

STRATEGIC HOUSING PANEL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 9 MARCH 2010

Present: Councillors P Whalley (Deputy Chairman in the Chair); J Bowman; A Jacob; J Jackson; R Pitt; G Sunderland and

Officers: J Betteridge, Head of Development Strategy; L Priebe, Housing Services Manager; D Cochrane, Housing Policy Manager; A Davis, Housing Strategy Manager; D James, Member Services Officer

An Apology for absence was received from Councillor G Clements

L Barkes – Copeland Homes

SH 72 Minutes of the Meetings held on 10 & 19 February 2010

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meetings held on 10 and 19 February 2010 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

SH 73 Arrangement of the Agenda

Due to a representative from Copeland Homes being present at the meeting it was **AGREED** that Agenda Item 9 – Voids Update be considered first on the Agenda.

SH 74 Voids Update

(Note: Councillor J G Sunderland declared a personal interest in this item due to being a private landlord)

Members received an update on the current position with regard to void properties in Copeland. Members asked if it would be possible to extract more localised information and it was agreed that the reporting format would be looked at to enable Members to judge the information presented to them. It was further noted that an officer had been appointed to Copeland Homes and he would be asked to attend the next meeting to address member on this issue.

SH 75 Briefing Papers on Review of Financial Assistance Policy

The Briefing paper on the Review of Financial Assistance Policy was considered and noted.

SH 76 Local Investment Plan for Cumbria

Consideration was given to the draft Local Investment Plan for Cumbria. During consideration of this item members expressed concern that there was not a strong Copeland presence in the document and nothing south of the Borough and it was felt that a lot

work needed to be done before Members could give their support of the document.

RESOLVED - That the Head of Development Strategy and the Housing Services Manager be asked to take Members comments for the strengthening of Copeland presence including the whole of Copeland to the group.

SH 77 Strategic Housing Services Re-Inspection

At the Panels meeting on the 19 February 2010 Members considered the Strategic Housing Services Re-Inspection report, (SH 73 refers) this document was under embargo and Members expressed concern over the lack of time they had had to read the document prior to its discussion. At this meeting it was agreed that the document would be resubmitted to the next meeting in order that Members could have the opportunity to air any further observations/concerns.

It was AGREED that the report and comments be noted.

SH 78 Any Other Business

It was **AGREED** that a report on Gypsies and Travellers would be submitted to the next meeting of the Panel

The meeting closed at 12:30 pm

Chairman

Date