

Minutes of Meeting of SPC 3 – Housing

Held on 24th February, 2022 on Microsoft Teams Conference Call

Present: Cllr. Joe Malone, Cllr. Eugene McGuinness, Cllr. Martin Brett, Cllr. Joe Lyons, Cllr. Andrew McGuinness, Cllr. Denis Hynes, John Bourke, Yvonne Moriarty, Michael Leahy, Mary Mulholland, Maria O’Shea, Eimear Cody, Noel Sherry,

Apologies: Cllr. Pat Fitzpatrick, Brian Dunlop

Cllr. Joe Malone Chairman welcomed all.

Item 1 – Minutes of Meeting of 24th November 2021

Minutes were agreed. Proposed by Cllr. Andrew Mc Guanines Seconded by Cllr. Martin Brett

No matters arising

Item 2 – Capital Update

Eimear Cody made a presentation on the Capital Update for Housing. Eimear advised the that Brother Thomas Place, Shanganny, Jenkinstown is nearly completed. 22 units in Nuncio Road should be complete June/July. 25 units in Ladywell are on site.

Contributions: Cllr. Andrew McGuinness Cllr. Martin Brett.

Item 3 – Homeless Update

In 2020 = 252 compared to 2021= 370. Homeless services have currently 3 staff, Anne Marie Delaney, Homeless Officer, Selina Burris and Mary Walsh HAP Path Finder.

There was no of families in December or no kids in for Christmas in emergency accommodation due to the homeless policy and prevention and intervention. You are only entitled to a service if you are connected to Kilkenny. The only occasion would be bad weather where someone would accommodate until the morning and then advised to be moved to the proper services in the county.

Noel Sherry from the Good Shepherd spoke we regard to the difference of the increase 118 referrals and what happens before it comes to the them. 130 days is usually the average stay. What has contributed to the problem is in private accommodation.

Own Front Door Is temporary transitional accommodation provided to services users moving from Emergency Accommodation. Residential Treatment has high waiting time up to 6 months 163 Long term units, 12 Own front door units

Contributions Yvonne Moriarty, Joe Lyons, Noel Sherry, Andrew McGuinness

Item 4 – Housing First – Own Front Door

Michael Leahy when through the slid presentation on Housing First. Housing first model aims to provide a person who has been in long term homeless with their own secure accommodation.

We currently as 12 units. Plan to double numbers in 2022.

The changes in the National Policy are the tenant purchase scheme has now gone for 1 year with a housing support to 10 years. Its proposed that 1 year on the rent to get succession of tenancy now will be 5 years.

Item 5 - Good Shepherd

Noel Sherry spoke in relation to the good Shepherd Centre. He advised with regard to the difference of the increase 118 referrals and what happens before it comes to the them. 130 days is usually the average stay. What has contributed to the problem is in private accommodation. Residential Treatment has high waiting time up to 6 months 163 Long term units, 12 Own front door units. Noel went to the various referrals that they would receive and that risk assessments are done and can be excluded if the pose a risk. Michael Leahy highlighted that they have to be referred to Kilkenny County Council before they go to the Good Shepherd.

Contributions Eugene McGuinness

Item 6 - Date for next Meeting

It was agreed to hold the next meeting on the 26th May at 11.00 a.m.

This concluded the business of the meeting.