



NABCO

About us

NABCO (National Association of Building Co-operatives) is Ireland's national federation for the co-operative housing sector. Since its foundation in 1973 co-operative housing has:

- Supported the provision of approximately 5,000 homes across a mix of tenures,
- taken responsibility for the ongoing management of nearly 1,800 homes available at affordable rents,
- promoted the development of locally affiliated co-operative societies across Ireland,
- provided wider community development opportunities such as Childcare and Family Services.

NABCO is a co-operative of co-operatives, currently working with seven affiliated societies in Dublin, Kildare, Galway and Munster. Our local structure means that housing services are always locally owned and locally managed.

Co-operative Living

Co-operatives are always people-centred and values-led. At NABCO we provide comprehensive training programmes to support our members to give them the skills they need to exercise real leadership for their communities, making for a more resilient society that is better placed to cope with change.

As a co-operative the promotion of community is at the heart of our values. We have supported the development of a co-operative childcare service that currently operates within three of our communities. NABCO's affiliated societies also support community development through summer programmes for young people, community gardens, local book clubs and other structured activities. We strive to promote education and employment opportunities through the co-operative model in all our work.



Photo:
The Quadrants, Ballincollig,
Co. Cork

Case Study:

The Quadrants, Ballincollig, Co. Cork

The Quadrants was an unsold affordable housing development that was transferred to Munster Co-operative Housing Society by Cork County Council under a service level agreement. The homes have been leased from the Local Authority for a period of five years, and are available for purchase by members at any time.

This high-quality development of apartments and duplexes is in the heart of Ballincollig, near Cork City. The design provides spacious dual-aspect homes overlooking a landscaped central courtyard and vibrant local streets.

The wider development is a mix of private houses for sale and rent alongside co-operative homes. Members are drawn from the Local Authority's housing waiting list and are interviewed and given information prior to joining to ensure that they understand the responsibilities of co-operative membership. Once they have joined, members are supported through a local housing management office that responds quickly to issues and promotes community development.

Members are encouraged to become active in their local society, Munster Co-operative Housing Society, and have the opportunity to become members of NABCO's national Board. Board members can receive further training and there are great opportunities for networking and community development.



Development

NABCO promotes the continued expansion of the co-operative housing sector as a solution to housing need. Examples of expertise in project delivery include:

- Avondale Park, Fingal: NABCO, in partnership with Fingal County Council, has managed the planning, design and delivery of 217 state-of-the-art new homes alongside a purpose built childcare service.
- Loughlinstown, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown: on a site provided by Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, NABCO developed 49 new apartments and communal facilities with communal facilities for members.
- Longford: NABCO is working alongside Longford County Council and FÁS to pilot a solution to an unfinished housing development that will provide employment and training opportunities for local people.

The National Federation

As the national federation NABCO has an important role in representation and promotion of the co-operative housing movement. We participate in the Community and Voluntary Pillar of social partnership as well as representing the movement to Government, key stakeholders and the media.

NABCO represents Irish co-operative housing internationally through membership of organisations such as CECODHAS, the European housing forum, and the International Co-operative Alliance.

NABCO (National Association of Building Co-operatives Society Ltd.)

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