

Inclusion Scotland

**Freedom of Information
research into accessible
homes for disabled people in
Scotland**



Housing Background

- Inclusion Scotland believes that housing is one of the most basic human rights
- Lack of accessible housing = lack of full independent living
- Accessible homes are not 'special' they are a right

Inclusion
Scotland



Inclusion Scotland

Freedom of Information

- Inclusion Scotland contacted all 32 local authorities with an FOI request of specific questions on accessible housing for disabled people.
- 30 out of a possible 32 responded.



Inclusion Scotland

Number of disabled people

- Around 65% of local authorities who responded have not provided accurate estimates of the number of disabled people who are living in the local area.
- Accurate estimations - Aberdeen City Council, East Renfrewshire Council and Shetlands Islands Council
- Inaccurate estimations – Dundee City Council, East Ayrshire Council and Fife Council



Inclusion Scotland



Local unmet need

- 80% of councils provided an estimate of the number of disabled people in their area who needed designed or adapted housing.
- Argyll & Bute Council – estimate that they will need to build 900 accessible homes over next 5 years to meet the needs of disabled people.
- North Lanarkshire Council – estimate that they need an additional 613 homes to meet the needs of disabled people. However, they currently only have 222, leaving a shortfall of 391



Local unmet need

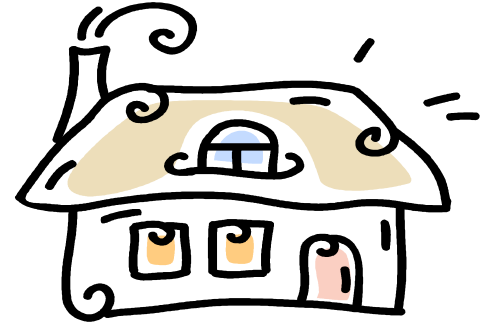
- South Lanarkshire Council – estimate that there are 631 disabled people currently on the waiting list for adaptations
- West Dunbartonshire Council – estimate that in 2008 there was a shortfall of 2158 accessible houses
- Those who could not provide us with estimates include Aberdeenshire, Angus and Midlothian Councils.



Average Waiting Period

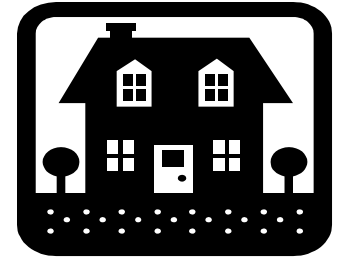
- Only one local authority could provide us with an average waiting period a disabled person would face before getting an accessible home.
- East Lothian Council stated that on average a disabled person would wait 65 weeks for an adapted home.

Inclusion Scotland



Needs being met?

- Not one local authority could state when the current needs of disabled people for housing designed or adapted to their needs will be met.



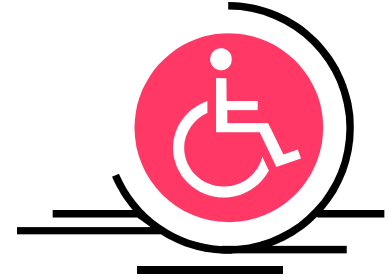
Building accessible homes

- Around 60% of local authorities provided estimates of how many fully accessible homes they have built since 2004. These include:
- Highland Council – 62 accessible homes
- North Lanarkshire Council – 10 accessible homes
- Renfrewshire Council – 29 accessible homes



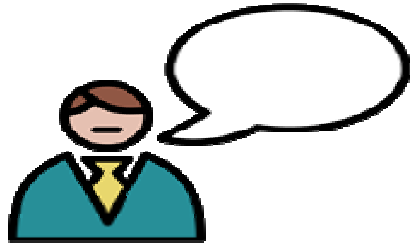
Building accessible homes

- Those who did not provide us with an estimate included Orkney, Perth & Kinross and Western Isles Councils.

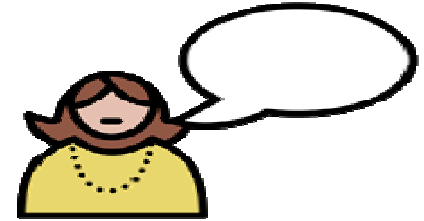


Fully wheelchair accessible quotas

- Four local authorities have made a commitment to ensure that at least 10% of all new builds are fully wheelchair accessible.
- These local authorities are Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow City Councils.



Inclusion Scotland



Involvement & consultation with disabled people

- Not one local authority could provide information on how disabled people are involved in gathering evidence on local housing need.

Inclusion Scotland Adaptations



- Around 90% of local authorities provided an estimate on what was spent on adapting homes since 2004
- Around 50% of local authorities state that it is their policy not to remove adaptations from homes
- Two local authorities admitted that it is policy to frequently remove adaptations from homes

Inclusion Scotland

Next Steps

- Join Contact 100 – get involved in engaging with the Scottish Government to get policies which will lead to real positive changes in the lives of disabled people
- Work with your local disability forum and local authority - use this report to bring housing issues to their attention
- Go to see your MSP and ask him/her to take up the issues raised in the report with your local council(s) and the Scottish Government and let us know what the response was!

**Inclusion
Scotland**

Thank You!

For more information on the report
contact

Donna McSwiggan

Tel: 0141 887 7058

E-mail:

information@inclusionsscotland.org