



SHWS

CONFERENCE 1996

**SCOTTISH
HOUSING**

WITH

SUPPORT

96 CONFERENCE

October 10 and 11

CRIEFF HYDRO HOTEL

Crieff, Perthshire

Programme

DAY ONE

10:00

Registration and coffee

11:15

Welcome and introduction to the workshops. *Derek Munn, formerly of Scottish Council for Single Homeless.*

11:30

Workshops: "If I had a blank cheque . . ." The newly established Scottish Parliament wants to make Scotland the envy of the world in housing with support – what would your advice be?

1:00

Lunch

2:30

Plenary session: Reversing social exclusion. Do efforts to meet housing and support requirements sometimes perpetuate social exclusion? How could we tackle this? *Cllr Brian Cavanagh, Chair of City of Edinburgh's Social Work Committee and member of CoSLA's Social Affairs Forum; and Maureen O'Neill, Director, Age Concern Scotland: Ageism and social exclusion.*

4:00

Tea

4:30

Briefing Sessions: Delegates attend one. Briefing sessions run until 6.00

Responding to the housing and support requirements of people from different ethnic communities: This session will consider the situation for communities in Scotland and the service provision issues raised, and will take as a project example Saffron, which works with homeless young people from different ethnic minority communities and cultural backgrounds in Glasgow. *Dipak Patel, Director, Lothian Racial Equality Council and Naheed Asghar, Project Worker, Saffron.*

OR

Disability rights and discrimination - housing and service provision: The new Disability Discrimination Act makes it unlawful to discriminate against disabled people in employment, service provision and other areas. This session will consider the legislation, and what its implications are for housing as a service provider. *Bill Fisher, Co-ordinator, Lothian Coalition of Disabled People, and representatives from City of Edinburgh Council.*

OR

Articulating homelessness: Members of the *Speakout!* group of homeless people will present a video of their work to date, outline the major demands in their Charter for Homeless People, and talk about their next steps forward.

6:45

Civic reception

7:30

Dinner and entertainment

AGENDA ITEM NO.

91

Programme ⁹²

DAY TWO

7:30 – 9:30

Breakfast

8:45

Conference desk opens

9:30 Workshops: Session A.

10:45

Coffee

11:15 Workshops: Session B

12:30

Lunch

2:00 Plenary: *No one said it would be easy!* Some innovative developments from America in home ownership, in supported living, and in support at work. *Linda Headland, Director, ELCAP*

Positive action against social exclusion: Dr Ann Rosengard, Freelance Researcher
Audience discussion.

3:30

Tea and Close

Inquiries and bookings to **Norma Jones, Jones Ogg Associates,**
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The Scottish Housing with Support Conference (formerly the Scottish Special Needs Housing Conference) provides a forum for discussion, debate, evaluation, training, information provision and exchange with particular emphasis on user views and involvement in order to improve policy and provision of services and resources.

The Scottish Housing with Support Conference Steering Group comprises representatives from the Chartered Institute of Housing in Scotland, Glasgow Council for the Voluntary Sector, Lothian Coalition of Disabled People, Scottish Association of Mental Health, Scottish Council for Single Homeless, Say Women, and the Special Needs Forum of the Scottish Federation of Housing Associations

Workshops

(some only run once)

1 Coping with loss and bereavement: Bereavement associated with the death of someone close is probably the most serious loss facing us all. Although inevitable, we are often quite unprepared for what lies ahead. In the field of housing this subject can often be overlooked, leaving staff wondering how to cope with those facing loss. This workshop will help you assess which aspects of loss and bereavement you or your staff might have to address in order to provide a quality-standard service. *Pam Falconer, Project Leader, Family Focus.*

2 Tenants' rights in supported housing: Does the nature of the service restrict tenants' rights? Your chance to identify and discuss the legal status, rights and responsibilities of those who live in supported housing and the rights and responsibilities of their landlords. *Derek O'Carroll, Director, Govan Law Centre.*

3 Disability and abuse: There are few statistics and little research about the effects of abuse on disabled people, but this does not mean it doesn't happen. This workshop will look at what is meant by abuse; the barriers which face disabled people in alleviating the situation; the support available; and what needs to be done in the future. *Barbara Howie, Communications & Resources Officer, Lothian Coalition of Disabled People.*

4 Tenant participation and values into action: This workshop is in two parts, each run as an independent session. Part 1 is a video and discussion on VIA's participation project with two English housing associations. This new video, produced with, by and for people with learning difficulties, focuses on tenant participation in housing and support arrangements. Part 2 will allow more in-depth discussion on supporting real participation and decision-making. *Stella Morris, Scottish Development Worker and Tony Ryan, Sheffield Participation Worker, Values Into Action.*

5 The Clubhouse Movement and housing services: This American initiative, now in the UK, works with people who have experienced mental health problems, to provide rehabilitative housing, day services and employment programmes with local employers. Staff familiarise themselves with the job then support the Clubhouse member undertaking the work. This workshop will describe the variety of services provided, how they are delivered, and how members are actively involved in service provision, pre-vocational employment, and independent living supported by each ●

Workshops

other and backed up by staff. *Marcus Gramps, Mental Health Services Manager, and Paul Finlay, member of the Clubhouse Movement.*

6 The role of advocacy in housing provision and support: This workshop focuses on advocacy and its principles. It looks at the role of the service provider as an advocate and the conflicts this can give rise to. It also considers the need for independent advocacy. Delegates will have the opportunity to consider appropriate involvement of an advocate and what issues arise in the housing setting. *Marcia Ramsay, Project Manager, Fife Advocacy Project.*

7 Unregistered housing and support - how is it monitored?: Intensive care levels do not always mean regulation. Going down the unregulated route can mean more personal money, better housing rights and easier fostering of independence. It might also involve a degree of risk, because traditional inspection does not take place. How are such unregistered services monitored and what is an acceptable degree of risk in housing and support provision? *Jane Ballantine, Senior Co-ordinator, with a tenant from Freespace.*

8 The needs of carers: There are an estimated 23,000 carers in the Highlands. The Highland Carers Project links carers throughout this rural community, enabling them to voice their concerns, to get their views heard and acted on, to work for better services and participate in local campaigns. This workshop will address how those planning and providing services can obtain the views of carers and respond to their needs. *Sheena Munro, Development Officer, with a carer from the Highland Carers' Project, Highland Community Care Forum.*

9 The Children (Scotland) Act and youth homelessness: The Children (Scotland) Act introduces new duties and powers on local authorities. This session will look at the implications of these changes and explore the potential for action in helping young homeless people. *Alice Ann Jackson and Robert Aldridge of the Scottish Youth Housing Network.*

10 Practical welfare benefits: With increasingly complex packages of support now being set up it is important that service providers are aware of the impact of change on the individual's ability to pay their way, and consider ways in which they can encourage take-up. The session will concentrate on maximising income for people living in housing with support, set in the framework of changes to state benefits and HB regulations, and changes in an individual's circumstances. *Bill Irvine, Welfare Rights Development Manager,*

South Lanarkshire Council.

11 Continuing care - rights to remain in hospital: Both NHS and local authorities have responsibilities for continuing care. And patients can appeal against clinical decisions on their continuing health care. This workshop will look at what this could mean in practice - How does the appeal mechanism fit in? How does the patient find an advocate? What do these rights mean in practice for purchasers? If housing with support is the solution, how can we ensure that it is there when needed? *Dr Alan Mordue, Consultant in Public Health Medicine, Borders Health.*

12 Findings of the Inquiry into Preventing Youth Homelessness: For the last year this national inquiry has taken evidence and submissions from homeless people and service providers across the UK, in an attempt to provide an accurate picture of the cause and scale of youth homelessness and to find affordable solutions. Its findings and recommendations will be published in September, and will be described and discussed in this workshop. *Speaker from the Inquiry.*

13 Planning and managing personal assistance: Disabled people who use personal assistants take on a range of new responsibilities as employers. This workshop will consider the practicalities involved in selecting and recruiting, and paying for a personal assistant. *Speakers from Lothian Centre for Integrated Living.*

14 Scottish Homes and Community Care: With a review of their three year-old policy currently underway, this workshop will look at its progress. This session will also afford workshop participants the opportunity to informally feed into the review process. *Stuart McKay, Policy Manager, Scottish Homes.*

15 The housing requirements of sex offenders: How do projects confront and deal with this issue, and what lessons can be learned from the work of organisations who try to provide housing solutions for this group? *Ruth Stark, Support Worker, Barony Housing Association.*

16 The Disabled Persons' Housing Service: With its focus firmly on enabling, this service was initiated and developed by users to increase the usage and recycling of housing to make it more available by influencing planning, design and adaption, and by helping individuals in a holistic one-stop shop way. *Archie Ramsay, Chair and founder member of DPAS.*