



South Dublin Community Platform

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Thematic Papers



Foreword

South Dublin Community Platform network was formed by community and voluntary groups in the South Dublin County to promote the interests and needs of those who are experiencing poverty and social exclusion.

Mission Statement:

The South Dublin Community Platform is a dynamic community network, seeking to create a collective voice that increases participation on all structures with responsibility for local development and is committed to the eradication of poverty and the development of an inclusive society.

Some of the key aims of the South Dublin Community Platform include facilitating the election of representatives to local government structures, supporting representatives on these structures and encouraging participation in decision-making processes at various levels. Member representatives of the South Dublin Community Platform represent the Platform in local government structures and County Development Board structures. In doing so, these representatives are promoting the needs of member groups. The representatives work to ensure that these various committees they sit on are aware of the needs and concerns of member groups and that decision-making that happens within these arenas are influenced by the needs of those experiencing poverty and social exclusion.

The aim of these thematic papers is to highlight South Dublin Community Platform's policies and strategies in relation to a number of key areas. They are to be used as a tool by representatives to highlight key issues within the

various structures they are working on. They include information on policies, statistics and legislation.

We hope that these thematic papers will be a valuable resource, to the representatives of the Platform, the member groups and to other community and voluntary groups working to eradicate poverty and social exclusion. It is intended that these thematic papers will be updated and added to, as legislation, local policy and context changes. The first two papers in the series are 'Housing and Accommodation' and 'Anti-Social Behaviour'. Additional papers in the areas of Culture, Economic, Environment, Transport, Childcare, Education and Health are in the process of being developed.

Orla McCaffrey

Chairperson-South Dublin Community Platform

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the Board of the South Dublin Community Platform for developing the idea of the thematic papers, and progressing and supporting the work to ensure their completion.

We would like to thank all of our members who attended the various workshops and the facilitated session in order to bring their Organisation's voice and priorities. We thank members who developed submissions for these papers and their invaluable input to these papers. We would also like to thank Noel Fitzgerald with Draiocht for a facilitated session.

We wish to thank Tallaght Partnership for funding the publication of the papers.

We would especially like to thank Julie Thorne, Community Development Worker with Tallaght Partnership for her work in researching and writing up these thematic papers, which are very practical and accessible.

Orla McCaffrey

Chairperson-South Dublin Community Platform