

**Tuairisc/Reporting Template for Galway City
Community Network (GCCN) Reps**

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info@galwaycitycommunitynetwork.ie



Galway City Community Network
Lionra Pobail Chathair Na Gaillimhe

Cruinniú /Name of Meeting	Housing & Social Inclusion Strategic Policy Committee
Ionadaí FPCG (glacadóir - nótaí) Name of GCCF Rep (note-taker)	Karina Timothy
Dáta & Suite Date & Location of Meeting:	Galway City Council, Thurs, 22/11/18
I láthair/ Attendance	<p>Cllr Declan McDonnell, Cllr Mike Cubbard, Cllr Mairéad Farrell, Cllr Mark Lohan, Alan Daly (ICTU) Karina Timothy, (Galway City Community Network), Karen Golden, (Galway City Community Network) Dermot Mahon, Helena Martyn, Ann Brett, Tom Prendergast, Sharon Carroll (All Galway City Council)</p> <p>Note that Mark Lohan, Mairéad Farrell and Mark Lohan were only present for approximately 10 minutes each.</p>

Príomhphointí pléite / Key Issues Discussed:

1. Presentation given by Stephen Curtis of *Home for Life* appointed by the Housing Agency to operate a national Mortgage to Rent Scheme.
2. Presentation given by Karen Golden, CEO Galway Simon on *Housing and Homelessness*.

3. Minutes and Matters Arising
 - Motions agreed at last SPC re: student accommodation and student grants will be added to the Housing Meeting agenda in December.
 - Choice Based Lettings; letters will be sent out to housing applicants in Q1 2019.
 - Cllr Mike Cubbard expressed his objection to infill sites in Ballinfoyle Park and Corrib Park being used to build a small number of local authority housing at the expense of green space. Dermot Mahon informed him that the process has begun and cannot be objected to at this point but objections can be raised in the future.

4. Homeless Report and Update:
 - Anne Brett reported that there is no private emergency accommodation so households are overholding or sharing involuntarily with extended family members. The housing department has noticed a sharp increase in Notices of Termination being served on private rented tenants.
 - Cold Weather Initiative will have 36-37 beds available for rough sleepers.
 - Tender out for the running of family hub. It is hoped to be up and running next March.
 - Housing First tender has gone out.

5. Draft Estate Management Plan
 - Sharon Carroll GCC gave an account of complaints dealt with by HELOs, 1,200 year to date, many of which are vexatious or unfounded.
 - 12 tenancy warnings issued
 - 04 abandonment notices
 - 03 demands for possession
 - 01 exclusion order

Declan McDonnell raised the issue of two horses damaging gardens in Castle Park. Dermot Mahon responded by outlining the Council's plans to address the issue of horses. No one present had any objection to the adoption of the Estate Management Plan. Karina Timothy received clarification that the Council will commit to carrying out rent reassessments within 12 weeks to prevent to accumulation of rent arrears. This will be bulleted in the Differential Rent Scheme itself.

Sharon will Carroll will provide SPC with quarterly reports to how the Action attached to the Estate Management Strategy is being rolled out.

6. The 2019 Work Programme was agreed.

8. AOB
Next meeting Thursday 21st February, 2nd May, 19th Sept, 21st November – all at 9.30am

Socruithe déanta/ Key Decisions Made:

**Gníomhaíochtaí
Action(s) required from GCCN:**

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Dáta don chéad chruinniú eile Date of next meeting : 22/11/2018	
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Moltaí breise /Any Other Comments:

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