

Louth County Council

Minutes of Housing, Strategic Policy Committee meeting held via zoom on Tuesday 8th June 2021 at 3pm.

Present: Cllr. Joanna Byrne (Chair)

Cllr. Jim Tenanty
Cllr. Kevin Meenan
Cllr. Conor Keelan
Cllr. John Reilly
Andrew Califf, Social inclusion PPN
Pat McCormick, Chamber of Commerce
Colm O' Hanrahan, Trade Union Pillar

Officials: Paddy Donnelly, Director of services
John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer
Brona O' Reilly, Administrative Officer
Sinead Mc Verry, Administrative Officer
Arja Cullen, Social Worker
Adrian Mc Hugh, Senior Staff Officer
Louise Feehan, Clerical Officer

Apologies Councillor Fiachra Mc Raghnaill
Niamh Roche, Environmental Pillar
Elizabeth O' Reilly Louth Environmental Network

Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting of SPC Meeting held on 9th March, 2021

On the proposal of Councillor Kevin Meenan, seconded by Councillor Conor Keelan the Minutes of SPC Meeting held on 9th March, 2021 was approved.

Update on Disability Strategy 2021 - 2027

The Social Worker Arja Cullen updated the members on the Disability Strategy 2021 - 2027 and discussed cooperating with other agencies to agree on the support services that are required to facilitate access for people with disabilities. Arja Cullen advised members with any queries to contact her directly. The recent challenges experienced by the HSE due to the HSE cyber-attack were highlighted. Internal meetings regarding the Strategy were unable to take place as a result. A query was raised on how this would affect our ability to contribute to the National Disability Strategy. The Director was confident that we will be able to contribute as the cyber-attack is recognised as an issue nationally and will not impact on our service delivery.

Homeless Regional Action Plan

Adrian Mc Hugh Senior Staff Officer delivered a presentation on the 2018 – 2020 Homeless Action Plan outlining its actions and preventions and the targeted actions for the 2021- 2023 Homeless Action Plan. The Director and the team responded to any queries raised. The Draft Homeless Regional Action Plan is expected to go before the respective July's Council meetings of the three authorities. The success of the HAP place finder model and the work done by the Homeless Section in proactively seeking out landlords was acknowledged. The capturing of homeless data that is caused by domestic violence which is not included in Section 10 Homeless Statistics was discussed by Adrian Mc Hugh Senior Staff Officer. This matter was raised at the Regional Homeless Forum in June and the issue of recording the two sets of data 'side by side' was raised.

Draft Policy on Control of Dogs

Sinead Mc Verry, Administrative Officer delivered a presentation on the proposed additional clarification to the Policy on the Control of Dogs and Pets. Louth County Council tenants who signed their Tenancy Agreement on or after 1st March 2009 are prohibited to keep any dangerous dog as listed under the control of dogs Regulations 1998. All complaints in relation to dogs/pets will be investigated in accordance with Louth County Council's Estate Management and Anti Social Behaviour Policy.

Strategic Policy Committee Work Programme

A proposed Work Programme for 2021/2022 was presented to the members by the Director. Joanna Byrne requested a meeting with Open Sky in relation to improvements to Choice Based Lettings. A suggestion was also made by Councillor Meenan to bring forward the meeting on Transfers to this year.

Other Business

John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer advised the members that the Louth Public Participation Network will shortly launch a new guidance document for Public Participation Network representatives on carrying out their representative roles on the various Local Authority Committees.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 14th September 2021

Minutes confirmed on:

Date:

14/9/2021

Signed:

Joanna Byrne
Cllr. Joanna Byrne (Chair)