

Members in attendance:

Joe McGuinness, Chairman, Louth County Council
Andy Ogle, Coordinator NE Drug & Alcohol Task Force
Carrie Cowan, Drogheda Women & Children's Refuge
Catherine McHugh, Dept of Social Protection
Cllr. Conor Keelan, Louth County Council
Siobhan McKenna, Tearmann Domestic Abuse Service
Lisa Marmion, Dundalk Woman's Aid
Mary McDonald, Probation Service
Michelle Reilly, Homeless Liaison, TUSLA
Orla Brady, Cavan County Council
Roisin McDonnell, Focus Ireland
Nuala Woods, Monaghan County Council
Aoife Lawler, Louth County Council
Mary G. Reilly, Louth County Council
Michelle Donnelley, HSE
Maureen Ward, Drogheda Housing Aid
Denis McArdle, Louth County Council
Susan Murphy, Louth County Council

Guests in attendance:

Frank Murtagh, Murtagh Counselling
Gary Ryan, Department of Housing
Nora Rowland, Department of Housing

The meeting focused exclusively on a workshop format in reviewing the 2014-2017 Regional Homelessness Action Plan and requirements that will arise for a new plan period 2018-2020. By using a workshop format the following matters were discussed in particular:

- Mental Health:
- Drug and Alcohol Residential Services
- Discharged Protocols
- Intellectual Disabilities
- Increasing Behavioural Issues
- National Policy in this area

Housing Supply

A number of matters were discussed in relation to housing supplies which will always influence the housing market including:

- Delivery of units,
- Vacancy rates,
- Changing needs of the Population

A number of challenges were identified in relation to the forth coming Plan these included:

- The Social Media challenge with regard to people who want assist the Homeless process.

- The obvious challenge of Housing Supply
- Number of complex cases presenting
- The identified need for transitional Housing for those who are exiting emergency accommodation are those who are at risk of losing a tenancy and the vital need of same.

In conclusion the meeting finished with a commitment that an issues paper would prepared and circulated to all as the next stage in the evolvement of the next Homeless Action Plan.

Minutes Confirmed at the Meeting of

Chairman

29 Mar 2017
