

**SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

Minutes of Social Development Strategic Policy Committee Meeting

Location: Council Chamber & Microsoft Teams

Date: Friday, 4 July 2025 at 2:30pm

PRESIDING: Councillor Paul Ross

PRESENT: Councillor Kevin Hussey, Councillor Sean Mimmagh, Councillor Colin Dalton, Councillor Padraig McNamara, Maria Keelty, Diarmuid O'Sullivan,

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Samanta Healy – Director of Services
Ms. Mary Gouldsbury, Senior Staff Officer
Ms. Patricia Forde,
Ms. Janine Bartley,

APOLOGIES: Niamh Donlon, Noeleen McTaggart, Enda McManus
Ms. Lorraine McKee

**A/MEETINGS
ADMINISTRATOR:** Mr. Gerard Dennigan

1. INTRODUCTION

Paul Ross welcomed the Elected Members and representatives to the meeting.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

**3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT SPC MEETING HELD ON 28
APRIL**

On the proposal of Councillor Kevin Hussey seconded by Councillor Colin Dalton, the

minutes of the Social Development SPC meeting held on the 28 April 2025 were adopted.

4. HOUSING UPDATE

Director of Services, Samantha Healy and Senior Executive Officer, Mary Gouldsbury provided an update to the members on Housing. The update included the retrofit programme of works planned and ongoing. The members raised question around the retrofit programme to which both Samantha and Mary responded to.

5. LONGFORD COUNTY COUNCIL'S SCHEME OF PRIORITY FOR AFFORDABLE DWELLING PURCHASE ARRANGEMENTS

Councillor Paul Ross, as Chair of the Social Development SPC, introduced Longford County Council's Scheme of Priority for Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements which was circulated to the Members in advance of the meeting. The members considered the proposed scheme and recommended it for consideration by the CPG.

Councillor Paul Ross outlined the following amendment which reflected discussions at the SPC meeting and recommended that the Scheme be revised to reflect the change.

6.3. Priority shall be given to eligible households in the following order:

Live within 10km of the affordable housing development and whose current address as given in the application form is within the Municipal District (Link to map showing MD to go here) of Longford.

Work within 10km of the development and whose current residential address is within County Longford.

6.4 Where the number of eligible applicants within either of the above categories exceeds the number of dwellings available, priority shall be determined based on the date and time order in which applications were received (first-come, first-served).

On the proposal of Councillor Paul Ross and Seconded by Councillor Kevin Hussey, the SPC members approved Longford County Council's Scheme of Priority for Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements and to be brought to the Corporate Policy Group for consideration.

6. UPDATE ON FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE

Patricia Forde provided an update on the recent application for the Family Resource Centre. During the discussion, Councillor Padraig McNamara emphasised that more funding should come from Central Government rather than relying heavily on the Municipal Districts and Longford County Council. Councillor Kevin Hussey inquired about the rent costs for the Attic House. Councillor Colin Dalton expressed his support for the project, while Maria Keelty raised a question regarding the building's accessibility.

The members unanimously thanked and acknowledged Patricia for providing the update.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The proposed date for the next meeting of the Social Development Strategic Policy Committee is 20 October 2025 to which the members unanimously agreed.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:


Gerard Dennigan
Meetings Administrator

Confirmed and adopted at Social Development Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on the 20 October 2025

Signed:


Chairperson