

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Housing and Disability Steering Group
Minutes of Special Meeting to review submissions for the Local Strategic Plan
held remotely on Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, 21st April 2021, at 2.30pm

Attendees:

dlr: Catherine Keenan (Director of Housing), Deirdre Baber (SEO, Housing Department); Aingeal McMahon (SSO, Housing Department),

Representatives of Disability Sectors: David Girvan (SJoG Friends and Family), Majella Grainger (Cheshire),

HSE: Caroline Farrell

AHB: Sean Crowley (St John of God Housing Association)

ITEM	Agenda Items	Action Required
Item 1	<p>Introduction and Presentation from D Baber:</p> <p>DBaber thanked everybody for their contributions and for their hard work into putting together their submissions for the chapters of the local strategic plan. There was a huge amount of information submitted and it was now about putting it altogether to produce a draft document</p> <p>DBaber shared a short presentation covering the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the purpose of the document? • Who is reading the document? • The Guiding Principle? <p>A discussion followed in which Members gave their views.</p>	Noted

	It was agreed to circulate a copy of the Terms of Reference.	Agreed
Item 2	<p>Chapter 2 – Awareness and Promotion of the Local Strategic Plan for Housing People with a Disability</p> <p>The draft for Chapter 2 was reviewed and a discussion took place where the following was agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All stakeholders listed to be included. • The PPN was the best means of raising awareness. • Provision would be made on the dlr website to help raise awareness amongst the wider community. 	<p>Agreed Agreed Agreed</p> <p>DGirvan to revert back with details and dates of the engagements around this Chapter.</p>
Item 3	<p>Chapter 3 – Stakeholder Engagement and HDSG Functionality</p> <p>The submission for this chapter was reviewed and the following was discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of meetings in line with the Terms of Reference - it was agreed to hold a minimum of 4 meetings annually with the option of more where necessary. • Updates at meetings – DBaber asked for a commitment from all stakeholders for an input at each meeting. • Membership gap in area of 'service provider' – this was DFI however, they are no longer in a position to have a representative in the Group. ILM had been asked to provide nomination. • The local plan to be reviewed every 12 months. • Housing Application Form – any changes suggested cannot be implemented at local level as it is a national form. 	<p>Agreed</p> <p>CFarrell to revert back</p> <p>DBaber to check who has been nominated to take this place</p> <p>Agreed DBaber agreed to make a submission to the Department on the suggested changes.</p>
Item 4	<p>Chapter 5 – Quantify the current need of housing. Identify sources of potential emerging need for Housing People with a Disability</p> <p>The housing categories were discussed and the following points were raised:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duplications – some may be identified under two categories • Terminology – can be technical and the language may have to be reviewed • New Allocations Scheme has been drafted – changes to Housing areas and some other areas. DLR will need to engage with applicants on any changes. <p>A discussion took place on the workings of the allocations process. There are people remaining on the Housing Waiting List after being accommodated in the community.</p> <p>CKeenan said she has raised this with the Department previously. People stay on the list and are not supposed to be removed as this accommodation is not considered permanent.</p> <p>SCrowley added that this allows for the transition of someone who is housed in the community to be housed on their own if they so choose.</p> <p>CFarrell asked if people are allowed to choose between being housed alone or with their peers. DBaber explained that they must first be assessed for housing as an individual. MGrainger said it is only when they come together with others at a later stage that they can request a mover to a 3 or 4 bed home.</p> <p>CFarrell requested a copy of this draft chapter.</p>	<p>Noted Noted</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>DBaber to circulate once next draft completed.</p>
Item 5	<p>Chapter 6 - Housing Delivery Pipeline and Housing for People with a Disability Delivery</p> <p>This chapter on delivery was reviewed and discussed.</p> <p>CKeenan pointed out that a number of other housing bodies were not captured in the report. Also, there can be no certainty for the future or what is coming down the line.</p> <p>It was agreed that DBaber would contact the Irish Council for Social Housing (ICSH) for statistics.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Agreed</p>

	<p>Due to the volume of information submitted from different groups, it was agreed the wider group would review once streamlined by DBaber.</p> <p>A discussion took place about how best to house people with disabilities together with their peers, some clustering could be appropriate. This makes it financially better, eliminates sole occupancy and gives people the opportunity to live with their peers in homes of small clusters (2, 4 or 6) which don't become a congregated setting. Key is to get in early in the planning process.</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Noted</p>
Item 6	<p>Chapter 7 Supports – Social and Care</p> <p>DBaber referred to the over referencing of the current strategy in this chapter which will soon be gone – need to clarify in introduction.</p> <p>A discussion took place in which the following points were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disposal of Land – DGirvan said there is a need for some mechanism to review land of other state agencies for transfer over in some form to facilitate housing. Why just LA land and not see if other land is available? • C Keenan said this is very broad and not sure it is the role of the group. • HSE Estates suggested making input • D Girvan asked that the words 'not making funding available' be removed at local and national level. A discussion took place around budgets and planning ahead to ensure funds are made available. 	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Action Noted</p>
Item 7	<p>The meeting was brought to a close and DBaber thanked everyone for their input. She will now prepare a draft and circulate to all members of the group. A meeting will follow with date to be agreed.</p>	<p>Noted</p>