



**Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae Phort Láirge**  
Waterford  
City & County Council

**Item  
No. 8**

3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2020

**CHUIG GACH BALL DE COMHAIRLE CATHRACH AGUS CONTAE PHORT LÁIRGE  
TO EACH MEMBER OF WATERFORD CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Manager's Report on Draft Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019 – 2024  
Section 11 Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act 1998**

All Local Authorities are required by legislation to prepare a 5-year Traveller Accommodation Programme. (TAP) The current programme covers the period 2019 - 2024 . Under the Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act 1998, Waterford City and County Council is required to provide for a public notification and consultation process in preparing the Draft Traveller Accommodation Programme. Waterford City and County Council consulted widely with neighbouring local authorities and a number of organisations, including the HSE and Community and Educational and Health service providers and other interested parties. The full list of organisations consulted are listed in Appendix 1 of the Draft plan.

Public notice was included in the local papers inviting submissions prior to the drafting of the plan and a further notice was placed in the local papers confirming that a draft plan had been prepared and inviting submissions in relation to the draft plan.

Waterford City and County Council is committed to actively engaging with individual Travellers and Traveller groups and organisations in relation to the Traveller Accommodation Programme. As part of the Assessment of Need, Waterford City and County Council is obliged to take account of a number of assessment processes including the Annual Count of Traveller Families, the most recent Housing Needs Assessment and the current situation regarding Traveller

accommodation/need at beginning of the TAP process as well as projected need arising during the lifetime of the Plan.

All families and individuals known to Waterford City and County Council whom identify themselves as Travellers and/or families and individuals categorised as having a need for Traveller specific accommodation are included in the assessment of need included in the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019 – 2024.

Supportive submissions were received from both the Irish Traveller Movement (ITM) and from Waterford Traveller CDP. The issues raised in the submissions are outlined in detail on page 32 and 33 of the Programme.

No objections to the Draft programme were received.

The Draft programme was considered in detail by the Local Traveller Consultative Committee (LTACC) at its meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019. The LTACC approved the Draft Programme and recommended its referral to Council for adoption.

## **Recommendation**

In addition to its general Housing responsibilities, Waterford City and County Council has a specific legal obligation and responsibility to provide accommodation for Traveller Households including Traveller Specific accommodation. In reality there has been very little such accommodation provided by this Council over the last ten years. Conscious of the pent up need and demand, and in the light of the current Traveller accommodation needs assessment and projected need during the life of the Programme, the position is that the proposals as recommended are the minimum that are required to attempt to meet this need.

In addition to casual vacancies arising in a) Council stock and Approved Housing Body stock and b) existing Traveller specific accommodation, the following Traveller Specific Accommodation is proposed in the TAP 2019 – 2024.

A seven bay halting site with day houses at Carrickphierish in the City 2020

A 7 bay upgrade at halting site in Dungarvan 2021

A 5 Unit group Scheme at Green Road Waterford City South 2020

4 Additional units as part of Refurb. of Kilbarry site Waterford 2020

A 3 unit group scheme in Dungarvan Lismore Area 2021

A 4 unit Group scheme in Waterford City West 2022

A 4 unit Group scheme in Waterford City East 2023

I am now recommending adoption of the Traveller accommodation programme 2019 – 2024 as presented.

***Michael Walsh,***

***Chief Executive.***