

County Clare Strategy for Housing People with a Disability



ACQUIRED
BRAIN INJURY
IRELAND



2022-2027

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1.0 Introduction

County Clare's Housing & Disability Steering Group has prepared a new action plan regarding housing persons in the County who are living with a disability.

The Steering Group is made up of representatives from Clare County Council's Housing Section, HSE, Approved Housing Bodies, Disabled Persons Representative Organisations, service providers and representatives with a Lived Experience.

The Terms of Reference for the Steering Group is outlined in Appendix 1.

The Group's goal is to meet the housing needs of disabled people locally, with a focus on forward planning, both in terms of need and having suitable houses and health and welfare supports available to meet that need in a timely manner.

Equality and human rights values, as detailed in Section 5, have motivated the priorities for the Strategy.

This Strategy was initially prepared in 2022 and subsequently reviewed and amended to take account of the second National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 – 2027 published in February 2022 and the National Implementation Plan published in June 2023. The actions listed in Table 3 reflect those to be progressed by Clare's Housing & Disability Steering Group during the period 2022-2027

This Strategy was adopted by Clare Co Council in March 2024.

2.0 Strategy Function

The Housing Disability Steering Group has a remit to deliver on the following themes supported by 27 Outcomes and 107 Actions.

Housing Disability Steering Groups have been identified as the lead body for 11 actions, partner in 19 actions and stakeholder in 34 actions.

Fig.1 Themes identified under the National housing Strategy for Disabled People.



3.0 Strategy Vision

To facilitate access for disabled people to the appropriate range of housing and related support services in a timely manner, delivered in an integrated and sustainable manner, which promotes equality and human rights, individual choice, and independent living.

4.0 Strategy Formulation

Several processes have informed the development of this strategy, which have been guided by the value of democracy, as summarised below:

- In terms of devising actions, it was agreed that there would be a focus on Added Value Actions, namely several actions that a particular focus will be placed upon beyond what is currently being provided.
- Public Sector Duty – A process was engaged with in respect of our obligation to fulfil the Public Sector Duty. Section 5 outlines how this has been achieved.

- The Clare Housing Disability Steering Group reviewed the Strategy in 2022 against the National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027 published in February 2022.
- Following the publication of the National Implementation Plan, the County Clare Housing Disability Steering Group completed a workshop facilitated by the Housing Agency in September 2023.

5.0 Public Sector Duty

The identified equality and human rights issues pertinent to this Strategy are outlined in Appendix 2, categorised under the equality and human rights values of Dignity, Inclusion, Social Justice, Democracy and Autonomy

These documents established the foundation from which the Steering Group has regard, in carrying out its function, to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity, and protect human rights for persons with a disability. The Steering Group was mindful of the principle of intersectionality, and the Strategy seeks to serve and resource the diversity of disabled people across the full range of groups covered by the Public Sector Duty.

At draft Strategy stage, the Steering Group completed a review to ensure that the equality and human rights identified for the Strategy had been addressed through the actions identified, and to determine as to whether there were any further equality and human rights issues of relevance to the Strategy.

6.0 Existing Service Provision

A high-level summary of statutory service provision is outlined below in tabular format and provides an indication of services provided by Clare County Council, HSE Adult Disability and HSE Mental Health, HSE Child Disability, regarding the scope of this Strategy. This exercise has allowed for a base line of services to be captured, by means of benchmarking the starting point for the Strategy and identifying potential current gaps in service provision in the County.

Clare County Council Housing Supports

Housing Supports	Referral/Pathway	Responsible Team	Service Capacity	Waiting List	Service Timeframe
Social Housing	Application	Housing Applications	Demand led.	Yes, inclusion on social housing waiting list	Within 12 weeks of application
Housing Assistance Payment	Application	HAP	Demand led. Dependent on availability of private rented accommodation.	n/a	n/a

Housing Supports	Referral/Pathway	Responsible Team	Service Capacity	Waiting List	Service Timeframe
Private Adaption Grants	Application	Housing Grants Team	Demand led.	n/a	n/a
Local Authority Adaptive Works	Application	Housing Grants and Capital Team	Demand led.	n/a	n/a
Homeless Services	Self-presentation or referral	Homeless Action Team	Demand led. Dependent on availability of suitable emergency accommodation	n/a	n/a
Housing First	Referral through Homeless Action Team	Homeless Action Team	Demand led. Dependent on supply of 1-bed units of accommodation	Yes. When designated by the Homeless Action Team	n/a
Tenancy Sustainment	Referral through Estate Management Officers	Tenancy Sustainment	Demand led	n/a	n/a
Affordable Housing	Application	Affordable Housing	Demand led	n/a	n/a

HSE Adult Disability

Supports	Referral/Pathway	Responsible Team	Service Capacity	Waiting List	What Types of tenancy work is delivered?
PA Supports (Physical and Sensory) and In home supports (All disability conditions)	PCCC referral form	HSE Disabilities	Demand led	Dependant on available resources	N/A
Residential Supports (ID)	Letter of referral	HSE Disabilities	Demand led	Dependant on funding and available resources	AHB/Council delivered tenancies
Residential Supports (ABI)	Letter of referral	HSE Disabilities	Demand led	Dependant on funding and available resources	AHB/Council delivered tenancies
De-congregation	Through service providers. There are 3 remaining congregated sites in the midwest, Lisnagry (Avista), Bawnmore	HSE Disabilities (National and Midwest Teams)	Demand led/Needs based	Dependant on funding, available resources and suitability	AHB/Council delivered tenancies

	(BOC) and Rathfredagh (Cheshire)				
U65 in nursing homes	HSE National survey/ direct contact through case management	HSE Disabilities (National and Midwest Teams)	Needs based/ Demand led	Dependant on funding, available resources and suitability	AHB/Council delivered tenancies

HSE Mental Health

Supports	Referral/Pathway	Responsible Team	Service Capacity	Waiting List	What Types of tenancy work is delivered?
Community Mental Health Centres (formally Day Hospitals) in Ennis, Shannon, Kilrush and Lisdoonvarna.	Direct referrals from General Practitioners	The Community Mental Health Teams attached to the Ennis, Shannon, Kilrush and Lisdoonvarna	Demand Lead	None	On the Shannon Community Mental Health Team there is a Housing Tenancy Support Team. Otherwise teams work closely with the local authorities housing bodies.

<p>Clare Rehabilitation and Recovery Team</p>	<p>Specialist mental health team working with service users with severe and enduring mental health issues.</p> <p>All referrals come from the Community Mental Health Teams.</p>	<p>The Clare Rehabilitation and Recovery Team, Cappahard Lodge, Ennis</p>	<p>Demand led</p>	<p>None. All referrals are screened and assessed to ensure suitability.</p>	<p>The Clare Rehabilitation and Recovery Team run a number of community residences some with full staffing and others with daily supports inputted from the team. Some of these facilities are currently being earmarked for the Change of Ownership Scheme to transfer to social housing under Sophia Housing.</p>
<p>Clare Psychiatry of Older Age Team</p>	<p>Referrals from General Practitioners of new patients 65 years or over or who have had no previous contact with the Community Mental</p>	<p>The Clare Psychiatry of Older Age Team, Gort Glos, Lifford Road, Ennis, Co Clare</p>	<p>Demand Lead</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Liaison with the Clare County Council Housing bodies.</p>

	Health Services for at least 10 years.				
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HSE Child Disability

Supports	Referral/Pathway	Responsible Team	Service Capacity	Waiting List	What Types of tenancy work is delivered?
Housing Support Letters	Family Request	CDNT	Demand led- impacted by staff	N/A	To be determined by Clare Co Council. CDNT advocates on an ongoing basis
HMD1	Family Request	CDNT	As above	N/A	As above
PT,OT & SW report	Family request/environmental risk identified by team	CDNT	As above	N/A	Process of escalation for these applications needs to be developed due to risks identified

Acquired Brain Injury Ireland

Supports	Referral/Pathway	Responsible Team	Service Capacity	Waiting List	What Types of tenancy work is delivered?
Residential, community & Assisted Living	Referral	ABI-Ireland-CHO3	24/7 Residential Care Demand Led	Yes	Anvers Housing provides accommodation when required and where housing stock is available

7.0 Current Disability Housing Need

Table 1 below records the number of applicants currently on Clare County Council's social housing waiting list who have a disability, distributed per disability category.

Table 1: Total Number of Applicants on Social Housing Waiting List according to Disability Category

(as of 7 Dec 2023)

Housing List Statistics		
Disability Category on Housing List	334	100.00%
Sensory	10	3
Physical	147	44
Intellectual	97	29
Mental	80	24

The total figure represents approximately 11.5% of the overall number on Clare County Council's social housing waiting list.

Table 2 below outlines the total number of applicants with a disability that had their accommodation needs fulfilled during 2022.

Table 2: Total Number of Applicants with a Disability with Accommodation Needs Fulfilled in 2022

	TOTAL
Physical	56
Sensory	6
Mental Health	18
Intellectual	14
TOTAL	94

The total figure represents 21% of the overall number of housing allocations made by Clare County Council in 2022.

In addition to the provision of social housing supports, adaptations to existing stock is an important function provided by the Housing Department in support of persons with a disability to continue to live independently in their own home. In 2022, 110 projects were completed on Clare County Council's own social housing stock through the Local Authority Adaptation Works Scheme at a total cost of €795,752 while through the suite of private adaptation grants, 415 grants were paid to the value of €3,076,738.

The delivery of new social units is achieved through direct construction programme, Part V, Turnkeys and Approved Housing Bodies.

An increased focus has been placed on maximising the number of level access units that are delivered through the above mechanisms. In addition, disability is a recognised priority category in respect of Clare County Council's Acquisition Programme.

In terms of Clare County Council's direct construction programme, physically adapted units are included within a scheme, based on verified need to the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage (DHLGH).

Clare County Council Social Delivery Build Targets 2022-2026

Social Housing Build Targets 2022-2026						
Year	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Total
Target	200	149	153	164	167	833

8.0 Objectives, Action Plan & Review

The second National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 – 2027 identifies six Themes which emerged during the consultation process. These themes take account of the outcomes needed to facilitate independent living:

Theme 1 Accessible Housing and Communities

Theme 2 Interagency Collaboration and the Provision of Supports

Theme 3 Affordability of Housing

Theme 4 Communication and Access to Information

Theme 5 Knowledge, Capacity and Expertise

Theme 6 Strategy Alignment

Table 3 outlines 20 actions aligned to the Themes National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 – 2027 that will be the focus for the County Clare Housing Disability Steering Group.

Attention on progress will be maintained through the Steering Group's quarterly meetings, with the objectives forming the set agenda items for the Steering Group's meetings during the lifetime of this Strategy.

Furthermore, the assessment of equality and human rights issues will also be apparent in implementing the Strategy, and progress on these issues will be tracked and reported on within the reporting procedures for the Strategy.

The examples of good practice will inform the development of the priority actions as appropriate.

Collaboration is highlighted as a core objective of this Strategy. All collaborative work will be underpinned by the values of data confidentiality and privacy and will be compliant with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

The Steering Group commits to further expand the participation of disabled people on the Group, in a manner that is both representative and accountable.

9.0 Implementation Structures

Implementation of the Strategy will be overseen by the Steering Group, which will meet quarterly. A Quarterly reporting template has been prepared by the Housing Agency to report on progress in the implementation of the National Implementation Plan.

Quarterly reports to the Housing and Social Strategic Policy Committee are now in place, with a fixed agenda item on Strategic Policy Committee meetings.

Review membership of local Housing Disability Steering Group in 2022

A review Terms of Reference and Review membership of local HDSG was completed in 2022.

The Terms of Reference have again been reviewed in 2023 to reflect the actions assigned to the Housing Disability Steering Group under the National Implementation Plan

Subgroups

The HDSG is proposing to establish a Subgroup between Clare Co Council and the HSE to formalise the pro-active interagency case management of social housing applicants with a disability, who require multi agency supports.

The Housing Disability Steering Group may establish further subgroups where it considers it appropriate.

Annual Programme of Work

The county Clare Housing Disability Steering Group will agree annually a programme of work, which will be informed by the actions under the National Implementation Plan for which it is the lead body, and which will identify specific initiatives to support these actions.

The Steering Group will also identify measures to support and monitor progress of actions where it is listed as a partner or stakeholder under the National Implementation Plan.

Table 3: Clare Housing Disability Steering Group Priority Actions

OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE	TIMEFRAME	National Strategy Theme
<i>Housing Supply</i>	1. To maximise delivery of accessible new social units through direct construction, Part V, Turnkeys, AHBs and acquisitions. Units to be specific to identified needs & approval secured from the Dept.	CCC/AHBs	2022-2027	Theme 1 Accessible Housing and Communities
	2. To ensure at least 15% of all housing supports provided annually are to applicants with a disability.	CCC	2022-2027	Theme 1 Accessible Housing and Communities
	3. 50% of the new pipeline delivery i.e., new schemes submitted to the department, meeting Universal Design standards.	CCC	2022-2027	Theme 1 Accessible Housing and Communities
	4. To participate, in Universal Design social housing projects with the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage with a view to informing national policy on the matter.	CCC	2022-2027	Theme 1 Accessible Housing and Communities

	<p>5. To sustain the level of budget provision in the County for adaptations, inclusive of central and local funding</p> <p>6. To compile a register of accessible/adapted social housing properties suitable for persons with a disability.</p> <p>7. Coordination between Local authority and HSE to plan and deliver on housing targets for disabled people in the community.</p> <p>8. Disabled People have access to affordable housing schemes.</p>	<p>CCC</p> <p>CCC</p> <p>CCC/HSE</p> <p>CCC</p>	<p>2022-2027</p> <p>2022-2024</p> <p>2022-2027</p> <p>2024-2027</p>	<p>Theme 1 Accessible Housing and Communities</p> <p>Theme 1 Accessible Housing and Communities</p> <p>Theme 1 Accessible Housing and Communities</p> <p>Theme 3 Affordability of Housing</p>
<p>Health & Care Services</p>	<p>9. HSE to provide and coordinate, within the resources available, and to track and report on the development of Disability and Mental Health Services in the County, with particular attention to priority areas as Tenancy Support Services (Mental</p>	<p>HSE</p>	<p>Quarterly</p>	<p>Theme 2 Interagency Collaboration and the Provision of Supports</p>

	<p>Health Services only), Social Care Providers, Personal Assistance Services, Rehabilitation Teams, and Respite Services. Engagement at national level would be pursued where the tracking and reporting identify shortages in the levels of services available.</p> <p>10. Working with service users to identify levels of need and aim to identify housing solutions at an early stage. Once the needs of the service user are established providing personal or in home supports to meet the individuals healthcare needs. These packages of care support will be reviewed as needed, having regard to budget.</p>	HSE	2022-2027	Theme 2 Interagency Collaboration and the Provision of Supports
<i>Collaboration</i>	<p>11. Establishment of a Disability Action Team (DAT) to facilitate structured shared forward planning in respect of applicants with a disability, and shared case management across the key services operating in the County. Appropriate housing solutions to be</p>	CCC/HSE	2023	Theme 2 Interagency Collaboration and the Provision of Supports

	<p>identified and pursued, including Group Living Schemes. Review of residents already housed in the community or community residences also to be undertaken by DAT. The operation of DAT will be in line with GDPR to ensure data confidentiality.</p> <p>12. Monitor and review the operation of interagency housing protocols, e.g., Hospital Discharge Policy, social housing application Medical Disability Form</p>	CCC/HSE	2022-2027	Theme 2 Interagency Collaboration and the Provision of Supports
Housing Pathway	<p>13. Improve information for people and their families/carers about how they can access housing, ensuring communication in accessible formats and through accessible channels. Undertake campaigns to promote applications for social housing supports from persons with a disability in conjunction with the local disability sector, with learning to be captured</p>	CCC	2022 -2027	Theme 4 Communication and Access to Information

	<p>from the IWA's 'Think Ahead, Think Housing' campaign.</p> <p>14. Creation of designated housing lead/s whose role is to coordinate and share knowledge on housing and overcome identified barriers to accessing services by a person with a disability and ensuring that reasonable accommodation is made in respect of service design and delivery.</p>	CCC	2024	Theme 2 Interagency Collaboration and the Provision of Supports
<i>Participation & Awareness</i>	<p>15. Improve how disabled people receive and get housing related information and supports by having a central point of contact (Housing Supports Officer) within the HSE. Develop/create accessible links between the HSE disabilities and Local authority housing websites.</p> <p>16. Dissemination of information on the work of the Housing Disability Steering Group to the identified</p>	HSE	2022-2027	Theme 4 Communication and Access to Information

	disability groups/persons, to promote information flows, transparency, and accountability.	CCC/HSE	Annual	Theme 4 Communication and Access to Information
	17. Complete training delivered by the Housing Agency on roles and responsibilities of each department and stakeholder.	CCC/HSE	2022-2027	Theme 5 Knowledge, Capacity and Expertise
	18. Complete training delivered by the Housing Agency required to implement Assisted Decision-Making Act 2015	CCC/HSE	2022-2027	Theme 5 Knowledge, Capacity and Expertise
	19. Implement local actions under the Information and Communications Strategy (Housing Agency to develop)	CCC/HSE	2022-2027	Theme 4 Communication and Access to Information

10.0 Housing Disability Steering Group Actions under National Housing Strategy for Disability 2022-2027 Implementation Plan

Summary of Actions where the Housing Disability Steering Group is the Lead body.

Theme 1 Accessible Housing and Communities

Outcome 1.4

Local Authorities strategically plan for the housing needs of disabled people in their administrative area.

Action 1.4.4

“All Stakeholders must assist to inform the local strategic planning for the changing community support needs of disabled people in the community and those who are living in the family home as their carers get older.”

Theme 2 Interagency Collaboration and the Provision of Supports

Outcome 2.3 Local authorities and the HSE work and collaborate efficiently, improving access to housing for disabled people.

Action 2.3.3 The Housing and Disability Steering Groups have been identified in both Housing for All and the new Strategy as key to the implementation of the Strategy at local level.

As a result, the following will be actioned:

- a) HDSGs will review their Terms of Reference and their frequency of meetings.
- b) HDSGs will review their membership and ensure there is representation from Disabled Persons Organisations (DPOs) on each group. Membership should be reviewed annually (or as deemed appropriate) to ensure that there is fair representation.
- c) HDSGs will report quarterly on their delivery, allocations, pipeline delivery and support packages.
- d) HDSGs will examine how members represent their sector and how the group supports members to report back to their sector.
- e) Establish subgroups of the HDSGs to deal with specific issues or groups, as appropriate.

- f) All stakeholders communicate on pipeline delivery to allow for effective planning including gains from the close working relationship.
- g) Ensure that delivery is provided in a co-ordinated way without competition for existing supply.
- h) A formal process will be put in place through The Housing Agency to allow HDSGs to escalate issues to be dealt with at a national level, as appropriate.
- i) HDSG to encourage and facilitate smaller specialised AHBs to undertake new projects.

Theme 4 Communication and Access to Information

Outcome 4.5 Better sharing of data to produce more collated data.

Action 4.5.5 Conduct a mapping exercise of county wide services under housing, health, and community for each county.

Theme 5 Knowledge, Capacity and Expertise

Outcome 5.1 Local authorities, the HSE and Approved Housing Bodies have the knowledge base, expertise, and capacity to provide services and relevant information to disabled people.

Action 5.1.5 HDSGs organise “shared learning” days in their local authority where representatives from LAs and disability services share learning with members.

Appendix 1: Terms of Reference Housing Disability Steering Group

(Reviewed - December 2023)

Housing and Disability Steering Groups were established in Local Authorities administrative areas under the National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2011-2016 {extended to 2021}.

The National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027 reaffirms the structure of the Housing and Disability Steering Group as the most effective forum for the delivery of the outcomes of the Strategy at local level.

The National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027 Implementation Plan identifies the Housing and Disability Steering Group as the lead body for 11 actions, partner in 19 and a stakeholder in a further 34 actions. The terms of reference will support the Housing and Disability Steering Group in the delivery of these actions.

The purpose of the group is to assist in the delivery of the Housing Strategy for Disabled People.

1. Membership

As per the National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027, membership of the Steering Group will be:

- Director of Housing Services in the local authority (Chair).
- HSE Community Health Organisation Area Manager or equivalent.
- Dedicated Housing Representative for Disability Service HSE.
- Dedicated Housing Representative for Mental Health Service HSE.
- Dedicated Housing Representative for Childrens Health Service HSE.
- Representatives from Disabled Persons Representative Organisations (DPROs).
- Representatives from service providers for disabled people
- Representatives of the Approved Housing Body sector.
- Representatives from the local authority, as appropriate.

Representatives should be at a senior level and should be competent in representing the needs of the various disability groups. Local authority representatives from relevant sections of the housing department such as Housing Allocation, Architects Department, Housing Development, Social Work etc. should attend meetings, where appropriate.

The term of the membership of the Steering Group will be 24 months and the membership will be reviewed annually (or sooner if required) to ensure that there is fair representation across the sector.

The criteria for the selection of the membership shall be as follows:

HSE Representatives – these individuals shall be nominated at CHO level. The request for the nomination will be sent by the Housing Agency to the HSE representatives on the National Housing Strategy Disabled People Subgroup. There will be a representative from Disability Services (Disability Manager) and Mental Health Services.

Disability Sector Representatives – The Chair of the HDSG will send invitations for Disability Sector representatives to the Head of Service in the Community Health Organisation Area. The Head of Service will nominate representatives on the basis of:

- The representatives from the voluntary sector will be agreed by the Head of Service with the Disability Umbrella organisations. The disability sector nominations represent their sector rather than just their organisation/local service.
- Representatives will have the requisite knowledge relevant to the remit of the group (housing for disabled people).

It should be noted that the disability sector representatives represent their sector rather than just their organisation.

Local Approved Housing Bodies Representatives – representation should be sought from the Approved Housing Bodies operating in the locality. The representatives should come from the general housing provision Approved Housing Bodies as well as from disability specific providers.

2. Role

The role of the Steering Group will include:

- a) Consulting with and advising the Local Authority on the local implementation of the National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027, including the housing of persons with disabilities transitioning from institutional care.
- b) Review the targets in the Local Strategic Plan to ensure that they are realistic yet challenging and that they result in increased delivery of appropriate/varied types of housing for people with disabilities, and to also ensure that while the targets are based on the identified need (Housing Waiting List) that they take cognisance of emerging need.
- c) To monitor the plan for delivery of social housing for disabled people against the targets set at each meeting. This will include the ongoing review of the Council and Approved Housing Bodies pipelines for delivery to allow for input into the appropriateness of developments for specific housing types.
- d) Developing, monitoring and reviewing of local interagency protocols, as appropriate.
- e) Working with all housing delivery agencies to promote the provision of housing for disabled people.
- f) Acting as a forum for the exchange of information and experience.
- g) Reporting to the Housing Subgroup as required.
- h) Provide feedback and constructive challenge as necessary to the Department of Housing regarding barriers that exist to meeting the housing requirements of people with disabilities.
- i) Periodic review of the Local Authority Housing Strategy for Disabled People.
- j) Working towards the progressive realisation of the housing-related provisions contained in Article 9(1)(a), Article 19(a), Article 28(1) and 28(2)(d) of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

3. Actions

The Steering Group are required to carry out the following actions:

- a) Engage with the Local Authority on its implementation of the National Guidelines for Housing Assessment and Allocation for disabled people including those transitioning from institutional settings to identify any obstacles or barriers in the implementation of the Guidelines.
- b) Assist all members of the group to gather and disseminate information.
- c) Report annually on allocations made in the previous calendar year to disabled people in each of the disability categories.
- d) Develop strategic implementation processes with the LA while also monitoring the implementation of the Local Authority Strategic Plan:
 - Ascertain with Housing Allocations Department the needs of the households on the Local Authority waiting list by grouping the need across the following categories:
 - No adaptations required (need maybe specific location or type of property such as ground floor accommodation or accommodation above ground floor but with lift access).
 - Minor level of Adaptations required (such as access ramps, grab rails).
 - Medium level of Adaptations required (such as level access shower, works such as door widening, minor structural work).
 - Major level of Adaptations/Purpose Built Accommodation (such as extensions, wheelchair liveable accommodation).
 - Devise means of planning for and meeting emerging need.
 - Provide information on need to the Local Authority regarding area of representation.
 - Identify possible supply opportunities in areas of identified need.
 - Consult on pipeline delivery (Local Authority, Part V's, Turnkeys and Approved Housing Bodies) and developing mechanisms to ensure that the pipeline for delivery will meet the need including specific design requirements.
- e) Complete a register of adapted properties suitable for people with a disability owned by the Local Authority and Approved Housing Bodies, this should include details of the adaptations made and any specific design required.
- f) Explore options for increasing the supply of housing for people with a disability being delivered by the private sector.

- g) Identify key barriers or challenges for disabled people accessing housing and if possible, addressing these issues at local level. If it is not a local issue, then the issue should be escalated to the Housing Subgroup for discussion and actioning if appropriate.
- h) The Housing and Disability Steering Groups are required to carry out actions as under the National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027 Implementation Plan.

4. Working Groups/Forums

The Steering Group may wish to establish working groups in order to progress the actions required. How the actions are progressed is an issue for the Steering Group to determine. The group may also wish to assist in the establishment of forums to ensure the views, issues and challenges of the sector more general are represented and that information from the group is disseminated to the sector.

5. Meetings

The Steering Group will meet a **minimum of four times** a year.

During certain stages of the implementation of the Strategy and the Strategic Plans there may be a requirement to meet more regularly.

Subgroups established will have their terms of reference agreed by the Housing Disability Steering Group.

Appendix 2 Assessment of Equality and Human Rights Issues

The assessment of equality and human rights issues has involved the identification of the issues faced by the groups (grounds) covered by the Duty and identified as applicable to the National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027.

The purpose of the assessment is to enable the Clare Housing Disability Steering Group to track its current responses to the issues identified and to further develop these responses as found to be necessary. The assessment process aims to further improve impact on equality and human rights.

The assessment has been completed under the Values framework outlined in section 4, and establishes the equality and human rights issues, relevant to the identified equality grounds, and functions of the Clare Housing Disability Steering Group, as captured in section 4.

The assessment is based on an examination of the following:

- I. Situation – refers to the disadvantage in the level and quality of resources the group can access, such as employment, housing, education and health.
- II. Experience – refers to the quality of the group’s engagement with wider society, including public services
- III. Identity – refers to the manner in which the group gives expression to its identity and the specific needs that arise from this diversity

Dignity:

Equality and human rights issues faced by the identified groups, relating to **dignity**, that have a relevance to the functions of the Clare Housing Disability Steering Group are:

- Prejudice and attitudinal barriers
- Breach of privacy and data confidentiality
- Expectations held by the identified groups, of discrimination and harassment and barriers to service provision that arise from these
- Discrimination

Inclusion:

Equality and human rights issues faced by the identified groups, relating to **inclusion**, that have a relevance to the functions of the Clare Housing Disability Steering Group are:

- Isolation, vulnerability, loneliness, and fear of crime
- Barriers to access services due to design, manner of delivery, and inflexibilities in meeting specific needs
- Lack of universal design, in particular for housing, buildings, public spaces, and IT infrastructure
- Barriers of communication, including issues such as lack of interpretation and translation and lack of accessible formats and media
- Lack of understanding, awareness, and recognition of diversity among service providers, and decision-makers
- Lack of attention to the specific needs of people at the intersections between the identified groups

Social Justice:

Equality and human rights issues faced by the identified groups, relating to **social justice**, that have a relevance to the functions of the Clare Housing Disability Steering Group are:

- Housing insecurity, poor quality housing conditions, access barriers due to housing design or lack of adaptation, and lack of appropriate accommodation
- Participation barriers due to digital literacy issues
- Participation barriers due to limited transport availability or accessibility

Democracy:

Equality and human rights issues faced by the identified groups, relating to **democracy**, that have a relevance to the functions of the Clare Housing Disability Steering Group are:

- Lack of opportunities to voice perspectives and lack of influence on decision-making
- Lack of capacity, including resources and organisation, to effectively represent the voice of identified groups
- Lack of knowledge due to inadequate information flows and inappropriate channels of communication used to reach the identified groups
- Lack of transparency and accountability on the part of decision-makers

Autonomy:

Equality and human rights issues faced by the identified groups, relating to **autonomy**, that have a relevance to the functions of the Clare Housing Disability Steering Group are:

- Absence of or limited options made available in services
- Lack of independence due to inadequate resources or inadequate supports.
- Congregated settings and forms of institutional care that limit choices and independence
- Lack of confidence and motivation in making choices