

North East Regional Homeless Forum

29th November 2016 Cooley Room, County Hall, Dundalk 14.30pm

Members in attendance:

Joe McGuinness, Chairman, Louth County Council
Orla Brady, Cavan County Council
Michelle Reilly, Homeless Liasion, TUSLA
Mary McDonald, Probation Service
Catherine McHugh, Dept of Social Protection
Siobhan McKenna, Tearmann
Michelle Ryan, Simon Community
Sara McKeown, Drogheda Womens & Children's Refuge
Lisa Gavillet, North East Drugs Task Force

Guests in attendance:

None

Apologies:

Lisa Marmion, Dundalk Woman's Aid
Denis McArdle, Louth County Council
Michelle Donnelley, HSE
Susan Murphy, Louth County Council
George Wallace, Cuan Mhuire
Grainne Sullivan, TUSLA
Carrie Cowan, Drogheda Women & Children's Refuge
Roisin McDonnell, Focus Ireland
Andy Ogle, RTDAF
Aoife Lawler, Senior Executive Officer

1. Minutes of last meeting:

Proposed by Mary McDonald and seconded by Catherine McHugh the minutes of the meeting of 27th Sept 2016 were adopted.

2. Matters arising:

- Cllr. C. Keelan pointed out that he attended the meeting of the 22nd September 2016 and this amendment was noted and agreed.
- J. McGuinness advised of the current status of the Tenancy Sustainment Tender and it was disappointing that this matter was not finalised. Concern was expressed by the members in relation to the delay in finalising this matter.
- Michelle Reilly, TUSLA pointed out that the minute in relation to the TUSLA discussion with the Dublin Homeless Agency should be referred to as protocol and not a service level agreement. Again this matter was noted and agreed.

3. Homeless Action Plan:

Joe McGuinness circulated an update in relation to the current Homeless Action Plan and this matter was noted. A discussion took place in relation to formulating a new Homeless Strategy and it was suggested and agreed that facilitated session would assist the development of a new Strategy in early 2017. A number of persons were suggested for this exercise and it was noted that it should be conjunction or

compatible with the Local Economic and Community and Community Safety Strategy.

4. Quarterly Reports to DOE:

The quarterly reports to the DOE were noted by the members. Concern was expressed in relation to North East Quarter 3 table 4 and the number of persons quoted as 13 who are unknown left without reason. It was agreed that Joe McGuinness would endeavour to get more detail on these figures.

5. AOB:

Number of discussion took place in relation to the following matters:

- Rough Sleepers on the Rough Sleepers Count
- The development of a Transitional Facility at Church Street, Dundalk and the learning that could begin from this process.
- With the recent death of a person may have been rough sleeping in the Dundalk Area was noted with acknowledgement of concern of this development.
- J. McGuinness advised would circulate for dates 2017 for Homeless Fora Meetings.

Confirmed at the Meeting of

29 May 2017

Chairman

