

**WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**HOUSING & CORPORATE ESTATE STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023**

**Attendance:** Cllr. John Snell, Cllr. Stephen Stokes, , Cllr. Grace McManus, Cllr. Tommy Annesley, Mary-Anne Parsons (PPN), Joe Lane (WCC), Theresa O'Brien (WCC), Helena Fallon (WCC), Declan Marnane (WCC) Aoibheann McCloy, Cllr. Paul O'Brien, Brian Wildes ,Michael Ryan

Apologies: Cllr. Aoife Flynn Kennedy, Cllr Paul O'Brien

**Item 1: Minutes of Meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup>. November 2022 was proposed by Cllr Paul O'Brien and seconded by Michael Ryan.

**Item 2: Matters arising**

There were no matters arising that would not be dealt with in the course of the meeting

**Item 3: To Receive a presentation and update on the Ukrainian Response**

The members received a presentation and update on the Ukrainian Response from Grainne O'Neill.

The members acknowledged the excellent work of the Ukrainian team and a decision was taken that the committee would in the future visit the Bobbio Centre in Magheramore where 12 Ukrainian families were currently housed.

Joe Lane DOS advised the committee that 2 sites had been identified as a possibility for modular homes and were currently with the OPW for further investigation.

**Item 3: To Receive a presentation on the current Affordable housing scheme and Affordable Part V**

Brian Wildes gave an update on the current Affordable housing scheme at Murrough View in Wicklow Town.

The members welcomed the update and Cllr John Snell praised the members of Wicklow MD for their vision in supporting this affordable housing scheme in County Wicklow which was open to all residents of County Wicklow and also stated that once completed that 36 families had their own homes which is something to be celebrated

The members of the committee complimented Brian Wildes and the housing team for the great work in getting this scheme across the line and looked forward to welcoming further schemes in the pipeline across the County.

David Porter updated the members on the current Affordable Part V scheme and the following point was clarified for the members

Part V gain must be provided to the Council in the area of the original build.

The members thanked David Porter for the presentation

#### **Item 5: To discuss the sale of Local Authority Houses**

Helena Fallon SE gave a presentation on the proposal to sell additional properties where the refurbishment works would cost in excess of €100,000.00 (4 properties were identified)

1 in Tinahely and 3 in Bray

The idea behind this proposal is that the properties are sold to housing list applicants and any monies received are ring fenced for capital type maintenance in the relevant MD area.

#### **Item 6: To agree a Policy on Fabric Upgrade with revisions as agreed at the previous SPC**

Helena Fallon Senior Engineer outlined the updated policy on fabric upgrades to local Authority Houses – the policy is to enable a priority system to be determined for units to be included in the scheme. The new policy includes the revisions as agreed at the previous SPC meeting (that every effort is made to include all tenants including those in rent arrears and where anti social behaviour has been reported ) This involves significant interaction with the tenants to ensure that they are included in the scheme.

#### **Item 7: To receive update on housing delivery programme, Homeless and Traveller Accommodation**

- The number on the social housing list at end of February was 4444
- 22 age friendly schemes are in the pipeline with 2 units in Delgany and 2 on Mill Road Greystones being constructed at present
- There are 17 CPOs underway on long term vacant houses around the county
- One infill site are under construction - in Knockroe – the construction of 2 x 4 bedroomed fully accessible units
- Number of new homeless presentation for February 2023 was 36 and there have been 74 presentations to date to date for the year 2023
- Wicklow County Council has, to date, successfully accommodated 15 clients under Housing First and it is hoped that 6 further allocations will take place before the end of 2023 which exceeds the targets set for Wicklow

- Traveller Accommodation -
  1. Ballintekin – 3 houses – contractor on site
  2. Avondale Heights – 3 houses – due to a reduction in the number of properties being built a new stage 3 application will have to be submitted to the dept for approval
  3. Barndarrig Group housing Scheme - change in family circumstances so site selection will now have to be re-considered – a consultant has been appointed to do same

**Item 6: To receive an update on sale of derelict houses previously agreed by SPC**

There had been agreement at a previous SPC to advertise the sale of 4 derelict properties to persons in need of housing and on the housing waiting list

These properties had now been advertised and there were 3 interested parties in two of the properties and only one in one of the properties and no interest in the fourth property.

None of the interested parties were tenants of WCC but all are on the WCC housing list

The sale of these properties were now to be progressed to the highest bidder in the case where there was more than one applicant and to the lone applicant for the third house

**Item 9: Any other Business**

There were no items raised under Any Other Business

**Item 10: To set date and time of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting will be circulated

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
**Cllr John Snell Cathaoirleach**

Dated \_\_\_\_\_