

**DRAFT**  
**Minutes of County Kildare Housing SPC**  
**May 19th 2016**  
**Kildare County Council.**

**Present:**

Cllr Paddy Kennedy, Chairperson  
Cllr Joanne Pender  
Cllr. Aoife Breslin  
Cllr Thomas Redmond  
Cllr. Brendan Weld  
Denis Buckley  
Pat Doyle  
Tadhg Mc Donnell, Director of Services  
Cllr Robert Power  
Cllr. Deborah Callaghan  
Cllr. Tim Durkan

**In attendance:**

Annette Aspell, SEO, Housing  
Sinead Fitzpatrick, AO, Housing  
Mary Mc Carthy, AO, Housing  
Mark Mc Loughlin, AO, Housing

**Apologies:**

Raymon O' Reilly

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

The meeting was opened by Cllr. Paddy Kennedy, Chairperson, who thanked all members for their good wishes during his recent illness.

**2. Minutes of SPC March 2nd 2016**

The minutes of the SPC meeting of March 2nd 2016 were approved. Proposed by Denis Buckley, seconded by Cllr. Tim Durkan

**3. Correspondence**

A list of circulars received by the housing department to date in 2016 was circulated to all members for consideration.

**4. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**5. Housing Section Update**

Director of Services, Tadhg Mc Donnell provided the following housing update:

Teach Tearmann: Tulsa have confirmed that they have received an increased allocation for Teach Tearmann which will resource the facility to open fully.

Tenant Purchase Scheme: To date 160 enquires have been made to the housing office with regard to the scheme. A small number of applications have been received but uptake on the

scheme is not expected to be significant. The issue was raised that some tenants are being discriminated against by the terms of the scheme i.e part five houses, however the director confirmed that KCC had no discretion in this but agreed to raise it when he met the department.

Homelessness: The director gave a full over view of homeless supports currently being provided. The issue of using treatment centres for homelessness was raised by members. It was agreed that it was not the most appropriate solution and these issues are being discussed nationally with all models being examined.

Pat Doyle confirmed that he had recently received the keys for the units secured under CAS which will provide 7-9 beds in single tenant units.

Cllr Pender raised the limited emergency accommodation suitable for families in Kildare. The tenant purchase scheme was also raised as she felt that KCC should not be selling stock when we have such demand for social housing. With regard to the capital programme delivery it was agreed that the quarterly progress report given to council would also be provided to SPC.

Capital Programme: The director provided the following overview of the capital programme delivery:

**Kilcock (20 houses)**

Awaiting Stage 3 approval from the Department which is expected by 20 May 2016. Tender documentation to be completed by 24 June 2016, with a view to tendering for construction on the 1 July 2016. The closing date for receipt of tenders will be 5 August 2016. Receive Stage 4 approval and award contract for construction by the 26 August 2016.

**Bishopsland (28 houses)**

Design consultants appointed. Part 8 drawings to be completed in early August with a view to seeking Part 8 approval in October.

**Anne Street, Prosperous (10 houses)**

Design consultants to be appointed shortly. Part 8 drawings to be completed in early August with a view to seeking Part 8 approval in October.

**St. Patrick's Park, Rathangan**

Drainage enabling works are underway and are due to be completed by the 10 June 2016. The Quantity Surveyor is preparing tender documents for Phase 1 refurbishment works. Refurbishment works will be carried out in 4 lots, this will allow for the temporary re-accommodation of tenants. The building contractor for lot 1 refurbishment works will be appointed by 1 July 2016. Design consultants for phase 2 and 3 works (demolition and new build) will be appointed by the 30 June 2016.

## **6. Irish Council For Social Housing - Presentation:**

Ms. Caren Gallagher, Director of Policy with the Irish Council for Social Housing provided an overview of the organisation and the important partnership role local authorities have with approved housing bodies. The presentation was seen as very informative by members and the chairperson thanked Caren and highlighted the importance of the relationship between the ICSH and local authorities.

## **7. Allocations Policy**

Following the special meeting to consider the allocations policy a number of submissions were received from members. Mary Mc Carthy collated the submissions and circulated them for consideration. Cllr. Penders expressed her preference for a points based system. Following consideration of each item the policy was approved to submit to the CPG. Proposed by Cllr. Redmond and seconded by Cllr. Durkan.

**This concluded the business of the meeting.**

**Date of next meeting: September 15th 2016.**