

BREVIATE OF MEETING OF HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE HELD ON 29TH JULY 2016

1. Rebuilding Ireland – Action Plan for Housing & Homelessness:

The Chair advised that the purpose of this special meeting of the Housing SPC was to allow discussion of the Government Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness in the context of the impact on the Dublin housing crisis and the actions that can be achieved. Presentation and table summarising actions listed in the Plan circulated prior to the meeting and hard copies handed out to those present. Discussion followed.

Brenda Kenny, Chief Executive said that DCC welcomes the Plan and he agreed to monthly meetings of the Housing SPC.

Agreed: Provide Housing SPC members with a monthly Housing Programme Report Agreed: Monthly meetings of the Housing SPC to take place from September

2. Motions:

Motion Cllr Noeleen Reilly:

To Amend the Dublin City Council Housing Land initiative for Ballymun to include Social Housing of no less than 30% as similar to the other areas in the plan.

Céline Reilly advised that a review of tenure diversity in Ballymun is being carried out and a vote on this Motion would be premature until this study is complete. Cllr Noeleen Reilly asked to put the Motion to a vote. Motion was carried.

Motion Cllr Janice Boylan:

That this housing spc calls on the housing manager to deviate from the scheme of lettings when it comes to detenanting the remaining blocks in O'Devaney Gardens. And also that each tenant will receive a letter of comfort informing them that they will not be legally forced to vacate the two remaining blocks. Recognising that if multiple offers that do not suit the tenant are made they will be refused as is their right and as has been done in the past. There must be full consultation and communication with these tenants and I am again appealing to the housing staff to meet with the tenants to give these commitments.

I am not suggesting we lose all sense of reason when it comes to alternative accommodation but what I am suggesting is that we accommodate the remaining tenants needs as quickly as possible. For example a young mother with two girls has been told she

won't be considered for a three bed even though two bed accommodation is hard to come by in the area she is looking for and the fact she has a 16 year old and an 8 year old.

The practice of deviating from the scheme of lettings has been done on numerous occasions across Dublin. I'll name two Ballymum and Croke Villas.

So I am again calling on the manager to deviate from the strict scheme of lettings due to the exceptional nature of this motion. And offer the remaining tenants real alternative accommodation that may not match their needs on paper but make practical sense that will lead to them becoming housed in alternative accommodation quicker.

Céline Reilly advised that a meeting with the Area Housing Manager and the remaining residents at O'Devaney Gardens will be held to look at all available options to re-house these remaining residents and demolish all existing blocks here. She said that a vote on this Motion would be premature before this meeting takes place. Cllr Janice Boylan asked to put the Motion to a vote. Motion was carried.

3. AOB:

On a separate note unrelated to the Agenda Céline Reilly advised all Councillors present of the Housing Needs Assessment currently being undertaken. She asked that Cllrs advise their constituents to return form as soon as possible if they wish to remain on the housing list.

Housing SPC members and other Councillors present thanked Cathal Morgan for all his work in the DRHE over the years and wished him well in his new position in the HSE.

Councillor Daithí Doolan Chairperson 24th August 2016

In Attendance:

Councillors:

Janice Boylan, Christy Burke, Anthony Connaghan, David Costello, Patrick Costello, Daithí Doolan, Pat Dunne, Alison Gilliland, Ray McAdam, Críona Ní Dhálaigh, Cieran Perry, Sonya Stapelton

Sectoral Interests:

Officials:

Brendan Kenny, Céline Reilly, Tony Flynn, Cathal Morgan, Dáithí Downey, Colm Smith, Ali Grehan, Brian Swan, Nikki O'Hara, Elaine O'Kelly

Other Councillors:

Míchéal MacDonncha, Lord Mayor Brendan Carr, Noeleen Reilly, Ruairl McGinley, Éilis Ryan, Mannix Flynn

Others:

Maeve Hartnett (Dublin Simon in place of Catherine Kenny), Brian Lambe (ALONE in place of Kevin White), Peter Dopman (Community Action Network), Olivia Kelly, Lois Kapila, Michael Mulloonly, Michael McCarthy Flynn, John Cooke

Apologies:

Cllr Tina MacVeigh, Pat Doyle, Kathleen McKillion, Kevin White