

# RAISE THE ROOF For Universal Public Housing!

The roots of the current housing crisis stretch back over fifty years to when government policy shifted towards a housing model where the private sector took on the primary responsibility for housing, as opposed to the state doing so.

To date over 225,000 public housing units have been privatised via tenant purchase schemes. Many of these homes are now being used to generate huge profits for rack-renting private landlords. The sell-off of our public housing stock has been exacerbated by the failure of recent governments to build enough new public housing.

Less than 10% of all housing is now publicly owned with the remaining 90% held in private hands. This imbalance is the **fundamental cause of the current housing crisis**. The private sector is inherently incapable of delivering stable long-term affordable housing to low and middle income families.

Last week 50 leading housing experts signed a letter in The Irish Times that called for a dramatic increase in the percentage of public housing within the overall housing stock to levels that are found in other European countries.

Housing has been Éirígí's priority campaign since the end of the Water Tax campaign. The attached leaflet was produced over two years ago. If the government had implemented our ideas then we'd already be on the way out of the housing crisis.

Éirígí is calling for the radical transformation of the housing sector through the creation of a new Universal Mixed Income Public Housing system which will be **open to everyone who needs a home**, regardless of their income. We estimate that at least 30% of the overall housing stock will need to be in public ownership to satisfy the demand for universal public housing.

At the moment only a handful of independent TDs support Universal Public Housing. **No political party with TDs in Leinster House supports Universal Mixed Income Public Housing.** This will have to change over the coming period if the housing crisis is to be permanently ended. So that means that **Labour, Sinn Féin, People Before Profit, The Green Party, The Social Democrats and Solidary need to change their housing policies** or the people need to change their TDs.

If you want to help Éirígí build support for the only solution that can actually deliver housing justice, please get in touch by emailing [info.eirigi@gmail.com](mailto:info.eirigi@gmail.com)

**[www.eirigi.org](http://www.eirigi.org)**

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