

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

6th June 2019

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillor Roberts (Chairman) and Councillor Pegg (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors Atkin, Corbin, Churchill, Mrs. Haines, Dr. Perry and Mrs. Wheelton

Labour Group

Councillors Mrs. Heath, Mulgrew, Rhind, Richards and Shepherd

HCS/1 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was informed no apologies for absence had been received.

HCS/2 **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meetings held on 7th March 2019 and 23rd April 2019 were noted and approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

HCS/3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Committee was informed that no declarations of interest from Members of the Council had been received.

HCS/4 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 10**

The Committee was informed that no questions from members of the public had been received.

HCS/5 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Council had been received.

HCS/6 **REPORTS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

There were no Overview and Scrutiny Reports to be submitted.

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

HCS/7 **CORPORATE PLAN 2016-21: PERFORMANCE REPORT (YEAR END 2018/19)**

The Strategic Director (Service Delivery) presented the report to Committee, highlight the successes, such as exceeding the target for affordable homes

for the District, and areas which require further action, such as challenges faced around re-letting of properties.

Councillor Richards commented that the Hospital Avoidance Scheme would be very much welcomed once it was fully functional given the demands upon the NHS system within Derbyshire.

RESOLVED:-

The Committee considered progress against performance targets set out in the Corporate Plan.

The Committee reviewed the Risk Register and Action Plan for the Committee's services.

HCS/8 **SHOPMOBILITY SERVICE IN SWADLINCOTE**

The Community Partnership Officer presented the report to Committee, noting South Derbyshire CVS had been delivering the service on an interim basis and would be seeking the same level of funding whilst providing an additional day of service.

RESOLVED:-

The Committee approved Council funding to be provided to South Derbyshire CVS (SDCVS) to allow it to deliver the Shopmobility Service in Swadlincote for the next three financial years until 31 March 2022.

HCS/9 **HOUSING REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE REVIEW**

The Head of Housing presented the report to Committee, noting the review of the service had been carried out by the Housing Quality Network and the action plan aimed to implement recommendations from the review.

RESOLVED:-

The Committee noted the contents of the report and action plan (Appendix A).

The Committee endorsed the actions within the plan for implementation over a three-year period.

HCS/10 **COUNCIL HOUSE ADAPTATIONS POLICY**

The Head of Housing presented the report and informed the Committee the changes to the policy included providing a further option to move house earlier instead of waiting for adaption work. Further research was required on the difference in policy between Council Tenants and householders within the private sector to ensure there is no disparity or inequality.

RESOLVED:-

The Committee adopted a revised Disabled Adaptations Policy for Council Tenants to replace the existing policy.

The Committee noted that a further report would be presented later in the year that introduces a new policy for the provision of Disabled Facilities Grants in the private sector.

The Committee noted that a report would also be presented that considers the equity of funding and maintenance arrangements for Council tenants and householders in the private sector.

HCS/11 **HOUSING ALLOCATIONS POLICY**

The Head of Housing presented the report to Committee, noting the proposed changes to be open to the public and key stakeholders through consultation. Some changes include an increase to the income threshold to prevent exclusion of people on low to medium income and opening the policy to those who do not have local connections to be included on the shelter properties list.

The Chairman welcomed the report and the clarification it brought to the allocation process.

Members raised queries relating to the availability of two-bedroom sheltered properties within the District. The Head of Housing noted there are mixed demands for sheltered properties and it varied on needs and locations.

RESOLVED:-

The Committee noted and approved the proposed changes to the Housing Allocations Policy as a draft for consultation.

The Committee approved the consultation with the public and stakeholders on the proposed changes commences on 7th of June date for a period of one month.

The Committee approved that the results of the consultation and a final Policy are reported to a future Housing and Community Services Committee for adoption.

HCS/12 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

RESOLVED:-

The Committee considered and approved the updated work programme.

HCS/13 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT [ACCESS TO INFORMATION] ACT 1985)**

RESOLVED:-

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in brackets after each item.

MINUTES

The Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held on 23rd April 2019 were received.

TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 11

The Committee was informed that no questions had been received.

DIRECT ACQUISITION OF FOUR BUNGALOWS IN REPTON

Members approved the recommendations in the report.

LAND DEAL TO DELIVER AFFORDABLE HOUSING AT ORCHARD STREET, NEWHALL

Members approved the recommendations in the report.

The Meeting terminated at 6.40pm.

COUNCILLOR A ROBERTS

CHAIRMAN