

Housing and social inclusion: how far have we come and how far have we to go

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Chief Executive Officer
Threshold

**Social Inclusion Forum
Conference**
22nd May 2019





Apartment to Rent

**Capital Dock,
Sir John Rogerson's
Quay, Grand Canal
Dock, Dublin 2**

€3,300 Per month

2 Beds; 2 Baths



Housing and Social Inclusion

- **Threshold's services: Prevention, Prevention, Prevention**
- **Key Housing issues and collaboration**
- **Best practice - Advice; Tenancy Protection Service; Representation at RTB and WRC hearings - and their promotion among NGOs and Statutory Bodies at local and national level**

Threshold's Services: Prevention, Prevention, Prevention



**▲ RENTING AND WORRIED ABOUT LOSING YOUR HOME?
GET ADVICE NOW FREEPHONE 1800 454 454**

FREEPHONE provided by the Tenancy Protection Service, Threshold, on behalf of the Dublin Local Authorities.
This initiative is supported by Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government and Department of Social Protection.



Key Housing issues and collaboration

- Prevention, Prevention, Prevention...better than Cure
- Evictions: Sale, renovation, landlord's family moving in, section 34(b) - 'no reason' evictions, affordability
- Ongoing: Deposit Protection Scheme, Standards / Repairs, High Rents emerging since 2013/14
- Housing Assistance Payment - Top Ups; refusal to accept it, which compounds existing discrimination
- Lack of Social Housing and over-reliance on Private Rented sector: problematic given issues above
- Need for affordable, secure, good quality housing

Key Housing issues



Collaboration

- Training for NGOs and local Statutory organisations including the Citizen's Information Board
- Scope for outreach services with local organisations
- Joint support for clients: legal, income, sustainment
- Joint advocacy work with like-minded NGOs on single themes / one-off pieces of work and ongoing work regarding homelessness policy
- The need for greater connection / traction with certain Local Authorities. Surprising given the need
- Local Homeless Fora: very varied experiences

Best Practice

- Advice (information provided by RTB) and outreach
- Tenancy Protection Service - the National Homeless Prevention Service in the Private Rented Sector. Protocol with DEASP regarding Rent Supplement. Need for protocol regarding HAP.
- Representation at RTB and WRC hearings
- Joint advocacy work with like-minded NGOs drawing on our Policy and Legal work - one-off; ongoing
- Promotion among NGOs and Statutory Bodies: Locally based NGOs, Local Authorities (including DRHE) and Departments of Housing and DEASP

‘All the training schemes, job activation programmes, participatory networks and similar initiatives will do little to reduce or eliminate poverty if a person cannot secure a home - at a rent / cost they can afford’



Thank you



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