Housing & Community SPC
Minutes of Meeting 19th April 2023

In the Chair: Cllr Joe Sullivan

Present: Mr William Considine, Cllr Jim Codd, Cllr David Hynes, Cllr Fionntán O'Suilleabháin, Mr Michael Wall, Ms Anita McLoughlin A/SEO Housing, Ms Caroline Creane SSO Housing, Ms Carolyne Godkin Director of Service, Ms Rachael Jordan AO Housing, Ms Liz Burns Arts Officer, Ms Eileen Morrissey County Librarian and Ms Helen Meehan SSO Housing

Apologies: Cllr John O'Rourke

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes & Matters arising

The minutes of the SPC meeting dated 7th February were approved on the proposal of Cllr Davy Hynes and seconded by Cllr Jim Codd.

Mr. Wall made a request for amendment to the previous minutes of 1st February 2023 to read - The Fire and Emergency Operations Plan 2022-2026 was recommended by the SPC for submission to Full Council for approval on the proposal of Cllr John O'Rourke and seconded by Cllr David Hynes.

A lengthy discussion took place about the Fire and Emergency Operations Plan after the recent fire in Wexford Hospital and a number of the members expressed concerns on this issue. A discussion took place on the operation and the review approach undertaking by Fire Services Management in relation to fire response. It was agreed to invite a deputation from the Fire Service to the June SPC meeting.

Decade of Centenaries

The County Librarian outlined the Decade of Centenaries Programme 2023 which marks the final year of the programme. The Government's objective for the programme was to promote an inclusive, respectful, authentic, measured and consultative approach to commemorations. It is important that young people have an understanding of significant historical events within the county. A short discussion took place about the programme and the members present recommended other significant events to the County Librarian and she agreed to look into them.

Arts Plan 2023-2027

The Arts Officer gave a presentation to the meeting outlining the Wexford County Arts Plan 2023-2027, she informed the meeting of the legislation and other plans and strategies that informed the plan. It was noted that public consultation meetings were held in each of the 5 Municipal Districts throughout the county. The mission is to champion the arts and creativity in the county by using strategies of Engaging, Enabling and Enriching. There are six goals contained in the plan and there will be regular reporting back to members and management with annual target goals, planning and operational budgets. The SPC members requested that a number of links be explored eg Phil Murphy weekend, Rathangan fair, a mural of Pecker Dunne and Corach Rambler horse who won the Grand National. The plan was approved on the proposal of Cllr Davy Hynes and seconded by Cllr Jim Codd.

Disability Figures

The Housing SSO informed the members of an update on the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Housing Disabled People 2021-2023. She outlined the number of allocations made in 2022 to people with a disability which was 19.1% of all allocations. The target for the year was 20%. It was noted that we were on course to meet our target in 2023.

Any other business

- **Housing** – The members requested that Housing be the first Agenda item going forward. This was agreed by the Director.

- **Tenant-in-Situ** – A short discussion took place about the Tenant in Situ scheme and it was noted that priority is being given to properties whereby a valid notice to quit has been issued and there is a risk of homelessness.

- **Information Session** – The meeting was informed that Housing Dept are holding an information session for tenants who have been issued Notice of Termination on Wednesday, 26th April from 4pm to 7pm. All tenants with Notice of Terminations are encouraged to make an appointment however, we will facilitate drop in's also.

Next Meeting

The next SPC meeting is Wednesday, 7th June 2023.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: _____