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INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION

**Housing
Forum**

Programme 2021
Supporting Housing For All

The Housing Forum is an initiative of the Institute of Public Administration in conjunction with the Housing Agency to create a platform from which persons working in housing can build their knowledge about what is happening in the sector. The Forum was successfully launched in August 2020 and has gone from strength to strength since. We hope to continue to grow the Forum in 2021 to meet the needs of our members.

The Housing Forum offers monthly online webinars; a repository of resource material including reports, research documents, and relevant housing literature and articles and a network for housing practitioners working across the public, voluntary and private housing sectors to develop a platform for best practice. The focus of the forum is on the implementation of government policy within an evolving regulatory framework and on the responsibilities of the various frontline bodies providing and managing housing. Forum membership is available to organisations and includes local authorities, housing associations, state bodies and private sector organisations including financial institutions.

Housing is important for the national economy and for society. The current government is faced with the need to design effective public policies and to create a supportive regulatory environment to meet the housing objectives set out in the programme for government. But getting the policy right is only the start of the process – it also has to be implemented. For this the key requirement is for a well-resourced body of housing professionals working mainly in local government and the voluntary sector.

Housing is a complex system, embedded in the economic and social system of the country. More than ever there is a requirement for knowledgeable, experienced and well-skilled individuals capable of making difficult decisions and providing key services to the public in a fair and efficient manner. The IPA Housing Forum provides such individuals with the information, knowledge and skills to undertake their challenging roles.



Membership 2021 (January – December)

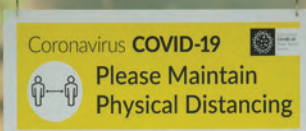
The Forum is open to organisations working in the housing area or with a special interest in housing. Member organisations will be entitled to register as many staff as they choose for our monthly webinars. A webinar link will be sent each month to the organisation's key contact to be disseminated internally for anyone who is working in or has an interest in the topic area.

Organisations are also entitled to nominate up to 10 persons to become full forum participants for the year. Forum participants will have access to the Participants' Area at <https://ipahousingforum.ie>. Full forum participants are entitled to:

- Access to all webinar recordings and material from 2020 and 2021.
- Access to a housing document database/repository where material from a wide-range of housing organisations on a number of different topics is available.
- Access to the Ask the Forum feature where participants can submit questions on practice or policy and we will find the right answer or contact for you.

In order to facilitate multiple individuals from within Local Authorities, Approved Housing Bodies, State Bodies and other public or private organisations to attend the Forum the fee is €2,000 per organisation. The final date to join the Forum is January 25th.

To join the IPA Housing Forum please visit <https://ipahousingforum.ie/membership>



Support Team

The Forum will be managed by a dedicated team within the IPA as well as expert input from the Housing Agency. Speakers will be drawn from among housing practitioners but also from state bodies and agencies, the voluntary sector and the academic world.

The main support teams in the IPA consist of:



Dr Philip Byrne

Philip is working with the IPA for over 28 years and is presently head of the Local Government Unit within the IPA and the Senior Local Government Specialist in the Institute where he is the Director of the key accredited programmes for local government staff.

Philip is responsible for managing a wide range of local authority housing practitioners training programmes and works closely with the DoHPLG and the Housing Agency in the provision of these programmes as well as chairing Cork County Council's Audit Committee. Philip also has considerable international experience, working for the IPA on a number of EU and Department of Foreign Affairs projects, as a Consultant and Trainer in the following countries: Gambia, Zambia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Latvia and Azerbaijan.



Cian Rohan

Cian Rohan is an Assistant Specialist with the Local Government Unit of the IPA and joined the Institute from Cork City Council in January 2020. Cian participates in the delivery of local government training programmes with a particular focus on housing training programmes. Cian completed his MA in International Relations at UCC in 2017. Cian is responsible for managing the Forum and will be your point-of-contact for any queries.



Eddie Lewis

Eddie Lewis is a lecturer on the Housing Studies courses in the IPA and author of Social Housing Policy in Ireland: New Directions. Formerly a Principal Officer in what is now the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government he has worked for many years on the development of housing policy.

The Forum will also be supported by staff from the Housing Agency.

Wednesday, 27 January 2021 | What the future holds for Housing Associations

With a new Approved Housing Bodies Regulatory Authority soon to be established as part of a fast changing environment, this webinar looks at the challenges facing housing associations with a specific focus on the inter-action with local authorities.

Wednesday, 24 February 2021 | An Evolving EU Housing Policy

Within the EU housing is a competence traditionally exercised at national and local levels. But increased engagement by the legal institutions of the EU as well as the provision of extra funding for housing and urban development has seen the EU take an enhanced role in the housing area. In this webinar we look at an evolving EU housing policy and what it might mean for Ireland.

Wednesday, 24 March 2021 | Asset Management and Housing Maintenance

How to change from a responsive housing maintenance regime to one that puts the long term protection of the housing stock at the heart of the actions of local authorities. The webinar looks at best practice and the experience of housing associations.

Dates for future webinars.

Wednesday, 28 April 2021	Wednesday, 29 September 2021
Wednesday, 26 May 2021	Wednesday, 27 October 2021
Wednesday, 23 June 2021	Wednesday, 24 November 2021
Wednesday, 28 July 2021	Wednesday, 15 December 2021
Wednesday, 25 August 2021	

Indicative topics

Topics for the rest of 2021 will be determined closer to the event. Feedback will be sought from the members of the IPA Housing Forum on the issues that they would like discussed. At this point some indicative subjects are set out and members are asked to indicate their interest or to suggest other topics:

- A Sustainable Rental Model for Social Housing
- The Housing Needs Assessment Process
- Housing Practice North and South
- Regulation of the Private Rental Sector
- Housing and the Green Agenda
- Planning and Land Management
- Housing Inequality in Ireland
- Sustainable Communities and Mixed Tenure Developments.