

Louth County Council

Minutes of Housing, Strategic Policy Committee meeting held in the Cooley Room, County Hall, Dundalk on Tuesday 21st November 2023 at 3.30pm.

Present: Cllr. Joanna Byrne (Chairperson)
Cllr. Jim Tenanty
Cllr. Robert Nash
Cllr. Emma Cutlip
Pat Mc Cormick, Chamber of Commerce

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
Ann Larkin, Dundalk Women's Aid
Cllr. Conor Keelan
Cllr. Kevin Meenan

Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting of SPC Meeting held on 12th September 2023.

On the proposal of Jim Tenanty, seconded by Councillor Robert Nash the Minutes of SPC Meeting held on 12th September 2023 was approved.

Housing Capital Delivery Update.

A presentation of Housing Capital Delivery Targets was outlined by Declan Grimes, Senior Engineer. Mr. Grimes provided details of Social Housing targets for Louth County Council for the period 2022 – 2026. The current status of Local Authority Direct Build, Accelerated Delivery Programme, Turnkey, Part V Acquisitions, Social Housing Public Private Partnership Programme and the Traveller Accommodation Programme was presented by Mr. Grimes. A number of questions were raised following the presentation and the housing team responded to them. The construction of new housing units using 3D construction printing was discussed by

Mr. Grimes and Pat Mc Cormick, Chamber of Commerce acknowledged that this would be a good learning opportunity for students (of DKIT) and expressed his interest in the project. Councillor Joanna Byrne commended the new developer of Boice Court for his proactive engagement with existing tenants on the site. The Director of Services acknowledged the intention of re-balancing the ratio between Approved Housing Bodies and Local Authority Housing as per national housing policy objectives.

A number of questions were raised by the members regarding the Affordable Housing Scheme, Long-term Leasing and Home Loans to which the Housing Team responded.

Allocations Scheme

John Lawrence, SEO provided an overview on submissions made by the members regarding amendments/additions to the Housing Allocations Scheme. Mr. Lawrence discussed submissions to be put forward by the Housing Team to include Transfers, Downsizing and Successions. A number of questions were raised regarding Choice Based Lettings and the Scheme of Letting Priorities by the members and were addressed by the Housing Team. The Director of Services conveyed his intention to have a draft Scheme of Allocations prepared by the Housing Management Team early next year for the members to examine.

Disability allocations update.

The quarterly report of the Local Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 – 2027 was distributed to the members and an update on its current status was given by John Lawrence, SEO.

AOB

The Director of Services informed members that next year's Housing Strategic Policy Committee meeting dates will be circulated to them once they are agreed.

A procedure for dealing with transfers relating to drug intimidation was raised by Councillor Joanna Byrne and agreement was made to look at having this item on the Agenda for a Strategic Policy Committee meeting in 2024.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Minutes confirmed on:

Date:

27/2/2024

Signed:

Joanna Byrne
Cllr. Joanna Byrne(Chair)