

Scotland's housing for disabled people – the Facts

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

3.6% of households in Scotland include a wheelchair user and this accounts for **87,340** households

Yet only **3,581** Local Authority homes are adapted for wheelchair use



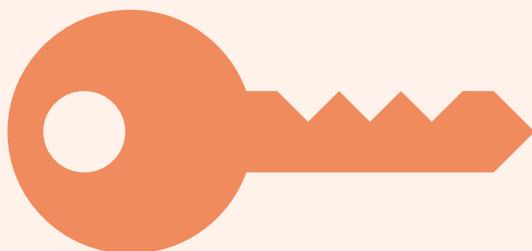
One in Five indoor wheelchair users say their home is not suitable for their needs

OVER 17,200

wheelchair users in Scotland do not have a suitable home and this unmet need is set to increase by **80%** by **2024** to **31,007** households

Demographic change in Scotland is also leading to increased use of wheeled walking frames or two sticks

People who use mobility devices often need similar space requirements in their homes to wheelchair users



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:

61,000 disabled people can't get up or down the stairs inside their home

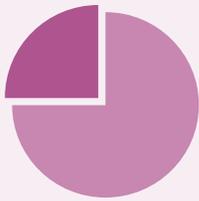
30,000 disabled people cannot use or have great difficulty using their bathroom and/or toilet

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**



What needs to change?

Scottish Government should act now to **ensure that at least 10% of the 50,000 new homes committed to by 2021 are fully wheelchair accessible, or easily adapted to be so**

The Scottish Government should set a **national target** that 10% of all new homes across tenure are built to wheelchair accessible standards

The Scottish Government should consider a new cross-tenure design standard for Scotland that incorporates universal design and wheelchair and mobility accessibility into **mainstream housing design**

The Scottish Government needs to ensure **sufficient resources** for adaptations to meet the increasing demand from older and disabled people

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DISABLED PEOPLE'S ANNUAL SUMMIT
HOUSING 2016