

DÚN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN COUNTY COUNCIL

HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE HYBRID MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 13th December 2023, at 5pm

Venue: Council Chamber / Microsoft Teams

Report by Chairperson, Councillor Peter O'Brien

Present: Councillor Kazi Ahmed, Councillor Anne Colgan, Councillor Liam Dockery, Councillor Maurice Dockrell, Councillor Jim Gildea, Councillor Tom Kivlehan, Councillor Frank McNamara, Councillor Justin Moylan, Councillor Peter O'Brien, Councillor Denis O'Callaghan, Councillor Oisín O'Connor, Councillor Dave Quinn.

Sectoral Representatives Present: Mr. Sean O'Neill, Mr. Thomas Joseph, Prof. P.J. Drudy, Mr. David Girvan.

Officials Present: Catherine Keenan (Director of Housing), Deirdre Baber (Senior Executive Officer), Jim Ryan (Senior Executive Officer), Maura Hickey (Acting Senior Executive Officer), Gerard O'Sullivan (Senior Engineer), Aingeal McMahon (Senior Staff Officer) and Sinead Magee (Staff Officer).

Apologies received: Councillor Hugh Lewis, Mr. David Geary, Mr. Mel Reynolds.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

Minutes of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee meeting held on 27th September 2023:

Proposed by Councillor T. Kivlehan and Seconded by Councillor J. Gildea.

Minutes of the Housing SPC meeting held on 27th September 2023 were **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.

2. Matters arising from the Minutes:

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

3. Information submitted by Members for written reply:

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

4. Director's Business:

a) Dublin Homelessness Action Plan Framework for Dublin 2022 – 2024.

It was **AGREED** to take item 8 b) under the Current Work Programme with item 4 a) under Director's Business:

8. b) Councillor Kazi Ahmed

“That the committee agrees that strategic housing policy should require a robust & timely action to tackle homelessness and the figure is increasing only. This committee can bring ideas on the table and contribute to this action plan as well.”

Mary Hayes, Director of the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive (DRHE), gave a presentation. In her presentation, Ms. Hayes gave an update on the Dublin Homeless Action Plan and the Business Plan 2022 – 2023, discussing the following areas:

- Monthly homeless figures for families and single people,
- Prevention and Protection – areas reviewed, reviews completed and in progress,
- Progress made during the term of the Plan,
- Review of the Homeless Action Plan.

A discussion followed during which Ms. Hayes and Ms. Catherine Keenan, Director of Housing, responded to Members’ questions.

It was **AGREED** to circulate the presentation to Members.

5. Business referred from the Council:

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

6. Matters referred from the Corporate Policy Group:

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

7. Correspondence:

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

8. Current Work Programme:

b) Councillor Oisín O’Connor

“That this committee develop a Financial Contribution Scheme that will enable older, private homeowners in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown who find their existing home too large for their need to downsize/rightsize into social housing accommodation.”

Ms. Deirdre Baber, Senior Executive Officer, gave a presentation on the Draft Principals of a proposed Financial Contribution Scheme. In her presentation, Ms. Baber discussed the following areas:

- Social Housing Waiting List – breakdown of the Senior Citizens’ list,
- Provision made in the Allocation Scheme,
- Consistency with the principles of the Allocation Scheme,
- Conditions to be considered if making a Financial Contribution Scheme,
- Next Steps.

A discussion followed during which Ms. Baber and Ms. Keenan responded to Members’ questions.

It was **AGREED** that a detailed draft Financial Contribution Scheme would be brought to Members at the next Housing SPC meeting. This item is to remain on the Agenda for future meetings.

It was **AGREED** that this presentation and the presentation given on the Financial Contribution Scheme at the September meeting, would be circulated to Members.

c) Update from the Housing & Disability Steering Group

Ms. Deirdre Baber, Senior Executive Officer, gave a presentation with an update from the Housing & Disability Steering Group.

In the presentation, Ms. Baber discussed the following:

- 22% of all allocations were made to Disabled People between January and November 2023,
- Construction/Delivery update in relation to properties being delivered through Part V, CAS and Leasing,
- Information updates in relation to progress made both locally and nationally.

A discussion followed during which Ms. Baber responded to Members' questions.

9. Items for Consideration for the Future Work Programme:

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

10. Any Other Business:

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

11. Date of Next Meeting:

It was **NOTED** that the date of the next meeting is Wednesday 27th March 2024.

Conclusion of Meeting:

The meeting concluded at 7pm.

The Social Housing SPC is a Relevant Body as defined by Section 5(6) of the Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015 and is in compliance with the Transparency Code prepared by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in accordance with Section 5(7) of the Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015.