



The Irish Housing Supply Crisis:

What can policymakers do to address the problem?

08.30 – 11.00, Tuesday June 10th 2014

Thomas Davis Theatre, Arts Building, Trinity College Dublin

House prices and rents have increased dramatically in Ireland's urban centres recently, principally due to a lack of supply. The Policy Institute at Trinity College Dublin is hosting a workshop on the issue of housing supply. The aim is to bring together local and international perspectives on how public policy can address the problem. After opening remarks by the Minister for Housing, one of the world's leading experts on housing supply, Professor Albert Saiz from MIT, will give a keynote address on the role that policy can play in housing supply. These will be followed by presentations from Ronan Lyons (TCD) and John O'Mahony, Managing Director of O'Mahony Pike Architects. Professor Frances Ruane will then lead a panel discussion of how national and local policymakers can address the challenges faced by the sector in Ireland.

| Time | Name | Title |
|--------------|--|---|
| 08.30 | Jan O'Sullivan, TD (Minister for Housing) | Opening Remarks |
| 08.45 | Albert Saiz (MIT) | Keynote Address: How policy can affect housing supply |
| 09.30 | Ronan Lyons (TCD) | Measuring the planning environment in Ireland, 1990-2014 |
| 10.00 | John O'Mahony (O'Mahony Pike Architects) | An Architect's Perspective on Housing Supply |
| 10.30 | Panel Discussion | Led by Professor Frances Ruane (ESRI), featuring Albert Saiz, Conor Skehan (DIT) and Rob Kitchin (NUI Maynooth) |

Speaker biographies



An outstanding urban and housing economist, Professor **Albert Saiz** is an Associate Professor at the MIT Department of Urban Studies and Planning. He pursues research interests in local public finance, real estate economics and urban economic development. He has done path-breaking work on the determinants of housing supply and the impact of immigrant inflows on housing prices in urban areas. Since 2003, Saiz has been an award-winning assistant professor of real estate in the MBA Core Program at The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. He has served as Co-Editor of the *Journal of Housing Economics* and holds a BA and an MA in economics from Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (1995 and 1997, respectively) and a PhD in economics from Harvard, 2002.



An applied urban economist and economic historian, **Ronan Lyons** is Assistant Professor of Economics at Trinity College Dublin. His areas of focus include long-run housing markets and sustainable and behavioural aspects of real estate markets, and he has published in and reviewed for leading academic journals such as the *European Review of Economic History*, *Energy Economics*, *Oxford Economic Papers* and the *Journal of Property Research*. His doctoral thesis at Balliol College Oxford was on the economics of Ireland's property market bubble and crash. His first book, *Next Generation Ireland* (co-edited with Ed Burke), was published in 2011. He is a frequent contributor to national and international media on the Irish housing market and is author of the quarterly Daft.ie Reports.



John O'Mahony is Managing Director of O'Mahony Pike Architects & Urban Designers, and is a fellow of the RIAI and a member of RIBA. John is active in Dublin, Cork and London and is particularly interested in sustainable design issues. Much of his experience is in large-scale urban infill, and he led the Master-planning Consultants for the Regeneration of Ballymun in North Dublin (1997) and has since been involved in a number of Local Area Plans and Master-plans throughout the country, including Adamstown in West Dublin, Kilkenny's medieval core, and Moyross in Limerick city. He has also extensive experience in the design and delivery of Social and Affordable housing, such as Cherry Orchard and Coultry, and in private sector developments, including in Lucan, Castleknock and Hanover Quay. In London, John has been involved in a number of mixed-use and residential projects.



Professor **Frances Ruane** is Director of the Economic & Social Research Institute and an Honorary Professor at the Department of Economics at Trinity College, where she was previously an Associate Professor. She has published extensively, especially in the fields of international economic development and the exporting behaviour of enterprises. Following her undergraduate degree at University College Dublin, Frances Ruane completed her D.Phil. at Nuffield College, Oxford. Before taking up a career in academia, she held positions in the Industrial Development Authority, the Central Bank of Ireland and Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. She is a member of the Royal Irish Academy and of the editorial boards of the *Journal of International and Economic Policy* and the *International Review of Economics and Finance*.
