



Special Committee on Homelessness

A meeting of the Special Committee on Homelessness took place on 1st September 2021 via Zoom. The following were in attendance:

Cllr Hazel Chu	GP CHAIR
Cllr Janet Horner	GP
Cllr Daithí Doolan	SF
Mary Hayes	Director DRHE
John Durkan	Deputy Director DRHE
Lorraine Brogan	Deputy Director DRHE
Catherine Kenny	Homeless Network
Haley Curran	Homeless Network
Meadhbh Cahill	Homeless Network

Haley Curran of Focus Ireland, on behalf of the Homeless Network, gave the first presentation on the experiences of women accessing Homeless Services based on research across 6 services and 34 service users. Members were invited to raise any queries following the presentation and the following issues were discussed:

- How to ensure the recommendations made in the research report are enacted where possible.
- Trauma Informed Care as the desirable standard across services.
- Male-dominated culture across some services.
- Children remaining in their care as a particular concern for mothers experiencing homelessness.
- Limitations of the research and the value of further engagement to return a broader view of the experiences of women.
- New service planned with Tusla for those with addiction, to include domestic violence inreach supports.

Lorraine Brogan, Deputy Director DRHE, made the second presentation giving an overview on the finances of the DRHE. The following areas were discussed:

- COVID-19 spending and what homeless services will look like post-pandemic.
- Day services and their importance in light of accommodations now providing 24 hour access with meals (where cooking facilities are not provided).
- Housing, in both progression and prevention, as a priority.

The next meeting will take place on 6th October. Topics for discussion are to be confirmed.
The following have been invited to attend:

Cllr Hazel Chu	GP	CHAIR
Lord Mayor Alison Gilliland	LAB	
Cllr Daithí de Róiste	FF	
Cllr Daithí Doolan	SF	
Cllr Janet Horner	GP	
Cllr Catherine Stocker	SD	
Cllr Tina MacVeigh	PBP	
Cllr Kevin Donoghue	LAB	
Cllr James Geoghegan	FG	
Mary Hayes	Director DRHE	
Lorraine Brogan	A/ Deputy Director DRHE	
John Durkan	Deputy Director DRHE	