

## ***Occupational therapy in housing: Building on firm foundations***

**Edited by** Sylvia Clutton, Jani Grisbrooke and Sue Pengelly

### **Introduction**

A network of occupational therapy practitioners, managers and researchers has devoted many hours during 2004/2005 to the preparation of a second COTSSIH publication. This comprehensive publication compliments our first publication *Housing Options for Disabled People* published in 1998. The publication was officially launched at the 2005 National COTSSIH conference in Durham in November. This work constitutes another major investment by the specialist section in disseminating research and good practice in the area of occupational therapy and housing.

When publishing and other costs are covered we hope to channel any surplus to COTSSIH for ongoing development work. The authors and editors have given their time and expertise to this publication on a voluntary basis.

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Contact Details for Wiley:

Debra Sutton

Customer Service Department

John Wiley & Sons Ltd

Direct Fax: +44 (0) 1243 843274

[dsutton@wiley.co.uk](mailto:dsutton@wiley.co.uk)

[www.wiley.com](http://www.wiley.com)

Paraig O'Brien  
Chair COTSSIH

## Overview of the book

This book explores a broad range of theory bases and developing practice within the area of occupational therapy in housing. It is based on two fundamental principles; the importance of homes becoming enabling environments, and promoting user-centred services. It argues that occupational therapists working in the distinct context of housing require additional background knowledge and professional skills to those used within healthcare settings. The aim of this publication is to provide practitioners with those foundations onto which they can build their own understanding and practice within housing. The knowledge, research and experience presented in the book has been compiled from OT's working as practitioners, educators and managers, alongside academics in social policy and disability issues.

This book will be of interest and practical use for students and occupational therapists new to this area. It will also be invaluable for experienced practitioners needing to articulate the complexities of their work within housing.

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