

22nd June 2020

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

Chairperson's Report for the **Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee Meeting on the 22nd June 2020.**

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

Summary Report/Main Issues

The Chair welcomed everyone to the SPC, the first since the COVID-19 restrictions were put in place.

Item 4: Affordable Housing and Incremental Purchase – Policy Proposal

Sarah Newell, Executive Planner, Housing Development gave a presentation on Affordable Housing (in the context of LCCC New Build Programme) and the Incremental Purchase Scheme. This is a strategy proposal and looks at how we can get more of a mixed tenure into schemes.

A discussion took place around this and the main points were:

- Cllr. Leddin thanked Ms. Newell for the presentation and asked have we considered the Cost Rental Model that was referenced in the Programme for Government.
- Ms. Newell stated it would involve a Chief Executive's Order to designate an estate under incremental purchase.
- Cllr. Keary also went on to raise a concern about the scheme in Pallaskenry of 16 units and the mix of social and private housing.
- Ms. Newell also mentioned that she would send out a separate document with background information on the Incremental Purchase Scheme and a guide for the Affordable Dwellings under the Service Sites Fund. Ms. Newell also advised that if anyone has any queries to feel free to contact her.

- At the end of the meeting, Aoife Duke mentioned that we are looking for support from the members of the SPC in relation to the percentage split as we review Turnkeys.
- Cllr. Benson voiced her concern regarding the split.
- The issue will be workshopped at a later date.

Item 5: Voids Programme and Single Point of Contact (SPOC) – Progress Report

Aoife Duke, Director of Service, Housing Development gave a presentation on the Voids and SPOC programme. Progress is being made on turning around vacant houses. The area requires constant focus. SPOC is a strong system and positive feedback on SPOC project came from Cllr. Sharon Benson.

Item 6: Rebuilding Ireland – Quarterly Delivery Update

Sarah Newell, Executive Planner, Housing Development gave a presentation on Rebuilding Ireland delivery streams and will give updates to SPC for every quarter from now on.

Presentation went through updates on Build, Buy & Lease figures. Ms. Newell mentioned that we are now focusing on acquiring one-bedroom houses as per Government guidelines.

To summarise our Build scheme at Q2 of 2020 we have **171** under construction, **114** at tender stage, **295** at planning stage, **61** at initial stages of feasibility. Ms. Newell mentioned Traveller Accommodation Programme, which is being led by Design & Delivery.

Our acquisitions at Q2 2020 stand at **5** and with our leasing programme we have completed **23**.

Item 7: Energy Efficiency Project – Current Programme Update

David E. Leahy, Executive Engineer, Service Operations gave presentation on the Energy Efficiency Project.

Responding to a question from Cllr. Donegan, Mr. Leahy will circulate planned works for each Municipal District after the meeting.

Item 8: Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Hartigan

I will move at the next meeting of the Metropolitan District that the Council make evidence of a household waste collection service a condition of all tenancies and in cases of non-compliance the cost of waste collection is added to the customers rent bill

Aoife Duke, Director of Service, Housing Development read out a reply from the Community Sustainment Unit.

A discussion took place around this NoM and Councillors voiced their concern on forcing tenants to have a bin and adding the cost to their rent account.

Aoife Duke agreed to seek legal advice in the relation to the motion given the concerns raised by members. Cllr. Hartigan agreed to this course of action.

Is mise le meas,

Cllr. Michael Murphy
Chairperson
Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee