



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

Report to Housing SPC

Date: Wednesday 12th May 2021

Item No. 3ii

Dublin City Council Housing SPC Working Group on Services to Older People

Activity Report

30th April 2021

The Working Group on Services to Older People Working was established in November 2020 as a result of an original proposal initiated by Councillor Mary Freehill. It reports to the DCC Housing SPC and also links with the programme work of the DCC Local and Community Development Committee particularly in relation to the national Age Friendly Strategy and the Healthy Ireland Programme.

The group aims are:

- a) To recommend democratic structures of governance and participation that would include elected members, staff and representation of older people.
- b) To examine, service delivery and best method of engagement that would reach all older people in the DCC area.
- c) To develop public policy proposals under national Age Friendly strategy and Healthy Ireland programme and within context of COVID19 recovery - with the focus being on which Dublin City Council services can be adapted, enhanced, or proposed, in order to improve quality of life.

The members of the Working Group are as follows:

- Councillor Mary Freehill, Chairperson of Group
- Councillor Alison Gilliland, Chairperson Housing SPC
- Councillor Mary Callaghan, Deputy Lord Mayor
- Councillor Donna Cooney, DCC Elected Member
- Councillor Anne Feeny, DCC Elected Member
- Councillor Niall Ring, DCC Elected Member
- Councillor Mannix Flynn, DCC Elected Member
- Dáithí Downey, Chief Officer DCC LCDC

The Working Group's inaugural meeting was held on Thursday, 26th November 2020 and the group has since met five times over the period to April 2021. A summary of the meetings are outlined below:

Meeting 1 26th November 2020

Elected members present: Cllr. Alison Gilliland, Cllr Mary Callaghan, Cllr. Mary Freehill, Cllr. Donna Cooney, Cllr. Anne Feeney, Cllr. Niall Ring

Elected Members apologies: Cllr. Mannix Flynn

DCC staff present: Brendan Kenny, Mary Hayes, Dáithí Downey, Elaine Hess, Sophia Brennan.

- The Working Group confirmed membership as listed above. Councillor Mary Freehill was elected Chair. The members discussed their observations on the challenges and opportunities for this group going forward.

Action:

- The Chief Officer DCC LCDC was asked to invite Deirdre Scully, Planning Department, to give a presentation on the new Draft City Development Plan on 11th December 2020.

Meeting 2 11th December 2020

Elected members present: Cllr. Alison Gilliland, Cllr Mary Callaghan, Cllr. Mary Freehill, Cllr. Donna Cooney, Cllr. Anne Feeney, Cllr. Niall Ring

Elected Members apologies: Cllr. Mannix Flynn

DCC staff present: Mary Hayes, Dáithí Downey, Deirdre Scully, Sophia Brennan

Agenda:

1. Consideration of DCC Age Friendly Strategy (to end of 2019) and short discussion on what aspects of same are continued going forward.
2. Presentation from Deputy City Planner on DCC City Development Plan and discussion
3. Update on work and preparation for follow-on DCC Age Friendly Strategy from 2021
4. Consideration of DCC resources for Age Friendly Strategy and options for additional funding for 2021

Actions:

1. A decision was made by the group to make a formal submission as part of the City Development Plan consultation process.
2. Chief Officer DCC LCDC to invite the below DCC staff to make a presentation with emphasis on age friendly aspects within their own area of expertise, in order to inform the Working Group's submission to CDP.
 - a. Mairead Owens, City Librarian
 - b. Les Moore, Dublin City Parks Superintendent
 - c. Pat Nestor, Accessibility Officer.

3. The Chief Officer DCC LCDC will circulate the draft of the new Age Friendly Strategy 2020 – 2025 for review.

Meeting 3 28th January 2021

Elected members present: Cllr. Alison Gilliland, Cllr Mary Callaghan, Cllr. Mary Freehill, Cllr. Donna Cooney, Cllr. Anne Feeney, Cllr. Mannix Flynn

Elected Members apologies: Cllr. Niall Ring

DCC staff present: Dáithí Downey, Sophia Brennan

Agenda:

- The following DCC Council staff attended and presented to the members:
 - Mairead Owens, City Librarian
 - Les Moore, Dublin City Parks Superintendent
 - Pat Nestor, Accessibility Officer

Actions:

1. A decision was made to focus on two main aspects as part of the group's submission to the new Development Plan;
 - Public Realm - Matters relating to the use of the public realm, signage, seating and design, access issues.
 - Housing Strategy which focuses on older people's requirements, including a more customised intervention with emphasis on age friendly principles.
2. The Chief Officer DCC LCDC, to circulate a draft paper for the submission, to all members, in preparation for the meeting on 18th February 2021.

Meeting 4 18 February 2021

Elected members present: Cllr. Alison Gilliland, Cllr Mary Callaghan, Cllr. Mary Freehill, Cllr. Donna Cooney, Cllr. Anne Feeney, Cllr. Niall Ring, Cllr. Mannix Flynn

DCC staff present: Dáithí Downey, Beatrice Casserly, Sophia Brennan

In attendance: Dr Nathan O'Connor

Agenda:

Dr Nathan O'Connor made the presentation on the Draft CDP Submission he developed with the Chief Officer, DCC LCDC. Nathan described the Draft process which was based primarily on minutes from the Working Group meetings and the Age Friendly Strategy. During its discussion Working Group members made comments and proposed several amendments throughout.

Actions

1. The Chief Officer DCC LCDC invited the members to email him all final comments/amendments for inclusion in the CDP Submission by close of business on Friday 19th February 2021. This was to facilitate meeting the submission deadline on Monday 22nd February 2021
2. Following agreement with the Chair, the Chief Officer DCC LCDC submitted the final draft of the submission on Monday 22nd February, 2021.

Meeting 5 22nd April 2021

Elected members present: Cllr. Alison Gilliland, Cllr Mary Callaghan, Cllr. Mary Frehill, Cllr. Donna Cooney, Cllr. Anne Feeney, Cllr. Niall Ring

Elected Members apologies: Cllr. Mannix Flynn

DCC staff present: Dáithí Downey, Sile McNulty Goodwin, Beatrice Casserly, Jamie Cudden, Orla Veale, Sophia Brennan

Agenda:

- Presentation on SMART Dublin and SmartD8 Health (Jamie Cudden, Senior Executive Officer, Smart Cities and Orla Veale, Project Officer, SmartD8) focused on the intersection of health and SMART city functions, particularly to older persons. It outlined assistive technology for persons with disability and support needs, health tech and online supports for health services, mobility supports, connectivity and community participation and activation.
- Presentation on DCC Age Friendly Strategy 2020 – 2025 (Beatrice Casserly, Regional Manager Age Friendly Programme)

Actions:

1. A decision was made to investigate the future uses of technologies through a formal workshop. Innovative examples include Smart D8 pilot projects
 - HANDS – Healthy ageing for a New Age Digital Society - Robinson’s Court, D8.
 - Social Prescribing – staying socially connected with non-medical support including day centres/charities/community groups etc.
 - Health & Well-Being education
2. Investigate utilising the healthy Programme framework as a governance model.
3. Issues relating to community and social infrastructure including seating at bus shelters: A letter to be drafted by the Chief Officer to the National Disability Authority requesting update on current policy. Draft letter to be forwarded to the Chair for signature.
4. Urban Playful Paradigm –A request for the DCC Healthy Ireland Programme Manager to contact Healthy Cork regarding this play project for all ages.
5. A request for a list of Age Friendly related activities that Dublin City Council is involved with.



Dáithí Downey
Chief Officer, DCC Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)
Senior Executive Officer,
Housing and Community Services.