



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Housing, Community and Cultural Development SPC

21st December 2016, Board Room, Innovation House, Railway Street, Navan

Attendees -

Councillors:

Cllr Nick Killian (Chairperson), Cllr Gillian Toole, Cllr Maria Murphy, Cllr Sarah Reilly, Cllr Caroline Lynch, Cllr Sharon Keogan, Cllr Maria O' Kane

Apologies: Cllr Sinead Burke, Cllr Stephen McKee

Attendees -

Sectoral

Robert Bradley, Liam Carey, Vicky Harris

Representatives:

Apologies: Niamh Uí Loinsigh, Cathy Whelan,

Officials:

Barry Lynch, David Jones

Item	Discussion / Action
1.	<p><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting</u></p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 5th October 2016 were approved. Proposed by Cllr Toole, seconded by Cllr Keogan.</p>
2.	<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Noted that the Agenda Item no. 4, which was deferred, was not placed on current agenda as Cllr Burke was unable to attend. Item will be placed on a subsequent meeting agenda. ▪ In relation to the Regional Homeless Strategy review, it was noted that the lead authority for the Mid East Region, Kildare County Council, is awaiting on guidance which is due to be issued by the Department in respect to the format and content of the revised strategy. Review process will recommence once said guidance has been received.
3.	<p><u>To Receive an Update on Social Housing Strategy/Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan</u></p> <p>D. Jones provided an update on activity under the Social Housing Strategy/Rebuilding Action Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Summary update document was circulated to members present. ▪ An analysis of Meath County Council's Housing land bank was circulated to members present, which highlighted the next phase of potential direct construction projects to be examined. Factors such as topography, zoning, social housing concentration and housing demand were highlighted as the significant determinations in respect to the appropriateness and viability of any site. Examination of wider Meath County Council land bank to be completed for further potential sites. ▪ Expression of interest to the market place regarding lands/house schemes for purchase by Meath County Council was highlighted. Advertisement placed in local press to be circulated to members of SPC for their information. ▪ The pending review of the County Development Plan was noted, and it was agreed that it



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	<p>would be important that the SPC would input into same, with particular regard to housing provision. It was agreed that members of the Forward Planning team be invited to the subsequent meeting of the SPC to advise on the process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The matter of communicating progress on Housing matters at Municipal District level was discussed. A number of members present expressed the view that Housing should be placed as an Agenda item at Municipal District level. It was agreed to refer how best this communication matter could be achieved, to the Protocol Committee.
4.	<p><u>To Receive an Analysis of the Housing Needs Assessment 2016</u></p> <p>D Jones provided a summary analysis of the recently completed Social Housing Assessment, and a breakdown of current gross housing need as at December 2016, including housing need per area of choice, house type requirements and disability classifications.</p>
5.	<p><u>To Receive an update on the Proposal regarding Supported Accommodation – Substance Misuse/Homelessness</u></p> <p>D. Jones provided an update on progress to date in respect to the above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ A number of meetings have taken place between service providers, including a session involving all addiction and homeless service providers in the County, with a view to improving ongoing collaboration and working relationships between the relevant agencies.▪ It has been agreed that the priority need within the County is a Tier One, low threshold, supported accommodation model. Further discussions between the relevant agencies to take place in early 2017 to confirm the details of agreed model, with anticipated delivery by the second quarter 2017.
6.	<p><u>To Consider the following Notice of Motion, referred to the SPC (Cllr Eimear Ferguson)</u></p> <p><i>‘To ask Meath County Council to accept an Affidavit from a solicitor as proof that a housing applicant does not own a property from their country of origin’</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ As context to above, it was noted that affidavits have been accepted in the past were an applicant had genuine difficulties in attaining the necessary paper work from their country of origin, and all other means of proofing same had been exhausted.▪ It was agreed by members present that the Motion be referred back to Cllr Ferguson with a view to rewording, in line with the above.
9.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Cllr Killian noted that this was his final meeting as Chairperson of the SPC, with Cllr Sarah Reilly assuming the role with effect from January 2017. Cllr Killian thanked the members of the SPC, and the staff of the Housing Department, in particular those at the front line, for all



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	<p>their efforts over the past two and half years. Members present thanked Cllr Killian for his commitment and dedication displayed during his time as Chairperson, and for an extremely productive period for the Policy Committee over a range of issues and policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ L. Carey noted for information, that a number of bodies were currently conducting research into the costs involved in providing long term residential care, and highlighting the need for increased measures that facilitate independent living in the home, such as homecare help.
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