



STRONGER TOGETHER

CONGRESS

Irish Congress of Trade Unions

How we can Resolve the Housing Crisis

January 23, 2018

CWU Conference Centre, Dublin 1

A major national conference that will examine how we can resolve the housing and homelessness crisis, featuring speakers from the key housing and homeless groups, major political parties, housing experts and trade unions.

**Organised by the Irish
Congress of Trade Unions**

Introduction

The housing and homelessness crisis is the defining issue of our time and demands an urgent and coherent national response. The crisis is not intractable, but its resolution will require significant policy change. A critical component of that resolution is the need to begin a major programme of public housing construction along with initiatives that will lead to the creation of a secure and sustainable housing system for all.

Winning this change is the central aim of the Congress housing campaign and one we believe will generate strong support across a wide alliance of political and civil society groupings.

Schedule

9.15am	Registration
9.45am	Developing the Charter for Housing Rights: Patricia King
9.55am	A Perfect Storm: Lorcan Sirr
10.15am	The Numbers Don't Add Up: Mel Reynolds
10.45am	Coffee Break
11am	On the Front Line Panel discussion with Mike Allen (Focus Ireland); Pat Doyle (Peter McVerry Trust); Niamh Randall (Simon Communities); John Mark McCafferty (Threshold) Chaired by Phil ni Sheaghda (INMO) <i>Followed by questions and discussion</i>
12 noon	The Political Response Panel discussion with Maria Bailey (FG); Eoin O'Broin (SF); Richard Boyd Barrett (People Before Profit); Barry Cowen (FF); Jan O'Sullivan (Labour) Chaired by Joe O'Flynn (SIPTU) <i>Followed by questions and discussion</i>
1.15pm	Closing Remarks: Sheila Nunan
	Lunch
	Conference closes

Speakers



Mike Allen is Director of Advocacy at Focus Ireland



Maria Bailey is a Fine Gael TD for Dún Laoghaire and Chair of the Oireachtas Committee on Housing, Planning, Community, and Local Government



Richard Boyd Barrett is the People Before Profit TD for Dún Laoghaire and the party spokesperson on Housing



Barry Cowen is a Fianna Fail TD for Offaly and the party spokesperson on Housing, Planning & Local Government

Speakers



Pat Doyle is Chief Executive of the Peter McVerry Trust



Patricia King is the General Secretary of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions



John-Mark McCafferty is the Chief Executive of Threshold



Sheila Nunan is the President of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions and General Secretary of the INTO



Phil ni Sheaghdha is the General Secretary of the INMO



Eoin O'Broin is a Sinn Fein TD for Dublin Mid West and the party spokesperson on Housing, Planning & Local Government and Waste Management policy



Joe O'Flynn is the General Secretary of SIPTU



Jan O'Sullivan is a Labour Party TD for Limerick City and the party spokesperson on Housing & Local Government, Enterprise & Innovation



Niamh Randall is Head of Policy & Communications for the Simon Communities



Mel Reynolds is a registered architect with more than 25 years' experience in project management, conservation, urban-design and housing



Lorcan Sirr is a lecturer in housing studies, urban economics and research methods in the School of Real Estate & Construction Economics at the Dublin Institute of Technology