

# Specialist Section Housing



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the Specialist Section for Housing

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Royal College of  
Occupational  
Therapists



Specialist Section  
Housing

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### BUILDING ON FIRM FOUNDATIONS

**The Royal College of Occupational Therapists Specialist Section – Housing is a branch of the Royal College of Occupational Therapists (RCOT). The membership comprises occupational therapists from a variety of backgrounds including educators, researchers, occupational therapy practitioners and students who are interested in promoting good practice in housing, inclusive design and accessible home environments. It considers housing and the built environment as crucial to health and wellbeing. As a Specialist Section we work with RCOT and key strategic partners to influence housing policy and raise design standards.**

All Specialist Sections are led by a National Executive Committee (NEC) made up of volunteers elected from the membership at the Annual Review Meeting (ARM). Members support fellow members at local and national levels across the UK. All Specialist Section – Housing members must also be members of RCOT.

### Aims of the Specialist Section

- The work of occupational therapy in the field of housing as it affects health, wellbeing and independent living.
- Practical support for occupational therapists in their work with children and adults who are disabled and the barriers and issues people face within housing planning, design, adaptations and allocations processes.
- The involvement of service users in the planning, delivery and evaluation of housing-related services.
- Research and development to strengthen the evidence base.
- Cross sector collaboration to ensure inclusive and appropriate standards in housing and the built environment for disabled people of all ages to meet their needs and that of their families and support networks.

## Membership Benefits

- Membership handbook.
- Advice and financial support for research and development related to housing.
- Regional and national networks for support and information.
- Continuous Professional Development (CPD) through regionally-based activities such as study days and journal clubs, to support Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) registration.
- e-Bulletins on topics of interest.
- Webpages including an evolving electronic repository of legislation, policy and good practice in housing throughout the UK.
- Annual national conference, competitively priced.
- Financial support for other learning events.

## The Specialist Section influences positive change in housing by:

- Contributing to the development of new publications on occupational therapy and housing.
- Contributing to the consultation on legislation, policy and practice (locally and nationally).
- Disseminating research findings and good practice.
- Supporting RCOT on media issues.
- Influencing and informing key policy makers.
- Promoting best practice in housing, professionally and on a cross-sector basis.
- Raising the profile of housing with the profession.
- Promoting the role of occupational therapy in the housing sector.

# Specialist Section Housing

**For more information about the Specialist Section – Housing please visit our website: [rcot.co.uk/housing](http://rcot.co.uk/housing)**

**Q: How do I join Specialist Section – Housing?**

**A: Please visit the web pages at [rcot.co.uk/housing](http://rcot.co.uk/housing)**

**Q: How long does my membership last?**

**A: The membership runs from the 1st October to 30th September annually.**

**Q: Who can join?**

**A: Anyone who is a member of the RCOT.**

**Q: Can I belong to more than one Specialist Section?**

**A: Yes, you can belong to as many as you wish.**

**For further information contact:**

**Email: [specialistsectionadmin@rcot.co.uk](mailto:specialistsectionadmin@rcot.co.uk)**



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[www.rcot.org.uk/housing](http://www.rcot.org.uk/housing)

**Royal College of Occupational Therapists Limited**

*The professional body for occupational therapy staff*

(A subsidiary of the British Association of Occupational Therapists Limited)

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