	Thurs 6th Nov 2025	
9:30 AM	**WELCOME + INTRODUCTION**	Wendy Austin, Conference Chair
9:40 AM	**OPENING ADDRESS- DELIVERING HOUSING IN AN UNSETTLED SOCIETY**	Dessie Donnelly, Director, Rabble Cooperative
10:10 AM	**PLANNING- 10 YEARS ON FROM DEVOLUTION- AND THE NEXT 10?**	
	Successes and Failings- s*tories of Local Development Plans in providing social and intermediate housing options? What has worked, what hasn't- what more can be done?*	Sam McKee, Director, Turley
	Where does the housing sector fit in? *A view on the social, economic and climatic impact of the social housing sector- is this recognised?*	Ciarán Fox, Director, The Royal Society of Ulster Architects
	Where should social housing in NI be in 2035?- *what does the next decade look like for housing demand and supply?*	Grainia Long, Chief Executive, NIHE
11:45 AM	**COMPLIANCE HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE**	
	Housing Regulation and Data Management Compliance- *How can housing associations be assured they are keeping their tenants safe- and keeping their organisational governance safe!*	Ryan Dempsey, Chief Executive, TCW
	What social landlords need to prepare for under Awaab's Law- *What will be the key demands of the new Awaab's Law on local social landlords?*	Mia Berry, Customer Success Manager, AICO
12:25 PM	**CONFRONTING A CRISIS - CHANGING THE TRAJECTORY**	
	How can NI turn a tipping point into a positive solution- *Summary on how a wastewater crisis can be turned into an economic, social, environmental and housing success*	Andrew Webb, Chief Economist, Grant Thornton
	The impact of investment boost in infrastructure to a city in housing need- *How housing in L/Derry has been impacted by lack of infrastructure and the positive outcomes from an investment boost*	Barry Kerr, Director of Development, Apex Housing
	Why innovative thinking and collaborative working can help build structure and homes- *pros and cons of proposed infrastructure investment solutions*	Gary Curran Director of Engineering & Sustainability, NIW
1:20 PM	**lunch**	
2:05 PM	**BREAKOUTS**	
	THE LEADERS' SESSION- CREATING HIGH PERFORMING BOARDS	
	The top 6 leadership challenges HA Boards & SMTs face- *what are the most common challenges and opportunities for leaders; how boards can excel as a high-performing teams*	Angela Currie, Chief Executive, Hanover Housing Association
	HOUSING AS A CAREER- panel debate	
	PANEL DEBATE: *3 snr staff of the sector debate their career paths and the opportunities and challenges for the next generation*	Alan McKeown, CEO, Woven Housing Laura O'Dowd, Director of Housing, Ark Housing Brendan Morrissey, Assistant Director of Customer and Communities, Clanmil Housing
3:00 PM	**TENANTS AS ADVISORS**	
	What are HAs trying to achieve when they involve tenants in decision making? *The pros and cons of including tenants as an integral part of the governance body - principle or pretension?*	Emma Nicholas, Tenant Activist, National Independent Tenant Voice, Cymru
	Why and how the tenant voice is essential: *Bobby McConnell shares his experience of being on Radius HA Board, how he contributes to good governance, what are the challenges of being a tenant board rep- and what are the advantages (for the housing association and for tenants).*	Bobby McConnell, Tenant Board Member, Radius Housing
	BUILDING BETTER LIVES, ENABLING INDEPENDENT LIVING	
	PANEL DEBATE: *An insight into Triangle Housing's Supported People Services- panel chat*	Clare Hall-Bready, Triangle Social Care Manager, Jessica Carson, Triangle Social Services Practitioner & Triangle tenants- Margaret Stewart and Emily Robinson
	BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE, BUILDING RESPECT & TRUST, BUILDING COMMON GROUND	
	How executive teams can be accountable not only for compliance and performance, but for social impact & community cohesion. *Why organisations need a cultural shift, where community investment is not seen as a cost centre, but as core business and where social housing must be more than a service – it must be a social mission.*	Mushtaq Khan, Chief Executive, Housing Diversity Network

	How Life was Changed in Leitrim. *The story of how a refugee born in a camp in war-torn Iraq on the day the Gulf War began, found a new home, a new place and common ground with new friends in Co Leitrim.*	Zak Moradi, Advocate and Advisor- Diversity, Equality, Integration and Inclusion
4:25 PM	**EMBEDDING ESG- IMPROVING OPERATIONS, BENEFITTING TENANTS, HELPING COMMUNITIES**	
	What has ESG & Sustainability Reporting done for us? – One housing association's story. *The promises, efforts & progress in relation to Link Housing's ESG activities and how the organisation is striving a more sustainable and inclusive future.*	Jon Turner, Chief Executive, Link Housing
	Why the Sustainability Reporting Standards is a vital lens, not an abstract task – *at a time when many Housing Associations are dealing with a combination of retrofit, carbon neutrality and tenant fuel poverty, along with other social pressures, ESG and SRS should be seen as a tool to support Board/ Management teams.*	Piers Williamson, Chair, Sustainability for Housing
5:10 PM	**CLOSING COMMENTS**	
5:15 PM	**END OF DAY 1**	
7:15 PM	**Conference Drinks Reception**	
8:15 PM	**Conference Dinner**	
	Fri 7th Nov 2025	
10:00 AM	**WELCOME + INTRODUCTION**	Wendy Austin, Conference Chair
10:05 AM	**HOUSING THOSE IN NEED - OVERCOMING PREJUDICE**	
	PANEL DEBATE: *panellists debate on what we need to do to overcome sectarianism in our society, an insight into some examples of people and organisations working together to overcome negative community perceptions of others, how housing allocations can help resolve or cause tensions within communities, the challenges of delivering homes to people in need when demand is greater than supply and when "local" needs are demanded above "new-comer" needs*	Zak Moradi, Advocate and Advisor- Diversity, Equality, Integration and Inclusion Mushtaq Khan, Chief Executive, Housing Diversity Network Kate McCauley, Chief Executive, Housing Rights Jennifer Hawthorne, Head of Communities, NIHE Pol Callaghan, Director of Housing & Customer Experience, Clanmil Housing Association
10:55 AM	**HISTORY OF SOCIAL HOUSING IN IRELAND**	
	Reeling in the Years: *Stories and Images on the Social Housing in N.Ireland and Rep of Ireland across the decades*	Hazel Bell, Chair, NIFHA Lyndsey Anderson, Housing Policy Specialist, ICSH
12:05 PM	**WHAT OUR SECTOR IS DOING AND CAN DO TO SUPPORT VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**	
	Providing support & prevention through practical policies for domestic abuse supports. *New consumer standards in England point to the role social landlords should play in supporting victim-survivors. This includes having a policy in place for recognising and responding to domestic abuse- will this become the norm in NI?*	Dr Kelly Henderson, Founder & Managing Director, Addressing Domestic Abuse
	NIHE's Domestic Abuse Action Plan- how can we expand the scheme to local HAs? *the impacts and the aspirations: How has the Sanctuary Project been delivered on the ground and how can we expand the scheme to local HAs...*	Helen Walsh; Homeless Policy Manager & Domestic Abuse Lead, NIHE
	Small grants support for domestic abuse victims seeking sanctuary. *Plans for vital supports for local housing association tenants*	Neville Armstrong, Chair, NIHACT
1:05 PM	**Closing Comments**	
1:10 PM	**CONFERENCE END / LUNCH**	