National Housing Strategy for People with a Disability 2011-2016 Department of Environment, Community and Local Government (2011)

Vision: To facilitate access, for people with disabilities, to the appropriate range of housing and related support services, delivered in an integrated and sustained manner, which promotes equality of opportunity, individual choice and independent living

Strategic Aims:

1. To promote and mainstream equality of access for people with a disability to the full range of housing options available suited to individual and household need.

"In particular, newer delivery mechanisms such as the Rental Accommodation Scheme and the Social Housing Leasing Initiative will be examined to ensure that their potential is fully maximised." p.8

- 2. To develop national protocols and frameworks for effective interagency cooperation which will facilitate person-centred delivery of housing and relevant support services.
- 3. To support people with a disability to live independently in their own homes and communities, where appropriate.
- 4. To address the specific housing needs of people with an intellectual and/or physical disability, moving from congregated settings in line with good practice, including through the development of frameworks to facilitate housing in the community. *"…individual tenancy arrangements will be provided to everyone leaving a congregated setting whose needs are capable of being met in community based settings"* p. 10
- 5. To address the specific housing needs of people with a mental health disability, including through the development of frameworks to facilitate housing in the community, for people with low and medium support needs moving from mental health facilities, in line with good practice.
- 6. To consider good practice in the design, coordination and delivery of housing and related supports.

"... a focus on a number of key areas, including, design of housing, person-centred responses, information provision and interagency co-operation."

7. To facilitate people with a disability to access appropriate advice and information in respect of their housing needs.

"The provision of information, advice and advocacy are key components to facilitate equality of access to housing and related support services"

- 8. To improve the collection and use of data/information regarding the nature and extent of the housing needs of people with a disability.
- 9. To provide a framework to support the delivery, monitoring and review of agreed actions.

This document was produced as an aide memoire for the participants of Next Steps Project. It provides a summary of the Strategic Aims of the National Housing Strategy for People with a Disability 2011-2016. It is not intended to be a full account of the policy. To read the full strategy, please go to the following link: <u>http://www.environ.ie/en/DevelopmentHousing/Housing/SpecialNeeds/PeoplewithaDisability/News/MainBody,2</u> 8018,en.htm