



An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth

Comprehensive Accommodation Strategy

11th June 2024

Future Strategic Direction



New Strategy Launched:

- New Comprehensive Accommodation Strategy for International Protection applicants approved by government.
- Approach to address the current accommodation shortfall, while reforming the system over the longer term.
- Ensures the State will be able to meet its international commitments.
- Maintains Principles of the White Paper

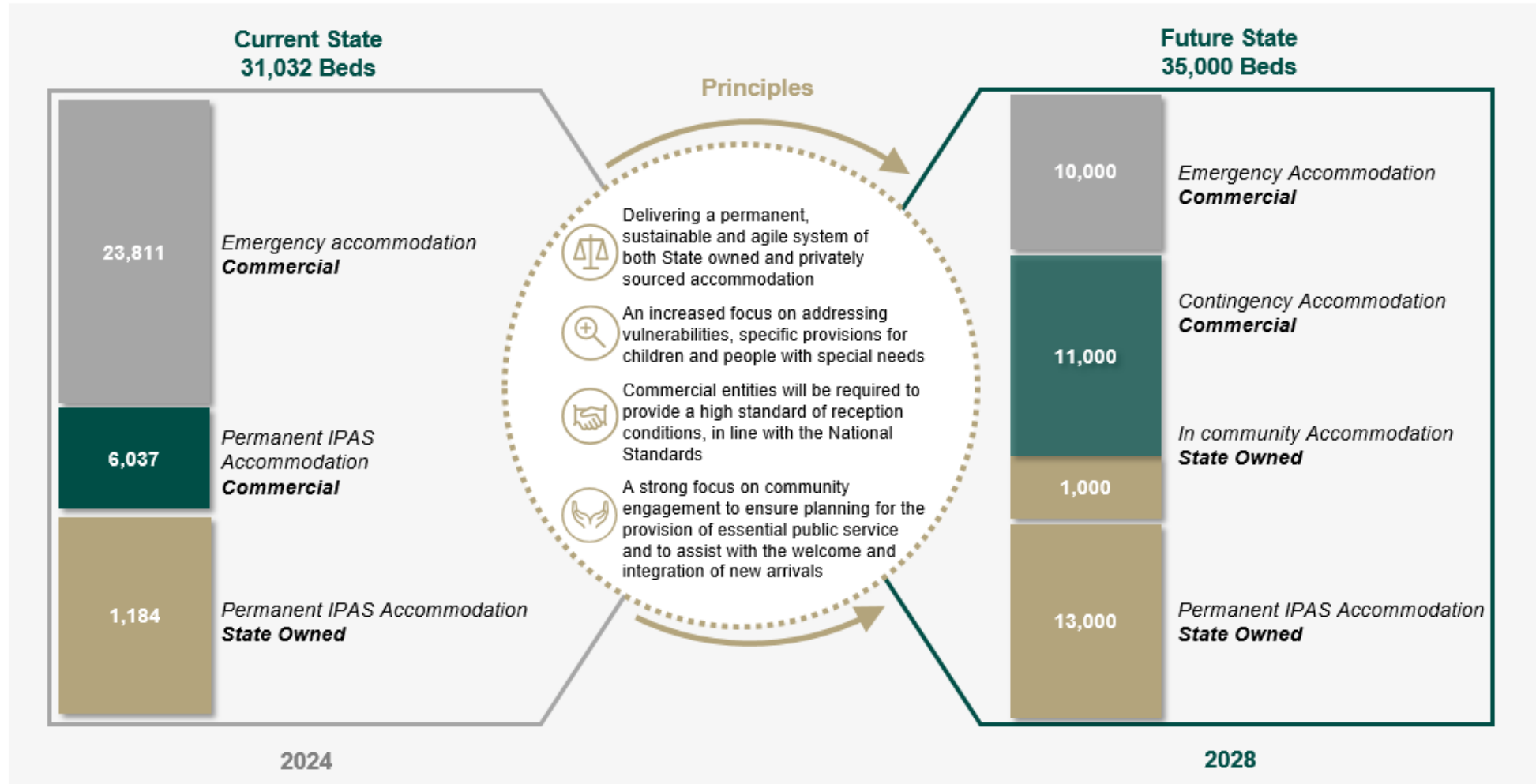
Underpinning Rationale:

- Predicated on 13,000-16,000 new arrivals per year.
- Move away from full reliance on private providers, towards State-owned accommodation.
- To deliver 14,000 State-owned spaces by 2028.
- Supplemented by commercial providers to national standards.

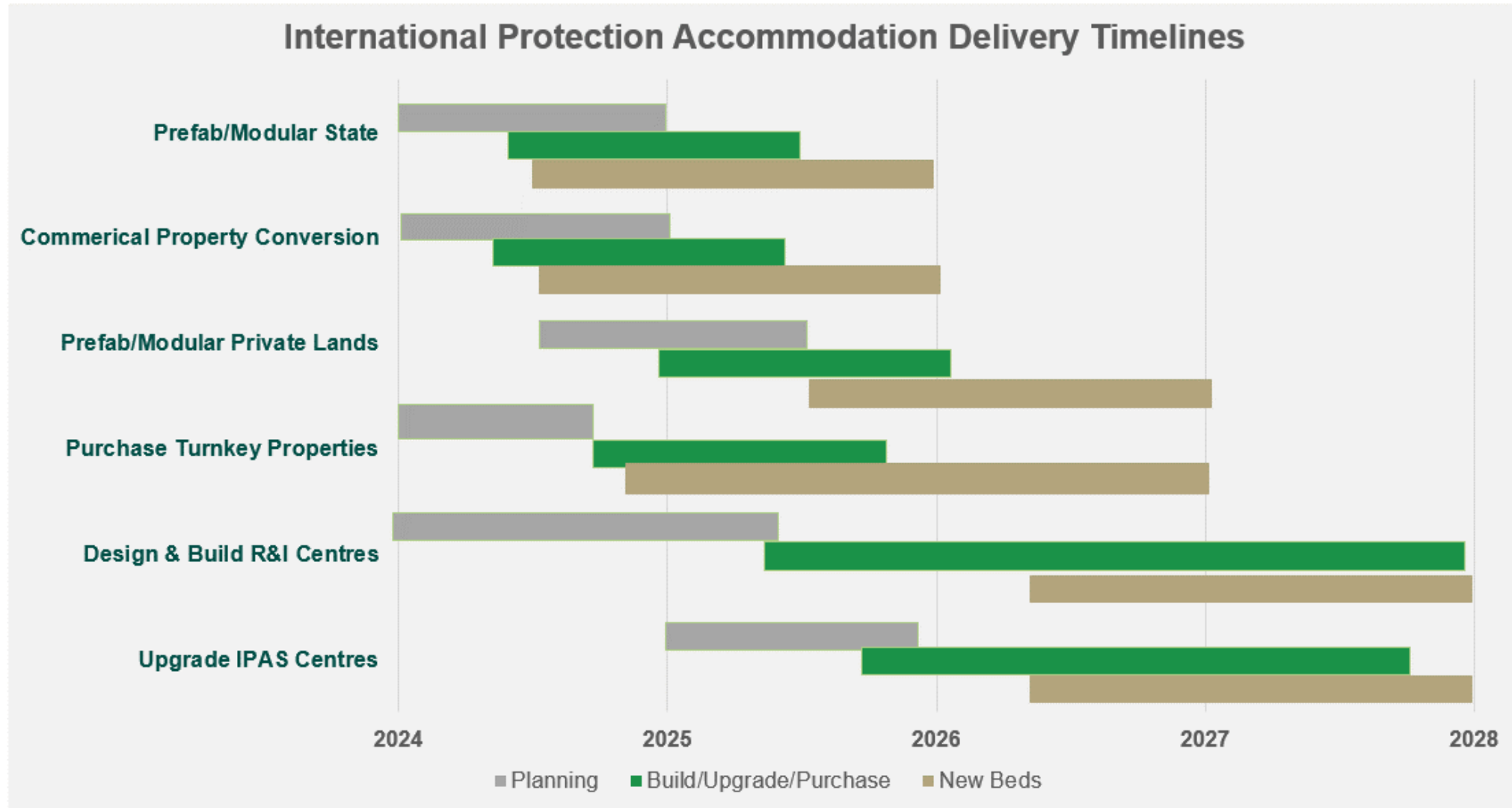
Multi-Strand Approach:

- Use of State land for prefabricated and modular units;
- Conversion of commercial buildings.
- Targeted purchase of medium and larger turnkey properties.
- Design and build of new Reception and Integration Centres.
- Upgrading of IPAS Centres

Current & Future International Protection Accommodation Portfolio Overview



Delivery Timelines



Implementation Approach & Progress



Targeted Purchase of Medium and Larger Turnkey Properties

- **Expression of Interest (EOI) Process:**

- Launched on the 30th April to acquire or lease existing properties/buildings that can provide a minimum of 150 beds, in turnkey condition or that require upgrading/refurbishment/renovation.
- The EOI is a two Stage process with Stage One published on www.etenders.gov.ie.
- Initial Stage One submissions were accepted up to the 25th May with progressions to Stage Two thereafter. Submissions are continuing to be accepted after the 25th May but priority is been given to submissions received by or before the initial submission date.
- Consultants are working with the department to develop Stage Two process for valuations, technical assessment etc.

Implementation Approach & Progress



Use of State Land for Tents/Prefabricated/Modular units

- Limerick 2030 has been commissioned by the department to deliver tents/prefabricated/modular units on state owned lands.
- Initial tender process underway for modular units to replace tents on Columb Barracks.
- HSE have licenced sites to the department including Crooksling and Trudder House. Both have emergency accommodation installed in the form of tents. Limerick 2030 to undertaking assessment of sites for future uses.
- Other state owned lands currently being assessed for emergency use are Athlone, Knocklisheen and Thornton Hall.

Implementation Approach & Progress



Conversion of Commercial Buildings

- Work is ongoing to identify supply pipelines for commercial conversions with a focus on empty office buildings.
- Contact has been made throughout the country with commercial estate agents and commercial property providers to identify potential locations.
- A resource has been contracted to work across the country to create and develop leads with potential commercial property owners/managers.



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Integration & Supports

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International Protection Child Payment

- An allocation of €4.7m was secured to provide for the IPCP in 2024.
- Sanction for the new measure has been received from the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform.
- Engagement with DSP is ongoing to operationalise the payment.

Local Authority Integration Teams

- Approximately 75% of the roles filled to date.
- Information sessions held in February and March for teams in situ on IPSS, IPAS, IRPP, SICAP, IPO, Community Engagement Team.
- National Network of Integration Support Workers launch was held on Monday 29th April.

Integration & Supports



International Protection Integration Fund

- Aims to enable community based organisations across Ireland to play a greater role in supporting the integration of International Protection applicants at local and national level.
- There has been three rounds of funding since 2022 with over €5.3m awarded through this scheme.
- The largest amount of funding, €2.5 million has been awarded in 2024 supporting 56 projects. Individual grants of up to €100,00 have been made available.

Children and Young People Service's Committees

- The 2024 iteration of the fund includes support for children and young people ages 0-24, has a particular focus on those in emergency accommodation, and has four key objectives: Mental Health, Supports for Parents, Pathways to Independence, and Community Integration.
- A call for proposals was launched in January and funding of over €1.2m for 137 initiatives has been provided to date.

Integration & Supports



Information Hub

- Developing an online accessible resource in simple English and other languages to aid International Protection applicants and families to orientate to life in Ireland. The Citizen Information Board has been asked to develop the online resource in partnership with the department. They are currently seeking board approval for this.
- Next Steps:
 - Scoping of digital application for hosting material;
 - Progression of dedicated webpages with information on life in Ireland;
 - Multi media material developed to assist IP's e.g. booklets , video's etc;
 - Progression of in-person language supports for newly arrived IP applicants.



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Thank You

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