

15th February 2023

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 15th February 2023

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

Summary Report/Main Issues

Cllr. Stephen Keary opened the meeting and welcomed all members to the February SPC meeting.

Item 1: Confirm minutes from meeting held on 14th December 2022

Proposed: Cllr. Adam Teskey

Seconded: Cllr. Michael Murphy

Item 2: Matters arising from the Minutes

No matters arising from previous minutes.

Item 3: CENA Presentation

Mr. Brian Dillon, National Director of CENA presented an overview of CENA and the work they do to the group.

Item 4 & Item 6: Report from Working Group on Vacancy

Mr. Brendan Kidney, Senior Engineer, LA Housing Construction & Maintenance presented the report from working group on vacancy.

On the proposal of Cllr. Conor Sheehan seconded by Ms. Dee Ryan it was agreed that the Report from the working group on vacancy be submitted to full Council for adoption.

It was further agreed that the report from the working group on vacancy would be circulated to all Council members in advance of the March meeting and that they would be invited to make submissions on same. A report on submissions would be made available at the March meeting.

Proposed: Cllr. Conor Sheehan

Seconded: Cllr. Tom Collopy

Item 5: Scheme of Priority for Affordable Purchase

Ms. Martina Frawley, Administrative Officer, Housing Strategy and Non-LA Housing Construction presented the draft Scheme of Priority for Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements.

On the proposal of Cllr. Sharon Benson seconded by Cllr. Tom Collopy it was agreed that the Council write to the Minister for Housing to request more resources for the Affordable Housing Team.

On the proposal of Cllr. Michael Murphy seconded by Cllr. Conor Sheehan it was agreed that the draft Scheme of Priority for Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements be submitted to full Council for adoption.

Item 7: Housing for Migrants

Request for update from PPN Linkage Group from the Council on their plans to deal with the potential of homeless migrants and what plans are in place to combat increasing fears that migrants entering the country will be sleeping rough on Limerick streets.

Ms. Mary Hayes, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Support Services, updated the group and added that the response would be circulated after the SPC.

Item 8: Updates

Report to SPC from Housing Disability Strategic Group

For noting.

Housing One Rep Policy

Ms Martina Frawley, Administrative Officer, Housing provided an update to the group confirming that the Policy was adopted by Council on the 23rd January, 2023 and a review will take place after 6 months i.e. August, 2023.

Circular 09/2022: Guidance documents for Housing Authorities on recent changes to the Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme 2016.

Ms. Kathy O’Grady, Senior Staff Officer presented an update to the group.

Item 9: AOB

Local Authority Home Loan

Cllr. Collins will move that Limerick City and County Council engage with applicants who were refused a Local Authority Home Loan in recent years so they have the opportunity to re-apply as income limits have recently been increased by government and they may now be eligible.

Proposer: Ms. Dee Ryan

Seconded: Cllr. Michael Murphy

Modular Housing

Cllr. Collopy proposed a discussion on modular housing at a future SPC which was welcomed by Cllr. Keary and Cllr. Kilcoyne. Ms. Newell confirmed that Mr. Mick Forde-Bradley was looking into modern methods of construction and that a workshop would be arranged for all elected members over the next few weeks.

April SPC meeting date Wednesday, 12th April 2023.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Stephen Keary thanked everyone who attended the SPC.

END OF MEETING

Recommendation 1:

On the proposal of Cllr. Conor Sheehan seconded by Ms. Dee Ryan it was agreed that:

“the report from the working group on vacancy be submitted to full Council for adoption”

Recommendation 2:

On the proposal of Cllr. Conor Sheehan seconded by Cllr. Tom Collopy it was agreed that:

“the report from the working group on vacancy would be circulated to all Council members in advance of the March meeting and that they be invited to make submissions on same. A report on submissions would be made available at the March meeting”

Recommendation 3:

On the proposal of Cllr. Sharon Benson seconded by Cllr. Tom Collopy it was agreed that:

“the Council write to the Minister for Housing to request more resources for the Affordable Housing Team”

Recommendation 4:

On the proposal of Cllr. Michael Murphy seconded by Cllr. Conor Sheehan it was agreed that:

“the draft Scheme of Priority for Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements be submitted to full Council for adoption”

Recommendation 5:

On the proposal of Ms. Dee Ryan seconded by Cllr. Michael Murphy it was agreed that:

“Limerick City and County Council engage with applicants who were refused a Local Authority Home Loan in recent years so they have the opportunity to re-apply as income limits have recently been increased by government and they may now be eligible.



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Cllr. Stephen Keary, Chairperson

Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee