

**16<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

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 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

**A Chomhairleoir, a chara,**

**Summary Report/Main Issues**

Cllr. Michael Murphy opened the meeting and welcomed all members to the December SPC meeting.

**Item 1: Confirm minutes from meeting held from 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**Proposed:** Cllr. Joe Leddin

**Seconded:** Cllr. Stephen Keary

**Item 3: Limerick City and County Council Disability Strategy Plan**

Ms. Curley gave a presentation of the Disability Strategy Plan to SPC members.

Ms. Curley noted that this was a multi organisational plan, which included LCCC, the HSE, AHB's and disability organisations. She sought the support of the SPC to the Plan. The committee gave their support to the Plan.

**A discussion took place and the main points were:**

- Ms. Curley clarified benchmark of allocations for new design.
- Cllr. Keary proposed a scheme where LCCC would allow an existing LA tenant to extend their properties where needed due to social of health issues and the tenant would be given a discount/write off on their rent
- Ms. Patricia Phillips advised that the allocations and assessments team would look at transferring them to a more suitable house through collaboration with AHBs and Disability Services.

- Mr. Conor Culloo advised that any adaptations to LA houses can be reviewed on an individual basis but anything that is proposed must be consistent.
- Delays with DPG grants flagged.
- Ms. Phillips advised members that HSS are giving all applicants that apply for housing the opportunity to apply through medical grounds which will give a better insight into what accommodation is suitable for applicants.

**Proposal to write to the Minister for Housing to ask him implement a scheme which would allow an existing Local Authority tenant to extend property where needed due to social or health issues whereby the tenant would then be given a discount/write off on their rent.**

**Proposed:** Cllr. Stephen Keary

**Seconded:** Cllr. Michael Murphy

**Item 4: Presentation from Threshold**

Ann Marie O'Reilly (Policy Officer - Threshold) and Edel Conlon (Service Manager, Southern Region – Threshold) gave a presentation on the work the organisation does in the Limerick area.

**Item 5: AOB**

- An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Murphy complimented Mr. Patrick English on the GAA President's award that he received.
- Ms. Tracy McElligott flagged a concern around lighting in certain areas of Limerick and if they could be identified possibly at a future SPC. Ms. McElligott also flagged a concern that the Private Rightsizing units had bare walls and floors and the applicants were not informed.
- Mr. O'Grady asked about the status of houses in Mayor Street, Patrickswell and asked have LCCC CPO'd those units. Ms. Phillips to revert to PJ at the next meeting.
- Cllr. Keary noted that LCCC should be doing everything in our power to conduct an audit on all vacant properties in Limerick.

Recommendations (endorsed by SPC members):

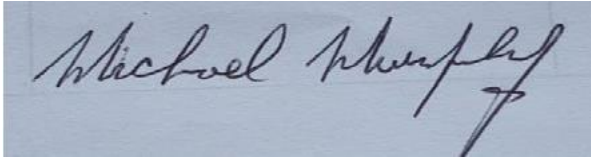
1. **That, this Council write to the Minister for Housing to ask him implement a scheme which would allow an existing Local Authority tenant to extend property where needed due to social or health issues whereby the tenant would then be given a discount/write off on their rent.**

**Proposed:** Cllr. Stephen Keary

**Seconded:** Cllr. Michael Murphy

END OF MEETING

The Chair thanked everyone for joining the SPC, the contributions made and Threshold for their presentation. The next SPC is the 20<sup>th</sup> April.



Is mise le meas,

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