



Public Participation Network Feedback Form: Housing SPC Meeting



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

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

Date: 07.10.2015

Meeting Agenda

1. .Age Friendly Strategy
2. . Social Housing Strategy 2015-2017
3. .Develop Policy on Older Person's Dwellings
4. Update on Refurbishment of Colmcille and Richmond Terrace, Granard
5. Work Programme

In Attendance: Councillors O'Reilly, Mulleady, Warnock, Ross, Browne, Stephanie Igoe PPN, Tess Murphy PPN

Apologies: Eileen Finan

Absent:

At the start of the meeting the Chairperson Councillor P.J. Reilly welcomed the new Director of Housing and Infrastructure John Brannigan. Arising on the minutes of the previous meeting the council was congratulated on the refurbishment carried out in Springlawn. There is still an issue with the inadequacy of storage heaters as an satisfactory heating system but the Government is not providing funding to replace them at the moment but it referred to its insulation programme and encouraged tenants to avail of that instead. To cut down on refusals by people on the waiting list, it was suggested that Longford could look at choiced based letting currently being implemented in other areas. That is a system where all vacancies are offered to everyone on the list an dthe property is then allocated to the person who applies with the greatest housing need.

Presentations: Yes / No (details if Yes)

There was a presentation on the Age Friendly Ireland on making our homes and towns places where people can live out their whole lives through strategic planning of the built environment. Many counties and local authorities in Ireland have already begun work on age friendly cities and counties programme. The presentation gave examples developed already such as communal living for older persons in Dundalk and many safety devices that can be installed in existing homes to enable older people to remain in their own homes and avoid residential care. Further details can be found on their website

www.agefriendlyireland.ie

Agenda item	Member	Discussion	Actions / Who
<u>Item 1</u> <u>Age Friendly Strategy</u>	See above	The Committee felt that many of the initiatives outlined would enhance the lives of older people in the county. However it wasn't clear how it would be progressed in Longford County Council	
<u>Item 2</u> <u>Social housing Strategy</u>	Housing Officer	The National Social housing Strategy was approved by government in November 2014. Longford's target for delivery under the strategy is 210 housing units to include 34 new builds or refurbishment of empty local authority houses, 114 under leasing, 62 under rental accommodation scheme. Approval has already for 13 units in Lanesboro and the refurbishment of 13 voids. There are 1169 households on the council waiting list	
<u>Item 3</u> Develop policy on Older peoples dwellings		Lot of discussion especially in light of presentation, not sure of decision	
<u>Item 4</u>			

<p><u>Refurbishment of Colmcille Terrace</u></p>		<p>Colmcille Terrace is in the voids programme. There is a plan to meet the current owners in Redmond Terrace and discuss rehousing the tenants</p>	
<p><u>Item 5</u> Work Programme</p>		<p>No discussion but it was outlined in the minutes of the previous meeting, held in January that the work programme would be to focus attention on the development of policy along the following lines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Housing and Estate Management • Policy relating to letting priorities • Voluntary Housing • Policy relating to the control of the Private Rented Sector • Financial Assistance for Persons in Need of Housing • Traveller Accommodation and Facilities for Travellers • Providing facilities for persons with disabilities 	
<p><u>A.O.B</u></p>		<p>The next meeting was agreed for 14th December at 2.30 pm</p>	