**Development of Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy**

**JPC Meeting – 23rd September 2022**

Section 35 of the Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2009 makes provision for the preparation of an anti-social behaviour strategy by a Housing Authority in respect of those parts of its administrative area in which are situated -

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|  |  | (*a*) dwellings let by the housing authority to tenants under the *Housing Acts 1966 to 2009*, |
|  |  | (*b*) dwellings which are the subject of *Chapter 4* tenancy agreements, |
|  |  | (*c*) dwellings in which relevant purchasers (within the meaning of section 1 of the Act of 1997) reside, and |
|  |  | (*d*) sites (within the meaning of section 1 of the Act of 1997). |

Subsection 2 of the Act provides that an anti-social behaviour strategy shall have as its principal objectives -

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| (*a*) the prevention and reduction of anti-social behaviour, |
| (*b*) the co-ordination of services within the housing authority directed at dealing with, or preventing or reducing, anti-social behaviour, |
| (*c*) the promotion of co-operation with other persons, including the Garda Síochána, in the performance of their respective functions insofar as they relate to dealing with, or the prevention or reduction of, anti-social behaviour, having regard to the need to avoid duplication of activities by the housing authority and such other persons in the performance of those functions, and |
| (*d*) the promotion of good estate management. |

Subsection 3 of the Act states that the strategy should set out the proposals of the housing authority for achieving the principal objectives referred to in subsection (2), including, but not limited to, the following;

1. procedures in relation to the making of complaints to the housing authority in respect of anti-social behaviour;
2. initiatives for the prevention and reduction of anti-social behaviour;
3. the provision of education relating to, and the carrying out of research into, anti-social behaviour and its prevention and reduction

There are existing strategies in place which were adopted by Limerick City Council and Limerick County Council prior to the creation of a single authority and which are broadly similar in nature.

In drawing up a strategy a Housing Authority must consult with –

1. The Joint Policing Committee
2. An Garda Siochana
3. The Health Service Executive
4. Any other person as the authority considers appropriate

**Progress To Date**

1. The matter was discussed at a meeting of the Council’s Home & Social Development SPC on the 15th June 2022.
2. A draft Strategy document was subsequently prepared and circulated to statutory agencies such as An Garda Siochana and the HSE, elected representatives, residents’ associations etc. In addition, the document was uploaded to MyPoint to allow members of the community generally to submit comments should they wish.
3. The document, copy of which is attached for the information and attention of members of the JPC, remains in draft format. It is intended, in as far as possible, to incorporate feedback from members and general submissions into a revised draft to be brought before the next scheduled meeting of the Home & Social Development SPC on the 19th October 2022. The aim would then be to bring a final document to the December meeting of the Council for formal adoption.

**Seamus Hayes**

**Housing Services Officer**