



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Housing, Community and Cultural Development SPC

5th October 2016, Chamber, Navan Civic Offices, Watergate Street, Navan

Attendees -

Councillors:

Cllr Nick Killian (Chairperson), Cllr Gillian Toole, Cllr Maria Murphy, Cllr Sarah Reilly, Cllr Caroline Lynch, Cllr Pdraig Fitzsimons, Cllr Sharon Keogan,

Apologies: Cllr Sinead Burke, Cllr Maria O' Kane

Attendees -

Sectoral

Representatives:

Niamh Ui Loinsigh, Robert Bradley, Cathy Whelan,

Apologies: Liam Carey, Vicky Harris

Officials:

Barry Lynch, Brian Murphy, David Jones

Item	Discussion / Action
1.	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 29th June 2016 were approved. Proposed by Cllr Toole, seconded by Cllr Murphy.</p>
2.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>Cllr Lynch noted that the Threshold dedicated number for elected members has proved extremely useful.</p>
3.	<p>To Review Meath County Council's Allocation Scheme</p> <p>In the context of the above Agenda item, the following Notice of Motion has been referred from the September full Council meeting to the SPC for consideration.</p> <p><i>'Sinn Féin calls on Meath County Council to remove the requirement to pay water charges from the draft housing allocations policy with reference to local authority tenants seeking a transfer'</i></p> <p>The above Notice of Motion was discussed, and by majority vote, the Motion was defeated.</p> <p>Accordingly, the wording regarding the requirement for all service and other charges to be paid up to date (Section 15.0 Transfers) remains unaltered in the draft that will go before full council for consideration.</p> <p>The following amendments to the draft document were agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The requirement to have a clear rent account for at least six months in order for a transfer application to be considered was discussed. It was agreed that in exceptional circumstances, the presence of rent arrears should not disqualify the consideration of a transfer application. Appropriate wording to be inserted to capture same



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Details regarding the appeals procedure to be expanded upon, and to include reference to a final appeal being dealt with by the Senior Executive Officer , Corporate Services <p>Subject to the above amendments, the draft Allocation Scheme was approved. Proposed by Cllr Toole, seconded by Cllr Murphy.</p>
4.	<p><u>To Consider the following Notice of Motion, referred to the SPC (Cllr Sinead Burke)</u></p> <p><i>'In order to assist both council staff and new HAP tenants, a cover letter be added to all HAP packs issued to housing applicants. This letter should detail the current rent thresholds set for their area on the date of issue and also the options available to housing applicants in accessing support in securing deposits. Adding this information would be a huge help to HAP applicants, ensuring they had clarity on the price range of accommodation they should be looking for and also allay any fears they had on securing a deposit'</i></p> <p>As Cllr Burke was unable to attend, It was agreed that this item would be deferred to the next meeting of the Strategic Policy Committee.</p>
5.	<p><u>To Receive a Presentation on the Action Plan for Housing & Homelessness</u></p> <p>D. Jones provided a presentation on Rebuilding Ireland: Action Plan on Housing and Homelessness.</p> <p>Meeting between Minister of State for Housing & Urban Renewal, Mr. Damien English TD and the elected members of Meath County Council scheduled for the morning of the 18th October 2016 was referenced.</p> <p>It was agreed that a document would be prepared in preparation for this meeting with regard to the Action Plan and Meath County Council's housing delivery programme. Special meeting of the Strategic Policy Committee to be held in advance of the full council meeting on the 18th October 2016.</p>
6.	<p><u>To Receive an update on the Draft Proposal regarding Transitional Housing for Individuals in Rehabilitation for Substance Misuse Issues (North East Regional Drugs Task Force)</u></p> <p>D. Jones provided an update on the progress of the subcommittee's work to date.</p>
7.	<p><u>To Receive an Update on the Social Housing Assessment 2016</u></p> <p>B. Murphy provided an update on the Social Housing Assessment 2016. Data continues to be collated, with return of summary need due on 12th October 2016.</p>
8.	<p><u>To Receive an Update on the Review of the Homeless Action Plan of the Mid East Region</u></p> <p>D. Jones provided an update in respect to the current process of reviewing the Homeless Action Plan of the Mid East Region at regional level. Revised Strategy will go before the Committee for consideration in due course</p>
9.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No items were raised