An tÚdarás Rialála Comhlachtaí Tithíochta Ceadaithe

Approved Housing Bodies Regulatory Authority



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ICSH Biennial Social Housing Conference Wednesday, 22nd September 2021

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The **Housing (Regulation of Approved Housing Bodies) Act 2019** provides for the regulation of Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) for the purposes of protecting housing assets provided or managed by such bodies.

It seeks to support stronger governance, financial management and reporting, property and asset management, and tenancy management by AHBs, with a focus on safeguarding investment being made in the delivery of social housing by AHBs. **Central to this**, is the establishment of the Approved Housing Bodies Regulatory Authority.

Approved Housing Bodies Regulatory Authority



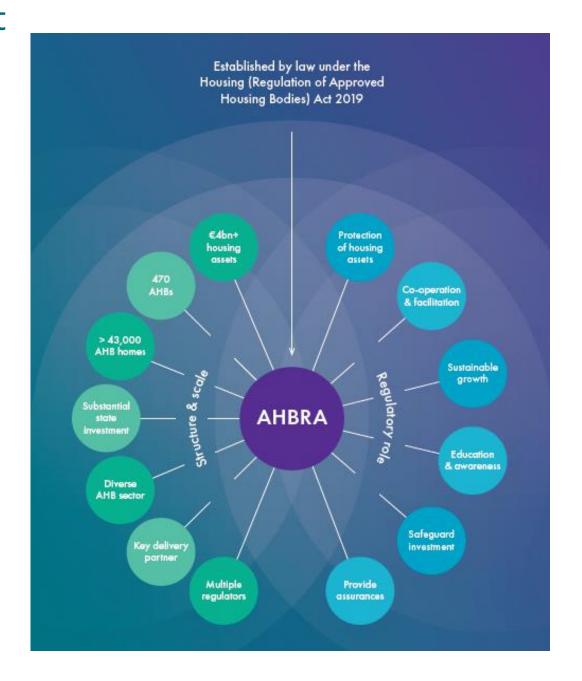
AHBs play a vital role in the provision of social housing in Ireland. This important not-for-profit sector continues to expand significantly and play a leading role in the supply of new social housing.

Statutory regulation will be positive for AHBs, tenants, potential investors and other tenants, potential investors and other stakeholders. It will enable the protection of stakeholders. It will enable the protection of housing assets, safeguard public investment, housing assets, safeguard public investment and promote housing private investment and provision of encourage private investment in the provision of long-term strategic thinking in the provision social housing.

....increased demand for housing, the change in funding mechanisms and the requirement for the funding mechanisms and the requirement funding mechanisms and the requirement for the funding mechanisms and the requirement funding mechanisms are diversified funding funding funding mechanisms.

Experience in other jurisdictions has indicated that well-designed regulation can foster stakeholders' confidence and create an environment that encourages growth and innovation.

Regulatory context



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AHBRAs Functions



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AHBRA's Vision and Mission



Our vision is of a sector in which AHBs demonstrate best practice in the areas of governance, finance, property and tenancy management and who provide quality homes for their tenants.



Our mission is to protect housing provided and managed by AHBs, through effective regulation.

Diversity of the AHB Sector

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The Sector

- Approx. 450+ AHBs on DHLGH register
- Sector diversified & layered
- Historically grant funded, majority AHBs reliant on Government funding
- Concentrated growth reliance on a few AHBs
- Independent legal entities, mainly with Charitable status
- O Changing profile of the sector, delivery and financing
- Sustainability and viability is vital

Differing delivery models

- Small cohort of large and developing AHBs
- Care & Support AHBs mainly funded by HSE, housing minor element
- Homelessness AHBs reliant on multiple funders, including fundraising
- Small AHBs account for high volume of AHBs but not stock

Sustainability through effective Regulation



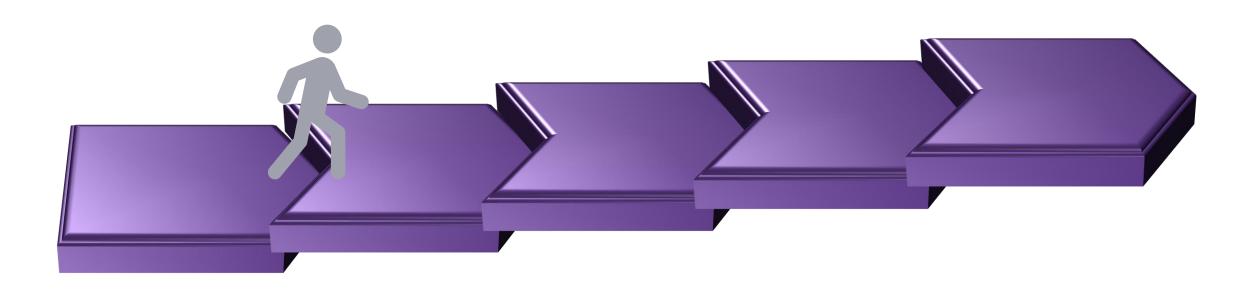
- ☐ Good governance is corner stone to sustainability
- ☐ Financial viability critical
- ☐ Provision and management of existing homes
- Demonstrating viability for the longer-term
- □ Assisting tenants in the sustainability of their homes
- ☐ Growth must be planned and sustainable
- Demonstrating capacity and capability

Ensuring the sustainability of both current and future homes

A phased approach

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Regulatory Authority



Communication & Awareness

Strategic Statement **Draft Standards**

Education & Guidance

Regulatory Framework & Approach

Regulatory Framework



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Important Timelines

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July 2021

6 Months
Timeframe

December 2021

- ✓ AHBRA- phased approach
- √ Familiarise yourselves with Draft Standards
 - Attend Webinars
 - Understand the wider regulatory framework
 - Make representations, as appropriate
 - Engage with the Regulator
- ✓ Ensuring good governance, financial viability, with a focus on tenants, property and asset management = Sustainable organisations
- ✓ We will continue to actively communicate

Contact Details

An tÚdarás Rialála Comhlachtaí Tithíochta Ceadaithe Approved Housing Bodies Regulatory Authority

Key contact details:

For general queries contact info@ahbregulator.ie

To join our webinars/mailing list contact communications@ahbregulator.ie

For continuous updates please view our website: www.ahbregulator.ie



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THANK YOU