



# Delivering genuinely affordable homes in Northern Ireland

Skainos Centre, Belfast • Monday 14 October

Morning chair: professor **Paddy Gray**, Ulster University

Section 1:  
**Defining the problem**

Session includes:

- An update on government policy in this area from a senior representative from the **Department for Communities**
- Insights into the approach taken by the **Affordable Housing Commission** from the Commission secretary, **Paul Hackett**
- A Q&A session

Section 2:  
**Setting a baseline**

Session includes:

- Contribution from **Joe Frey**, UK **Collaborative Centre for Housing Evidence** (CaCHE) and **Dr Martina McAuley**, **Housing Rights** with the launch of CaCHE supported research on Local Housing Allowance rates in Northern Ireland
- An update from **Eileen Patterson**, **Chartered Institute of Housing NI** on CIH's Rethinking Social Housing project
- Discussion about the affordability issues in the owner occupied housing sector from **Co-ownership**
- A panel discussion including representatives from the **Equality Commission for Northern Ireland** and the **Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission**

Afternoon chair: **Gráinne Walsh**, Housing Rights

Section 3:  
**Approaches elsewhere**

Session includes:

- Insight from **Steve Stride** into the approach taken by **Poplar HARCA** in London
- An update on the **Wheatley Group's** experience of Midmarket Rent from **Tom Barclay**
- A Q&A session

Section 4:  
**Adapting an NI specific approach**

Session includes:

- Contribution from **Karen Smyth** at **NILGA** on the challenge and opportunities of planning for affordable housing
- A presentation from **Seán Cullen** at **Belfast Housing Lab** on a community based response to the affordability challenge
- A panel discussion