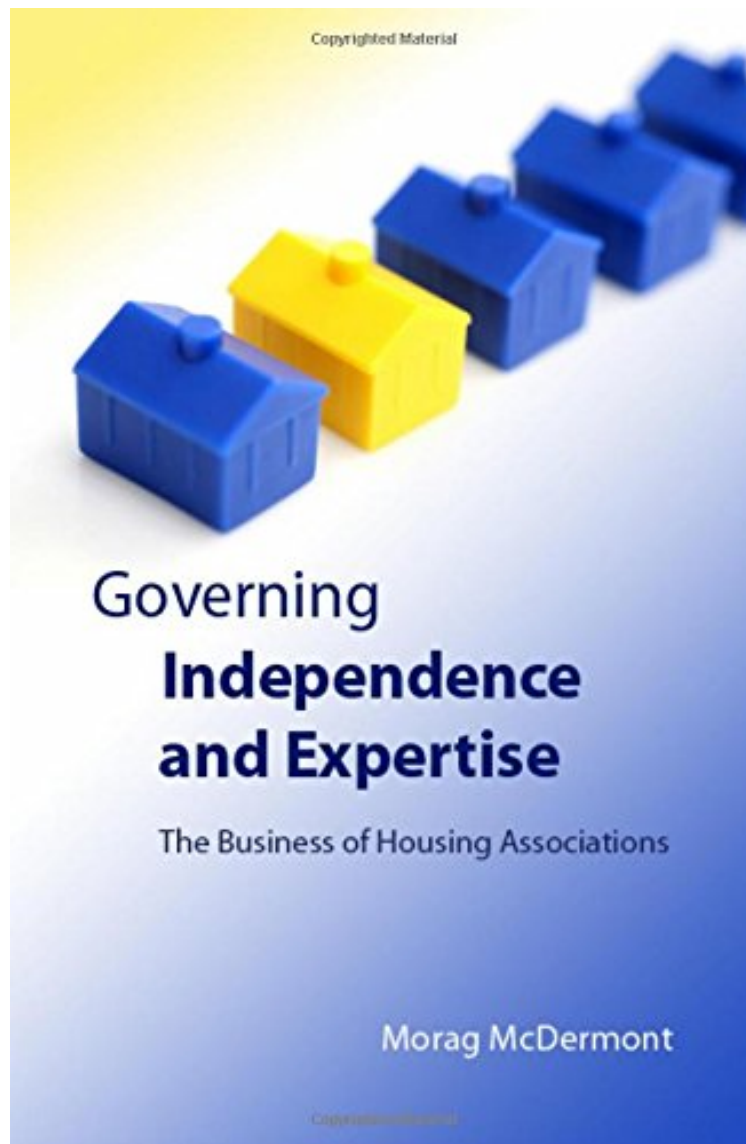


(Ebook pdf) Governing Independence and Expertise: The Business of Housing Associations

Governing Independence and Expertise: The Business of Housing Associations

Morag McDermont

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Morag McDermont : Governing Independence and Expertise: The Business of Housing Associations before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Governing Independence and Expertise: The Business of Housing Associations:

Governing Independence and Expertise tells the story of the not-for-profit housing sector in England, focusing on its representative body, the National Housing Federation. The story tells of how the Federation and associations influenced their own space of governing by deploying discourses of independence and expertise - how being governed, and governing, become, at times, one and the same. The National Federation of Housing Societies was born in 1935 - out of the apparent failure of housing societies, associations, and charitable trusts - to tackle the 'problem of the slums.' Its story was a familiar one - organizations have often set up collective structures to facilitate intervention in government. Viewed historically, the success of the project is, nevertheless, remarkable, given that the housing association sector is now a major force in social housing provision. Moreover, housing associations have pioneered many programs which are central to the 'modernized' welfare state, such as private finance, independence, and entrepreneurialism. Through the story of the Federation, the book examines the role of non-governmental actors in mechanisms of governing, engaging contemporary debates about public services and the nature of the 'social' - the limits of the role of the not-for-profit sector, the impact of private funders, and the disappearance of the notion of 'public.'

This is a major addition to the literature on the history of the English housing associations sector...It has pride of place on my bookshelf. David Mullins *International Journal of Housing Policy* Volume 12, Number 2 ...the book succeeds in moving the debate on and adding to discussion of the independence and incorporation of housing associations and can be used in conjunction with other texts that have a different focus, set a different context and use different evidence. This is a clearly presented and valuable addition to the literature and will certainly be used to build debate in the future. Alan Murie *The Journal of Social Policy* Volume 40/4, 2011 ...the book provides fascinating insights into critical episodes in the evolution of the housing association sector as we know it today... McDermont's theorisation of power relations is of wider interest for housing policy - and for social policy, more broadly. ...an excellent text and undoubtedly essential reading for anyone interested in the history and evolution of UK housing policy. Hal Pawson *Housing Studies* October 2010
About the Author
Morag McDermont is a Lecturer in Law at the University of Bristol.