



Comhshaol, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil
Environment, Community and Local Government



Cork County Council,
County Hall,
Cork,

Att: Dympna Murphy

22 July 2015

Re: Affordable Housing

Dear Ms. Murphy,

I refer to your letter of 11 June 2015, and regret the delay in replying.

As you know, the Government's 2011 Housing Policy Statement announced that all affordable housing schemes were stood down in the context of a full review of Part V of the Planning and Development Act 2000. The Part V review, carried out by the Housing Agency, has been completed and any required legislative changes have been incorporated into the Urban Regeneration and Housing Bill 2015, passed by the Houses of the Oireachtas on 17 July 2015.

With regard to "affordable housing", Councillors may be aware that the General Scheme of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Bill, as published some months ago, proposed that the existing statutory provisions relating to affordable housing would be removed from the statute book.

However after further consideration, in particular the contributions made during the Joint Oireachtas Committee on the Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht scrutiny of the General Scheme, the Government decided that the existing statutory provisions relating to affordable housing be retained in the Planning and Development Act so that when the current acute need for social housing has been met, it may be possible to re-introduce the affordability aspect into the Part V arrangements when required. There are no plans to re-introduce the affordable housing schemes at this time.

Yours sincerely,



Con Fleming

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Wexford