

Confirmation of Service for 86 – 88 Botanic Road Dublin.

Dublin Simon Community work to prevent homelessness in Dublin, Kildare, Wicklow, Meath Louth, Cavan and Monaghan. We provide services in Dublin 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 20 and 24 and housing across the region to enable people to move to a place they can call home. Country - wide there are now over 10,000 people in emergency accommodation with more than 7,200 in the Dublin region. These people need to be supported out of homelessness.

Dublin Simon Community provided services to over 7,600 people and families last year. Services range from:

- Emergency accommodation & support delivering a place of welcome, warmth & safety.
- Soup runs & outreach teams who are often the first point of contact for people sleeping rough.
- Housing provision, tenancy sustainment & settlement services, housing advice & information services helping people to make the move out of homelessness & working with households at risk.
- Specialist health & treatment services addressing some of the issues which may have contributed to homeless occurring or may be a consequence of their homelessness.

Dublin Simon Community purchased the property at 86-88 Botanic Road for long term housing. We have been operating a Residential Recovery Services since 2003 at Ushers Island. This service at Ushers needs to be temporarily moved for a two year period to Botanic road accommodating up to 19 homeless men and women while it undergoes necessary re construction. Planning was confirmed during legal due diligence at point of acquisition. Once the development at Ushers Island is completed the Recovery service will return fully to that location. Our Botanic Road premises will then revert to use as long term housing.

Residential Recovery Service for 86- 88 Botanic Road includes:

1. Entry by referral and appointment only.
2. Front and back entrances will be utilised.
3. Nurse - led Alcohol Detoxification.
4. 24 - Hour nursing on site.
5. GP prescribed medication only.
6. Recovery beds for those who complete detoxification.

Service at Botanic Road will not include:

1. Needle exchange.
2. Clinics.
3. Supervised injecting.

PTO

All homeless services operate in established communities. By nature of this they are in close proximity to schools, shops, churches, crèches, parks, businesses, public and community amenities as is the case of Simon Community in the greater Dublin area, Kildare, Wicklow, Meath, Cavan, Louth and Monaghan.

Since the beginning of last year in Dublin Simon Services (January 2018 to June 2019):

- 694 people participated in art, literacy, computer, dance classes.
- 3,824 counselling hours were provided to our clients
- 2,091 had their fundamental need to shelter met through emergency accommodation.
- 1,778 people accessed our treatment and counselling services.
- Over 900 people were provided with a permanent home in a Dublin Simon property.
- 1,990 people and families were prevented from entering homelessness.
- 3,593 adults and children supported to move out of homelessness into a secure home.

Our clients can avail of personal training through our gym, mindfulness, nutritional advice, art classes, creative writing workshops, computer classes, dance classes.

Questions and Answers:

1. In the two year period that the properties will be operated for residential recovery services, will the properties be only used by the 19 persons residing there or will services also be accessed there by non residents of no. 86 and 88 Botanic Road.

Only used by the 19 persons residing there. No non residents, except staff.

2. If there are services to be provided there for non- residents, what are the hours of that facility? Also can you provide an indication of the volume of non-residents accessing the services per day.

No non residents. Staff working in the service are divided over shift work with approximately change of four staff each shift.

3. Will the back entrance to the properties be the typical or main entrance or will the entrance fronting onto Botanic Road be the one commonly used?

Both will be utilised by staff and residents.

4. Will detoxification treatment be for alcohol addiction only or will it also be for substance abuse?

Detoxification is for alcohol addiction primarily with some detoxing from benzodiazepine i.e. Valium.

PTO

5. Have the Ushers Island construction works already commenced? Will the residential recovery service move back to Ushers Island in full at the end of the two year period?

Plan for construction to commence in Q1 2020. Residential Recovery Service will move from Botanic road back to Ushers Island when construction is completed in two years.

6. There is puzzlement about the scale and quality of the surveillance systems that have been put in place on the premises, can you give an indication as the necessity for this?

The quality of the system which includes CCTV, intercom and fob key is in place for easy access of staff and residents. It is to the Dublin Simon and sector standard to ensure the sustainability of the system which is more cost effective in the long term.

7. What reassurance can you provide to the community of your commitment to prevent congregation issues close to the properties?

Access point is by appointment and referral only. Our current services do not have any congregation issues in the proximity of the properties. Our neighbourhood policy will be in place.

8. In relation to the recovery aspect of the facility, will methadone or similar substances be provided to service users on site?

Methadone is a medication which can only be prescribed off site by a qualified methadone prescriber/GP. Simon staff are not qualified to prescribe methadone. Any individual medications including methadone if prescribed, are stored on site and administered by nurses in a controlled environment according to Legislation.