

## Summary Minute of the Strategic Advisory Board (SAB) – 21 September 2022

<b>Present:</b>		<b>Apologies:</b>	
Alistair Mawhinney	SAB Chair, Regional Services, Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE)	Siobhan McCauley	SAB Chair, Regional Services, Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE)
Jennifer Hawthorne	Housing Services, NIHE	Elma Newberry	Land and Regeneration Services, NIHE
Brian O’Kane	Housing Services, NIHE	Roy Baillie	Development Programme Group (DPG), NIHE
Mark McGuicken	Department of Health (DoH)	Nicola McCrudden	Committee Representing Independent Supporting People Providers (CRISPP)- Observer
Lorna Conn	Strategic Planning and Performance Group (SPPG)	Catherine Cassidy	Strategic Planning and Performance Group (SPPG)
Liz Arthur	Probation Board for Northern Ireland (PBNI)	Paula O’Neill	Department of Justice (DoJ)
Maria Watson	Department of Justice (DoJ)		
Michele Bell	Department of Justice (DoJ)		
Patrick Thompson	Committee Representing Independent Supporting People Providers (CRISPP)- Observer		
Heloise Brown	Department for Communities (DfC)- Observer		
Seamus Hillock	Department for Communities (DfC)- Observer		
<b>In Attendance:</b>		<b>Apologies:</b>	
Kelly Hillock	Supporting People (SP), NIHE	Sinead Twomey	SP, NIHE
Bernie Crossan	SP, NIHE		
Liam O’Hanlon	SP, NIHE		

Brian McAtasney	SP, NIHE		
Peter Quinn	SP, NIHE		
Gareth Ferguson	SP, NIHE		
Christine Boyle	SP, NIHE (SAB Secretariat)		
Jill Neill	SP, NIHE (SAB Secretariat)		

## **Summary Minute**

### **Finance Report**

Supporting People are budgeting for an uplift but there has been no commitment on funding and are considering what resource will be needed for next year and developing work in regards to voids.

### **Supporting People Communications**

An overview of Communications activities which have taken place since the last SAB. Including:

- SP Provider Briefing
- Social media
- SP interim staff changes correspondence
- Phase 2 of SP Homelessness provision
- Wi-Fi Provision SP-Funded Supported Accommodation Services Correspondence
- Homeless Prevention Fund 2022/23 correspondence
- CRISPP (Committee Representing Independent Supporting People Providers) correspondence

### **Supporting People Three Year Strategic Plan and COVID- 19 Recovery Plan 2022-2025**

The Housing Executive Board approved the SP Strategic Plan on 06 July 2022. It is currently with the Communities Minister for endorsement.

SP have developed a draft Strategic Action Plan and a reporting framework for the effective monitoring and reporting of the delivery of the strategic actions.

SP are actively engaged in delivery of the actions detailed under the four Strategic Priorities.

### **Women's Services Phase One and Two**

Following the closure of an accommodation service for women, the Housing Executive adopted a strategic approach to the development of new and enhanced homelessness services for women.

Supporting People commenced a two stage selection process for the provision of housing support services for women experiencing homelessness.

Stage one was a competitive selection exercise for a new service of supported housing accommodation for women experiencing chronic homelessness.

## **Summary Minute**

Stage two was an expression of interest, and focused on housing support for women experiencing homelessness. The expression of interest included a pilot of emotional health and well-being support.

### **JCSA Review Implementation Plan**

The Strategic Review of the accommodation projects jointly funded by SP and Health was completed through a partnership of SP and SPPG and has identified 23 recommendations.

The implementation plan is almost complete.

Young people who currently and previously lived in the projects had a significant input to the review.

### **Regional Thematic Groups (RTG) minutes, contract management dashboards and business as usual activity**

#### **Young People**

Providers are experiencing difficulty with staff recruitment and retention.

There are financial pressures from employment costs and increasing operating costs.

#### **Homelessness**

Simon Community Saul Street remodelling will assist in meeting the needs of South Down Housing Solutions.

The Women's Services Phase One and Two have been endorsed by RTG for progression.

The Business Case for North Down and Ards peripatetic service has now been completed and it likely this will come to next SAB.

There is progression of accommodation options for single female refugees.

At the end of September 2022 additional family apartments in Roseville House became available.

The Derry Dispersed Intensively Managed Emergency (DIME) accommodation Business Case is being progressed.

#### **Disability & Mental Health**

At the RTG members discussed concerns with staff recruitment and retention.

A presentation was delivered in regards to Housing and Health.

A Learning Disability scheme has been reviewed by the SP team who are awaiting resubmission from BHSCT.

#### **Older People**

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RTG held on 02 August 2022. RTG members discussed concerns in regards to COVID, and issues with staff recruitment and retention.

SP have commenced a scoping exercise to consider policy implications and funding models in Sheltered Accommodation.

An inaugural sheltered scheme conference has been organised by providers which is due to take place on the 23 November 2022 and will include representation from SP and NIHE colleagues.

The EROSH booklet is being updated.