

HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE
MINUTES FOR SPC MEETING ON
FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2023

Attendance:**Members:**

Cllr Mary Callaghan
Cllr Hazel Chu
Cllr Donna Cooney
Cllr Maire Devine
Cllr Kevin Donoghue
Cllr Pat Dunne
Cllr James Geoghegan
Cllr Alison Gilliland (CP)
Cllr Briega MacOscar
Cllr Eimer McCormack
Cllr Catherine Stocker
Cllr Colm O'Rourke
Cllr Cieran Perry
Cllr Hazel de Nortúin
Ailbhe McLoughlin – ICSH

Dublin City Council Officials

Frank d'Arcy – Acting Assisting Chief Executive
Michelle Robinson – Acting Executive Manager
Denise Doyle – Acting Administrative Officer
Bevin Herbert – Senior Executive Officer
Tony Smithers – Senior Executive Officer
Michael Clarke – Area Housing Manager
Sandra Barry – Acting Allocations Officer
Damien McCabe – Administrator
Ruth Quinn – Administrator

Other Councilors in attendance

Cllr Mannix Flynn
Cllr Patricia Roe
Cllr Deirdre Heney

Apologies

Cllr Daithí Doolan
Pat Greene DSC
Mick O'Reilly ICTU
Denise Murray (RIAI)
Diarmuid MacDubhglais – PPN
Mike Allen – FI
Dr. Kevin Byrne – SGCRA

1. Minutes of meeting dated Wednesday 8th November 2023 and matters arising

Minutes Agreed

2. Chairpersons Business

3. Estate Management & Antisocial Behavior

Michael Clarke, Area Housing Manager, and Tony Smithers, Senior Executive Officer, led a presentation on Estate Management & Antisocial Behavior including an overview of the Estate Management Strategy 2022-2027 and its implementation. The members discussed the following aspects and related matters:

- the effectiveness of the current legislation particularly with regard to the impact of drug dealing in local estates
- the role of good informed local estate managers in preventing escalations of minor anti-social behaviour into more persistent serious behaviours
- liaising with An Garda Síochána
- the role of mediation and arbitration in resolving disagreements between neighbours
- the general lack of social services including child and family supports, mental health supports particularly early intervention services, drug and alcohol detoxification services

The Committee thanked Michael and Tony for the presentation and discussion.

4. SPC Work Plan & Schedule January – May 2024.

The Chair provided a re-cap on the last year's work programme. The Chair also sought suggestions from the members on topics they would like the SPC to examine. It was agreed that the 2024 committee workplan would include a focus on community activities, adaptation grant, active land management, cost rental and that the last meeting in May would review housing delivery over of the 2019-2024 Council term. The format would include both meetings in the Council Chamber and Workshops.

5. End of year update on Allocations and HAP tenancies

Bevin Herbert, Senior Executive Officer and Sandra Barry, Acting Allocations Officer, provided a presentation on

- Number of Housing Allocations;
- Homeless Lettings;
- Choice Based Lettings;
- Tenant in Situ; and
- HAP Tenancies

The members discussed aspects of the presentation and thanked Bevin and Sandra for the update

6. Update on Working Groups

i. Public Housing Working Group

The Chair, as Chair of the Public Housing Working Group confirmed the group had not met since the last SPC meeting.

ii. Special Committee on Homelessness

Cllr Hazel Chu, Chair of the Special Committee on Homelessness, provided a verbal update from the meeting held on the 14th of December, she advised they discussed people in employment accessing homeless services, potential research topics led by Pathie Maphosa Administrative Officer, DRHE, and the use of the CSO data to support the research programme.

iii. Senior Citizens Working Group

Following on from a request by member of the Senior Citizens Working Group the Chair, as Chair of the Senior Citizens Working Group, has requested from the Lord Mayor that Eimear McCormack from Healthy Age Friendly Home Programme to give a presentation at the next full Council meeting so as to highlight this invaluable service.

v. Oversight Committee on Animal Welfare Issues

Cllr. Heney, Chair of the Oversight Committee on Animal Welfare Issues, provided an update on the ongoing positive work of the Animal Welfare Office and noted that two new staff would be joining the unit 2024.

vi. Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee

Denise Doyle A/Administrative Officer, provided the following update:

- Stage 2 application for nine additional houses in Caragh Park has been submitted to the Department
- Signed off on four new tenancies in St. Josephs Park;
- Two houses have come back into stock and will be going forward for refurbishments and then to be allocated to Traveller families;
- The new Waste Management Plan is due to start in mid-January;
- Plans to extend the retro-fit programme to remaining housing stock in the new year and the frame work is currently being drafted;
- Caragh Park retrofit pilot programme, obtained a 1 A3 rating and the remaining 23 houses received a B1 rating;
- New play facilities in Labret Park & Dominics Park in the new year.

AOB.

LECP Public Consultation: Michelle Robinson, acting Executive Manager, highlighted key issues from a report on the ongoing LECP Public Consultation programme She drew attention to the opportunities for members and their communities to input to the consultation process which is open until 15th of January 2024

Voids: Frank d’Arcy, Acting Assistant Chief Executive, confirmed that €28.8 million was spent on voids in 2023 (to date) refurbishing 1,007 units; that of that €5.6m had originally been received by the Department with an additional €12.8m recently committed; that 900 voids are anticipated to be done in 2024.

Avalon House: Frank d’Arcy, Acting Assistant Chief Executive indicated that this premises was leased to an AHB in 2018, that High Court proceedings were initiated and as a result of these the lease was reassigned to DCC. Tender documents are being prepared to allow for the building to be redesigned for use.

