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**COMHAIRLE CONTAE ÁTHA CLIATH THEAS
SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL**



**MEETING OF SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Monday, March 12, 2018**

**QUESTION NO.17**

**QUESTION: Councillor K. Mahon**

Can the Chief Executive please report on the decision to allocate The Abberley Court Hotel as a Homeless Hub? What process was undertaken to access its suitability? What are the costs involved from the Councils perspective, what costs are involved from the tenants perspective?  Have the Council investigated the expansion of Homeless Hubs along the lines of the units currently provided at Tallaght Cross?

**REPLY:**

The Abberley Court hotel was being used by this Council to house homeless families in emergency accommodation.  As there were additional rooms available there and a large demand from other homeless families an approach was made to the Hotel management to make it all available as a Family HUB there by improving the facilities available. Following agreement with the Hotel management plans were prepared to convert the building from a traditional commercial hotel to that of a HUB with enhanced and additional facilities for long term use by families.  These works which are scheduled to be completed by the end of the month include the following

* Communal play areas for children
* Enhanced dining areas
* Computer area with enhanced Wi-Fi.
* Communal TV viewing area
* Laundry facilities
* Limited cooking facilities for families to make coffee or prepare children’s food.

The existing kitchen is also being upgraded and a new menu will be provided when complete.

It is intended to refurbish the existing bedrooms on a phased basis as soon as the ongoing works are completed.

The future management of the HUB is currently under consideration and in the meantime it is being managed by the existing hotel staff.

The upgrade works are being undertaken by the DRHE and not paid for directly by the Council.  When they HUB is fully operational there will be a charge for facilities which will include meals. The charge will be per family per week

The Council is actively seeking additional HUBs for the 96 homeless families accommodated in emergency accommodation, including hotels, across the region.

Tallaght Cross is unique in that it consists of apartments owned by AHB and made available for emergency use by this Council.

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