



PPN Community & Voluntary elected representative's: **Tess Murphy, Stephanie Igoe**

PPN Social Inclusion elected representative: **Eileen Finan**

Date: **06.02.2017**

*Meeting Agenda*

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Housing Services Strategic Policy Committee

Meeting held on the 7th November 2016 - copy attached.

2. Matters Arising from Minutes.

3. Consideration of policy regarding the sale of houses by the Local Authority.

4. Consideration of Draft Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2016 – 2021 - attached.

5. Presentation on Housing Assistance Payment(HAP)

**In Attendance:** John Brannigan Director of Housing, Councillor Gerry Warnock chairperson, Councillors John Brown, Paul Ross, Martin Mulleady, PJ Reilly, PPN reps Eileen Finan and Tess Murphy

**Apologies:** Stephanie Igoe

**Absent:**

**Presentations: Yes / (details if Yes) HAP Scheme**

Agenda item	Member	Discussion	Actions / Who
<b>Item 1</b> Confirmation of Minutes		The minutes of Housing Services Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on the 7th November 2016 – were approved (copy Attached)	
<b>Item 2</b> Consideration of policy regarding the sale of houses by the Local Authority.	Director	If a house currently owned by Longford County Council is no longer required, it will be put on the market in the usual way, through an estate agent	
<b>Item 3</b> Consideration of Draft Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2016 – 2021 - attached.	Sheila Tipper –tenant liaison officer	The policy is attached. The SPC was broadly supportive. I raised the issue of support for vulnerable tenants particularly those with addiction and mental health issues. Everyone agreed that there is a huge problem with the lack of support from mental health services. The policy will now go to the council for approval	
<b>Item 4</b> Presentation on Housing Assistance Payment(HAP)	<b>Anne Glancy</b>	<p>I have asked Anne to email the presentation so that it can be circulated to all members of the linkage group. Basically it is the mechanism replacing Rent Supplement. It is open to applicants on the housing waiting list with an income of between 25,000-30,000 Euro depending on the personal circumstances. Unlike rent supplement, the applicant may be in full time work. The housing subsidy again varies depending on size of household but for example a couple with three children would be entitled to a rental subsidy of €450. They will have to find the accommodation themselves. If the landlord fulfils all the criteria, he will be paid the rent directly from a central hub in Limerick County Council. If there is no property available at €450, the prospective tenant can negotiate with the landlord and agree to pay the difference. The tenant can also choose to remain on the council waiting list. There were many concerns expressed about the scheme. It was placing the responsibility for housing glow income tenants on private landlords. The local authority will not be involved; all issues will be addressed nationally through Limerick County Council. There is no support for vulnerable tenants.</p> <p>The Director outlined details of two other emerging schemes to increase social housing availability, the Repair and Lease Initiative where landlords can avail of up to €40,000 to repair run down properties provided they are leased back to the council. He didn't have full details of another scheme where the local authority can purchase derelict properties, repair and rent them out.</p> <p>Next meeting is 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017</p>	

