Developers Hold Keys to Supply but They Can't Control Demand

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Developers hold keys to supply but they can’t control demand

WITH all eyes on Ireland’s housing market, rising interest rates and an underlying mismatch between the supply of new housing and the demand for homes is coming to the fore. By concentrating on the economic and construction aspects of housing, many people miss the human impact. Charlotte Slatter, who reports for The Irish Times, highlights the human stories behind the statistics.

LORCAN SIR\nON THE HOME FRONT

This homelessness is in Ireland now. This is not just about 300 homeless a week. That’s about 1,200 homeless a year. That’s about 5,000 homeless people. They are not just households. They are not just families. They are people. They are people who are struggling to buy housing. They are people who are struggling to rent housing. They are people who are struggling to keep their homes. They are people who are struggling to get homes. They are people who are struggling to keep their jobs.

The human cost of this is immense. It is not just about the numbers. It is about the people. It is about the families. It is about the individuals. It is about the communities. It is about the society. It is about the future. It is about the present. It is about the past.

As a journalist, I have spent time with many of these people. They are not just numbers. They are not just statistics. They are people. They are human beings. They have dreams. They have hopes. They have aspirations. They have families. They have friends. They have partners. They have children. They have pets. They have memories.

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