**Accessible Housing for All – we want to hear from you**

It is not right that in 2018, thousands of disabled people have to live in a care home because of a lack of accessible housing. It’s not right that instead of enjoying our right to live and participate in the community, too many disabled people are living in housing that does not meet our needs. Without accessible, affordable housing, coupled with properly funded social care that respects our human rights, disabled people will not be able to enjoy our human right to independent living, or our human rights to a private and family life, and we’d find it harder to access education, employment, social and recreational activities.



Housing really is at the heart of independent living. That’s why, as a disabled person, on behalf of the Scottish Labour Party, I am taking this issue out into living rooms, communities, town halls, organisations and the streets right across Scotland in a nation-wide consultation on accessible housing. Scottish Labour are putting accessible housing at the heart of our policy programme, and we need your help.

**Over the next 3 months, we want to hear from you.**  Whether you are a disabled person, a family friend, colleague, a service provider, a house builder, a local authority or just someone who wants to be heard on this issue, we need to hear from you, because together we can change housing in Scotland for the many, not the few.

**Have your say on what needs to be done to ensure disabled people can enjoy our right to a safe, affordable, accessible home, you can:**

* Fill in this questionnaire
* Email your thoughts to this address
* Invite us to come to speak with you, either at an event you are hosting, or one to one

**We hope to hear from you soon. You can respond up until the 22nd of February 2019.**

**Questionnaire page 1**

Not all questions will apply to everyone. Please just answer the ones that you feel you can or are relevant to you.

**We want to understand what it is really like for disabled people to find safe, accessible, affordable homes. Please use the next few questions to help us do that:**

1. Can you tell us a bit about your experience of housing as a disabled person/family friend/carer/partner? You can include good and bad experiences
2. When you were buying/renting your home, did you have any choice over where you could stay? Were there options for you?
3. Do you feel safe where you live?
4. Do you have access to things like transport, or shops near to where you live?
5. What is it like to rent a home from a private landlord if you are a disabled person, for example, were you able to find a home easily, were you able to adapt it (if you need to)?
6. What is it like to rent a home from a housing association or council if you are a disabled person?
7. Are there any barriers to disabled people buying their own homes?
   1. If yes, what are they?
8. Have you ever used a Factor?
   1. If yes, did they help with any disability related issues?
9. Are you aware of any support available to help disabled people with housing issues?
10. Did someone help you find accessible housing?
    1. If yes who helped you?

**Questionnaire page 2**

**We know that the current situation for disabled people on hsouing isn’t good enough. Please use the next few questions to tell us what do you think needs to happen to make sure disabled people can access affordable, accessible, safe and secure homes?**

1. What do you think we should do to make sure we have enough accessible houses? Please think about how we could use the law, or work with housing providers, as well as how we could make sure that ‘accessible’ really is ‘accessible’.
   1. How could we make the best use of the houses we have?
   2. Should house builders be required to build a proportion of their homes to an accessible standard?
      1. If yes, what should that standard be?
2. Who do you think should be providing support to disabled people to find the right home for them?
3. Who should be involved in setting standards for accessible housing?
4. What could we do to help disabled people in the private renting sector?
5. What could we do to help disabled people buy their own homes?
6. What needs to be done to help disabled people who own their homes, and who need help to make them accessible?

**Questionnaire page 3**

**Thank you for telling us your story and telling us what you think needs to change so that disabled people can enjoy their right to an affordable, accessible, safe and secure home. We will use the information you have given us to help form Scottish Labour’s policy on housing.**

**Please tell us a bit about you:**

1. What is your name?
2. What is your email address?
3. What is your phone number?
4. Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?
   1. If so, what is the name of the organisation?
5. How did you find out about this consultation?