



Department for

**Communities**

An Roinn

**Pobal**

Mánnystrie o

**Communities**

[www.communities-ni.gov.uk](http://www.communities-ni.gov.uk)

# Housing Supply Strategy

2022 to 2037

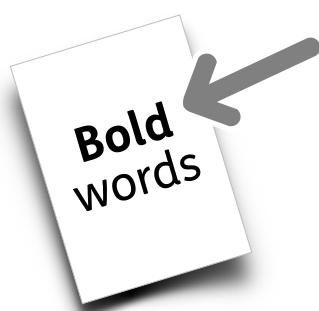


**easy  
read**



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In this easy read document, difficult words are in **bold**. We explain what these words mean in the sentence after they have been used.



Some words are blue and underlined. These are links which will go to another website which has more information.

# What do you think?



We would like to know what you think about this **strategy**.

A **strategy** is a plan of things to do over a period of time.



We have a survey with some questions on the strategy that can be found at:

[www.communities-ni.gov.uk/  
consultations/consultation-new-  
housing-supply-strategy](http://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-new-housing-supply-strategy)

# Introduction



The Department for Communities has written this **Housing Supply Strategy** for 2022 to 2037.

A **Housing Supply Strategy** explains our plans to build the houses we need here.



The Department for Communities is working to make sure there is enough good and suitable housing for people here.



We will do this by working with:

- other Government Departments.



- the private sector - this means businesses that are not part of the Government.



- the Voluntary and Community sector - this means organisations that are not part of the Government and are not run to make money, like charities.

## This strategy

This strategy explains:

- why we need more housing here.
- how we plan to provide the affordable homes that people want.
- how to stop people becoming **homeless**.  
**Homeless** means you don't have your own place to live.
- how we plan to improve the quality of homes.
- how we will build good communities that include everyone.





- how we will build houses in a way that is good for the planet.



- how we will make sure this work is done.



# Why we need new housing

## More older people and people living on their own



People are living longer, so there are more older people.

Older people want to carry on living independently in their own home for longer.



More people are living on their own.

This means that we need more homes.

## More people renting a home



Many people cannot afford to buy their own home. Instead they are renting a home.



This means we need more affordable and good quality homes for people.



## Not enough homes

Over the last 10 years we have not been providing enough new homes.



This means we need to provide more new homes.



# Providing homes people can afford

We will:



- find the money to provide more affordable homes where they are needed most.



- improve the way affordable homes are provided and looked after.



- look into how much people can afford to pay for their housing.



- set up a group of experts who will look into how we can plan new houses in the future.



- look at how Housing Associations can build more homes.



- look at ways to get permission to build on land in the areas where people need housing.



- help people who want to partly own their home and partly rent it.



- help people over age 55 to move to a home that is better for their needs.

# Stopping people from becoming homeless



We want to reduce the number of people who have no home by providing homes to people who need them most.



We will also work with the other services that support people who are homeless.



These include:

- mental health services.



- services for people who are addicted to drugs.



- services for people who have just left prison.



- services for disabled people.



We will:

- provide homes for the people who need them most.



- provide different types of homes that are good for people with different needs.



- improve how we stop people from becoming homeless.



- help the Housing Executive through supporting its plans for Irish travellers.



- support the Older People Strategy.



- deliver the Supporting People Programme.



- look at how we can give homes to people fairly.

# Better quality homes



We want all our homes to be good quality.



We will:

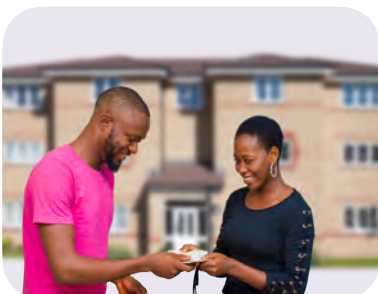
- look at the rules which say what a home should be like.



- improve the rules for builders when they build new homes. We will especially improve the rules about keeping new homes safe from fire.



- make some new laws that make sure that people are safe when they rent from a private landlord.



- help people to rent from a private landlord at an affordable rate.



- help the Housing Executive improve and look after its homes.



- look at how we design neighbourhoods to see if they can be better for more different communities of people.



# Communities



The way housing is designed in a neighbourhood affects how well the community works together.

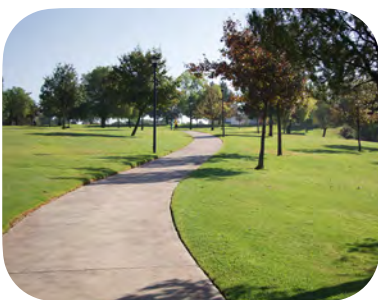


We want neighbourhoods to have a range of different housing that suits the different needs of people at different stages of their lives.



We want these neighbourhoods to be close to:

- jobs.



- **green spaces** where you can go to relax.

**Green spaces** are parks, woods and grassy areas.



- buses or trains.



- shops.



- community facilities like schools, libraries, sports centres and health centres.



We want to help local people be involved in designing new housing projects.

# Good for the planet



The whole planet is suffering from **climate change**.

**Climate change** is big changes in the weather. For example, storms getting worse than they used to be. Or having less rain in some places.



Climate change is being caused by certain types of **pollution** going into the air.

**Pollution** is dirty chemicals in the air that harm the space around us.



This pollution comes from the way we have been heating our homes. It also has come from the way we have been building houses.



We want to make sure that new homes are built in a way that doesn't cause more pollution.



We want new homes to be built so they stay warm without the need for a lot of heating.

We want new homes to be heated in ways that don't cause pollution.



The Government here will bring in new rules for building new homes, so that buildings are good for the planet.

# How we will make sure this work happens

We will make sure this work happens by:



- writing action plans, which explain who has to do what work, and when they have to do it



- working with other organisations. A lot of different organisations need to be involved to make this strategy work.



- thinking about how all the different organisations can work together to provide the housing we need.



- looking at the laws and Government rules that may affect how well we can build new housing. If any law or rule is stopping us from building the housing we need, we may have to change it.



- checking that we are being fair to everyone.



- writing reports which explain how well this strategy is working. The first report will be written just after March 2023.

# For more information



You can look at our website here:

[www.communities-ni.gov.uk/  
consultations/consultation-new-  
housing-supply-strategy](http://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-new-housing-supply-strategy)



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