

17th November 2017

To the Mayor and Each Member of Limerick City & County Council

Chairperson's Report for the Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee meeting of the 23rd October 2017

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

Summary Report / Main Issues

Item 3: Presentation by Seamus Hanrahan, Senior Architect, Social Development

Update on Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness, Oct 17

Mr Seamus Hanrahan gave a presentation and update on Housing and Homelessness in Limerick. The presentation was followed by detailed discussion on the programme including targets and timelines on project delivery.

Item 4: Update on Strategic Development and Management Plan for Local Authority Land in Limerick City.

Ms Sarah Newell, Social Directorate gave an update on the Strategic Development and Management Plan for Council-owned land in Limerick City (based on the City Development Plan boundary - as extended). The plan identifies sites in Limerick city that are suitably zoned (i.e., residential), that are not located in a flood zone or in a zone of statutory environmental designation and which may be suitable for residential use (social/mixed tenure) over the short, medium and long term.

Given the significant number of Council-owned landbanks to be assessed, LCCC are progressing plans for the City Environs and the County Municipal Districts (Adare/Rathkeale, Newcastle West, Cappamore/Kilmallock) in the coming weeks. It is proposed to have a Strategic Development Management Plan for each Municipal District for ease of reference.

An in-depth discussion took place on issues related to the plan.

Recommendation No. 1:

That Limerick City and County Council call on the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government to develop a 'downsizing' scheme as part of the ongoing review of 'Rebuilding Ireland - Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness', in order to facilitate subdivision, extension or adaption of existing private under-occupied housing units. It is anticipated that this scheme would act as a catalyst for the creation of additional housing units and optimise the utilisation of existing housing stock.

Recommendation No. 2:

That Limerick City and County Council commence a survey of vacant residential units across the city and county.

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Councillor William O'Donnell
Chairperson
Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee