

STRATEGIC HOUSING PANEL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 24 MARCH 2009

Present: Councillors G Clements (Chairman); J Bowman; A Jacob; J Jackson R Pitt; P Whalley; Miss E Woodburn

Officers: L Priebe; A Davis; D James
D Cochrane, Agenda items 1-7

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2009 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

SH 49 Draft Housing Services Standards

Following a criticism from the Audit Housing Inspectorate over the absence of published housing services standards, consideration was given to the first draft of the proposed document.

During consideration of this item members stressed the importance of not only having the document but the fact that it had to be achievable, officers assured them that they felt that the document was achievable.

Members further asked if the possibility of having surgeries in other areas of the Borough such as Cleator Moor, Egremont and Millom. It was agreed that this would be looked into and reported back but should not hinder the delivery of this document.

RESOLVED – That taking on board comments of Members the document be approved as a basis of consultation with service users and other stakeholders.

SH 50 Draft Private Sector Housing Regulation & Enforcement Policy

In accordance with the compliance with the Regulators Compliance code the Council must publish an explicit enforcement policy for its services. This code applies to those parts of the Housing Act 1985, 1996 and 2004 that refer to the Council's role in the private housing sector.

Consideration was given to the first draft of the document prior to further consultation. During consideration of this item members endorsed the importance of publicising what the Council does and be strong in order to help people.

RESOLVED – That taking on board comments of Members the document be approved as a basis for public consultation.

SH 51 Draft Older Persons Housing Strategy

Following a criticism from the Audit Housing Inspectorate over the absence of a published Housing Strategy for Older people, consideration was given to the first draft of the proposed document.

RESOLVED – That taking on board comments of Members the document be approved as a basis for consultation.

SH 52 Allocations Policy

Due to the commitments of some Members to attend other meeting and the importance of this item it was moved duly seconded and

RESOLVED - That the be the subject of a single item meeting to be arranged by the member Services officer and the Housing Strategy Manager in consultation with the Chairman.

SH 53 Verbal Updates

It was noted that :-

- a) the Trusteel Housing project had been completed;
- b) the Basket Road Kells project was due to start and would be approximately 20 weeks; and
- c) the supporting people presentation was being arranged for the new municipal year.

The meeting closed 12.20pm

Chairman

