

## **ALONE welcome housing plan as a “step in the right direction”**

**20<sup>th</sup> May 2014** ALONE has today welcomed the newly released housing plan from Minister Jan O’Sullivan.

Sean Moynihan, CEO of ALONE said of the plan, “On a first reading, we welcome the announcement that boarded-up houses around the country will be released to charities like ALONE, but as always, the devil will be in detail. For the last month we have been campaigning for boarded up houses to be released to suitable charities for the purposes of being refurbished and allocated to a homeless person. In ALONE have the necessary skills and experience as well as a proven track record in providing low cost, high quality supportive housing for the most vulnerable people in our communities. Working with quality approved organisations like ALONE the government has an opportunity to ensure that a sustainable infrastructure of supportive housing is developed in Ireland.”

Moynihan continued, “It’s a scandal that it had to reach this point before the government took notice. Today’s newly announced housing plan is a step in the right direction but it remains to be seen whether the government will follow through on their promises. Since 2010 there has been a €104 million reduction in CAS funding, the announcement of €45 million CAS funding still leaves us far short of what is needed”.