

# Scotland's housing for disabled people – the Facts

## There is not enough housing in Scotland that is wheelchair accessible:

Around **6.4%** of the Scottish population uses a wheelchair or mobility aid, and around **14%** of households in Scotland include someone who uses a wheelchair or mobility aid



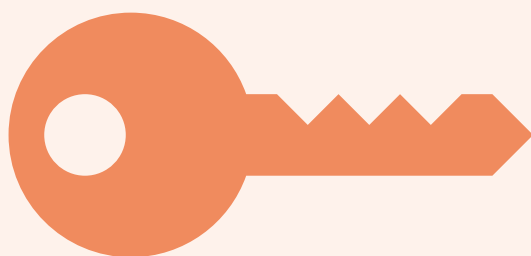
**1 in 4** indoor wheelchair users say their home is not suitable for their needs

## OVER 17,000

wheelchair users across Scotland have unmet housing needs

Only **0.7%** of Scottish local authority housing, and **1.5%** of housing association property, is accessible for wheelchair users

In the period **2002-2009**, an average of **162** fully wheelchair user accessible new homes were provided per annum in the social rented sector; this is, on average, **3.4%** of the affordable housing supply programme for social rent



## The need for housing suitable for disabled people is not a minority or specialist issue:

**20%** of Scotland's adult population are disabled

**1/3** of households contain at least one person with a long-standing illness, health problem or disability

## Significant numbers of disabled people in Scotland are living in homes that do not meet their basic needs:

**7% (61,000)** disabled people can't get up or down the stairs inside their home

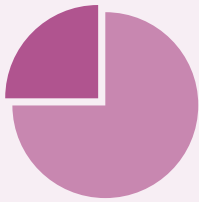
**30,000** disabled people cannot use or have great difficulty using their bathroom and/or toilet

**17,000** disabled people haven't got the specially designed/adapted bathroom/shower they need

**4,000** need a specially designed/adapted kitchen but don't have one



## Adaptations save the health and social care system money but investment in adaptations is not always keeping track with demand:



**One quarter** of disabled people who could benefit from adaptations live in a home that is not suitable for them

Each adaptation to a housing association property saves the Scottish health and social care system over

# £10,000

**£13m** was invested by the Scottish Government in grants to social housing providers for adaptations in **2015-16**; this figure is the same as that spent **8** years ago, in **2007-8**



## Disabled people are over-represented in the Social Rented sector and face restrictions and barriers trying to buy or rent privately:

Almost **half (43%)** of disabled people live in social rented housing – double the proportion in the population as a whole

Only **30%** of disabled people rent privately versus **40%** of tenants who are not disabled

**38%** of disabled people own their home with a mortgage as opposed to **44%** of non-disabled people



Photo courtesy of Horizon Housing Association [www.horizonhousing.org](http://www.horizonhousing.org)

# OUR PLACE OUR SPACE

DISABLED PEOPLE'S ANNUAL SUMMIT  
**HOUSING 2016**

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