically examined and a new management structure put in place.

This session seeks to outline the policy framework governing the social housing reform agenda over the past decade and what opportunities exist for the future.

Session 4: Housing Regulation and the role of the Housing Authority

The role of the Housing Authority is changing. This is in part a response to the reforms taking place in local government generally, but also reflects the flood of new initiatives and policies that directly affect housing. As the different elements of the Housing [Miscellaneous Provisions] Acts 2009 – 2014 [and related legislation] are gradually brought into operation, a new regulatory environment is emerging.

This final session looks at the evolving regulatory environment within which Housing Authorities now operate - and considers what actions need to be taken to prepare Authorities to undertake their responsibilities under the new regime.

Course Details

The seminars will take place from 10.00am - 4.00pm with registration at 9.30am. Tea/Coffee and Lunch will be provided. Participants will receive seminar documentation on each of the days.