

## **Louth County Council**

**Minutes of Housing, Strategic Policy Committee meeting held in the Railway Room West, County Hall, Dundalk on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 3.30pm.**

**Present:** Cllr. Joanna Byrne (Chairperson)  
Cllr. Jim Tenanty  
Cllr. Conor Keelan  
Cllr. Kevin Meenan  
Cllr. Robert Nash  
Cllr. Emma Cutlip  
Pat Mc Cormick, Chamber of Commerce  
Ann Larkin, Dundalk Women's Aid

**Officials:** Ger Murphy, Director of Services  
John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer  
Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer  
Brona O' Reilly, Administrative Officer  
Louise Feehan, Clerical Officer

**Apologies:** Colm O' Hanrahan, Trade Union Pillar

### **Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting of SPC Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023.**

On the proposal of Emma Cutlip, seconded by Councillor Kevin Meenan the Minutes of SPC Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023 was approved.

Ger Murphy, Director of Services for Social Development and Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer, Housing for All were welcomed to the meeting.

### **Disability allocations update.**

The quarterly report of the Local Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 – 2027 was distributed to the members. John Lawrence, SEO, provided an update on the process of disability allocations and progress for period up to end Q2 2023. The SEO advised of new housing schemes that will increase the overall percentage of disability allocations this year allowing annual targets to be achieved. A number of queries were raised regarding disability allocations and the housing team responded to them. The members raised concerns on the provision neurological services in the county.

### Allocations Scheme

John Lawrence, SEO provided an overview on the Allocations Scheme which was adopted by Council in 2017.

A number of questions were raised by the committee members and were responded to by the housing team. Additions/amendments to the Allocation Scheme were proposed and members were asked to respond to the housing team before the end of September with their comments. It was noted that the intention is that a draft would be presented at the next meeting of the SPC once the matter has been considered and processed via the Senior Management Team. It was agreed that transfers, succession to tenancy, and reservation of dwellings would be considered, and that 'rightsizing' would be examined.

It was clarified that the purpose of the Allocation Scheme determines the order of priority to be accorded in the allocation of dwellings to approved social housing support applicants and transfer applicants. Additionally the scheme makes provision for reservation of dwellings for specific purposes.

### Housing for All

The members were advised that an update on delivery of the Housing for All Plan will be presented at the November meeting.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023.

Minutes confirmed on:

Date:

21/11/2023.

Signed:

Joanna Byrne  
Cllr. Joanna Byrne(Chair)