

Policy Forum for Ireland conference:

Next steps for housing in Ireland

Timing: Morning, Friday, 29th May 2026

Taking Place Online



Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior member of the Oireachtas
- 9.05 **Assessing key challenges for the housing sector and policy in Ireland - insights from the work of the Housing Commission**
John O'Connor, Chair, Investment and Development Committee, Land Development Agency; and former Chair, The Housing Commission
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Strategies for creating a pipeline of zoned land for residential use**
John Coleman, Chief Executive, Land Development Agency
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.50 **Enabling development at scale - 2030 housebuilding targets and long-term goals in Project Ireland 2040**
Senior representative, developers
- 10.00 **Practical steps for housing delivery - funding, support for the construction sector, and addressing infrastructure barriers**
priorities for delivery of 300,000 homes by 2030 | supporting resilience in the development sector | upscaling the construction workforce and retaining talent | funding schemes and structures | impact of planning reform | scope for further systemic reform | addressing infrastructure barriers | expectations for the Housing Activation Office | support for town and village development | priorities for regeneration | next steps for Urban Development Zones | delivering social housing | accessibility considerations for future housing | use of brownfield and in-fill sites
John Kelly, Manager, National Construction Training Campus
Senior representative, planning
Senior representative, infrastructure
Senior representative, local authority
- 10.20 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior member of the Oireachtas
- 10.50 Break
- 11.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Thomas Gould TD, Spokesperson on Urban Regeneration, Public Realm and Local Government, Sinn Féin
- 11.05 **Supporting the acceleration of housing supply**
Jim Baneham, Director, Delivery and Innovation, The Housing Agency
- 11.15 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.40 **Meeting local growth targets - regeneration, city development, and social housing delivery**
Brian Geaney, Assistant Chief Executive, Cork City Council
- 11.50 **Priorities for improving affordability and addressing homelessness concerns**
expectations for the forthcoming Child and Family Homelessness Action Plan | alignment with the European Affordable Homes Plan | assessing demand for social housing | delivering housing for the elderly and disabled | improving housing and tenancy affordability | support needed for Approved Housing Bodies and local authorities | priorities for tackling vacancy and dereliction | supporting homeless youth | next steps for the Housing First programme | increasing supply of starter homes | revision of the Help to Buy scheme | impact of Rent Pressure Zone rules | next steps for regulation and implementation of rental reform
Niamh Allen, Head, Advocacy and Research, Focus Ireland
Senior representative, approved housing body
Senior representative, affordability
Senior representative, rental
- 12.05 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Next steps for housing policy in Ireland**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Policy Forum for Ireland closing remarks**
Thomas Gould TD, Spokesperson on Urban Regeneration, Public Realm and Local Government, Sinn Féin
Harry Nelson, Policy Forum for Ireland