

Agreed opposition party motion on housing

This Dáil notes that:

Access to secure and affordable housing is increasingly out of reach for many people from the locked out generation of students and young workers or unemployed people to older workers facing into retirement, high cost insecure accommodation is a reality for too many people

The failure of successive governments to provide an adequate supply of good quality public housing in sustainable communities lies at the heart of the housing crisis

The most graphic symptom of this crisis is the growing number of children living in emergency accommodation

A new approach to housing is required to meet the housing needs of all those locked out of the private market including young people, those on modest incomes, those on low pensions, those on Council waiting lists, travellers, people with disabilities, older people and students

Important proposals to address the Housing Crisis have been put forward by a wide variety of groups including the National Housing and Homeless Coalition and the **Irish Congress of Trade Unions**

This Dáil calls on Government to:

- Declare the housing and homeless crisis an emergency
- Dramatically increases the supply of social and affordable (including cost rental) housing by increasing capital spending on housing to €2.3bn in budget 2019; increase Part V requirements to 20% in standard developments & 30% in Strategic Development Zones; prioritise the delivery of public housing on public land; and aggressively target the return of vacant houses to active use
- Reduce the flow of adults and children into homelessness with emergency legislation to make it illegal for landlords, banks and investment funds to evict tenants and homeowners in mortgage distress into homelessness; provide real rent certainty by linking rent reviews to an index such as the CPI; introduce a target for ending long term homelessness and the need to sleep rough
- Hold a referendum to enshrine the right to housing in the Constitution