



## **Thinking about becoming a DLR PPN representative on the Social Housing Strategic Policy Committee?**

### **What is a Strategic Policy Committee?**

A Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) brings together elected members of the council and people actively working with social, economic, cultural and environmental bodies in the county to develop and review policies relating to the functions of the council.

Strategic Policy Committees give relevant sectoral interests, such as the Public Participation Network, an opportunity to be involved in the policy-making process from the early stages.

SPCs can agree to bring motions relating to strategic policy before the elected members of the council for consideration at council meetings. Members can also make requests for information from the council on relevant strategic policy issues and may submit strategic policy issues for consideration to be added to the work programme of the committee.

The role of the SPC is to provide the elected members of the council with a strategic overview of relevant policy areas in the wider context. Routine operational matters relating to the delivery of services are outside of the remit of an SPC.

### **What policy areas does the Social Housing SPC cover?**

- Accommodation Programme for Travelling People
- Housing Allocations / Transfers
- Architecture and Design of Social Housing
- Housing Construction / Refurbishment Programme
- Homeless Strategy
- Housing Strategy
- Estate Management
- Universal Design
- Models of delivery



## **Who sits on the Social Housing SPC?**

The Social Housing SPC consists of 21 members who represent different agencies and bodies in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown with an interest in social housing in the county. Current membership includes:

- DLR PPN representatives
- County Councillors
- DLR Chamber of Commerce (representing the Development/Construction sector and Business/Commercial sector)
- the Irish Congress of Trade Unions

## **What skills or abilities do PPN representatives need for this SPC?**

- A demonstrable interest or experience in social housing.
- Awareness of key issues relating to social housing on a local & national level.
- Good communication skills and the ability to work as part of a group.
- DLR PPN representatives must be willing represent the diverse views of DLR PPN members at the SPC and not just their own or their organisation's views.
- See also [Roles, Rights and Responsibilities of PPN Representatives](#)

## **What time commitment is needed from PPN representatives?**

- 4 SPC meetings a year - in March, June, September and November. Usually at 5pm-7pm on a Wednesday in the Council Chamber, Dún Laoghaire.
- Preparation for SPC meetings, for example, reading through documentation, preparing submissions or submitting questions.
- Information sharing with PPN members interested in social housing in DLR. This can be via 'linkage' groups (working groups of PPN reps and members) or writing brief reports on the SPC meetings. Linkage group meetings will happen a week or two before or after an SPC meeting.
- 2 PPN representatives meetings per year (1 hour each) and occasional training on relevant topics.

Travel expenses are covered as per the DLR PPN expenses guidelines.