

Co-living - a solution to renewal of Georgian buildings in Ireland?

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Minister Eoghan Murphy has come under sustained criticism for his comments on new co-living initiatives in recent days. Viewed by many as simply "posh student accommodation" there is clearly a need for better understanding of this new property category.

John Moran of the Land Development Agency (LDA) has championed a new micro-project his agency is launching in Limerick - a renewal of a Georgian building. He has said the building in Limerick could hold up to eight people and would be the first of its kind in the city.

Georgian buildings in Dublin were historically lived in by multiple inhabitants before, albeit during impoverished circumstances in the 1800s and 1900s.

From reading his comments, this looks like the kind of model that may work best. Clearly, we need better clearer leadership on this model from Government. Moran is reliable voice in this conversation, and his LDA model, if successful, could herald a new way of looking at old Georgian stock throughout the country, with a genuine renewal of buildings that are struggling to remain relevant and attractive for occupants and investors.

For advice on social housing and real estate in Ireland, contact John by emailing john.hogan@ogier.com.

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