

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

7th June 2018

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillor Hewlett (Chairman), Councillor Smith (Vice-Chairman), and Councillors Mrs Coyle, Ford, Grant and MacPherson

Labour Group

Councillors Dunn (substituting for Councillor Richards), Rhind, Shepherd and Wilkins

Independent / Non-Grouped Member

Councillor Tipping

In attendance

Councillor Mrs Wyatt

HCS/1 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Coe and Watson (Conservative Group) and Councillor Richards (Labour Group).

HCS/2 **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 26th April 2018 were noted, approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

HCS/3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Committee was informed that no declarations of interest 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
(2017 - 18)**

The Strategic Director (Service Delivery) presented the report to Committee.

RESOLVED:-

The Committee noted the progress against performance targets.

HCS/8 **SERVICE PLANS 2018/19**

The Strategic Director (Service Delivery) presented the report to Committee.

Councillor Rhind, whilst noting the targets in the Service Plan for the Strategic Housing Team, questioned why a planning application where an affordable housing allocation was less than 30% was accepted and granted. The Strategic Director responded that this particular case had been highly unusual where, due to mitigating circumstances and the findings of the District Valuer's report, a reduction in the proportion of affordable housing provided by the developer was accepted.

RESOLVED:-

The Committee approved the Service Plan for the Service Delivery Directorate for the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019.

HCS/9 **BETTER CARE FUNDING ALLOCATION 2018-19**

The Strategic Housing Manager presented the report to Committee highlighting the proposed appointment of a dedicated Mental Health Worker as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report.

Councillor Rhind queried whether the funding allocation had been ring-fenced for the projects specified within the report, which was confirmed by the Strategic Housing Manager. Members expressed their support and commended the report.

RESOLVED:-

1.1 The Committee approved the proposed schemes and associated financial commitment from the Better Care Fund (BCF) required to establish and deliver the projects and mandatory grant delivery during 2018/19.

1.2 The Committee approved that this report is also referred to a meeting of the Finance and Management Committee for consideration and approval.

1.3 The Committee considered the new schemes wider impact on other Council Services.

1.4 The Committee approved the additional hours and associated staffing costs for an initial period of 12 months within the Housing Solutions Team to deliver the Hospital- to-Home Scheme

HCS/10 **CONSULTATION – POWERS FOR DEALING WITH UNAUTHORISED DEVELOPMENT AND ENCAMPMENTS**

The Environmental Health Manager presented the report to Committee highlighting that clarification was being sought from central government in relation to the statutory guidance.

Councillor MacPherson commented on the use of mobile homes and sought clarification on when parking becomes encampment. The Environmental Health Manager advised that legal advice would be sought.

Councillor Grant sought clarification on the number of public and private sites in the District. The Environmental Health Manager advised that he would respond to the Committee with the requested statistics in due course.

Members welcomed the report commenting that streamlining processes would assist in resolving matters for local residents who are impacted.

RESOLVED:-

1.1 The Committee noted the content of the current consultation on powers for dealing with unauthorised development and encampments.

1.2 The Committee authorised completion of the Consultation Survey being undertaken by the Ministry of Homes, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG – formerly DCLG) in order that the comments set out in the Appendix to this report can be submitted to the Ministry as this Authority’s response in the appropriate format.

HCS/11 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

RESOLVED:-

Members considered and approved the updated work programme.

HCS/12 **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 26th April 2018 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.

COMMUNITY SPORT ACTIVATION OFFICER (Paragraph 2)

The Committee approved the recommendation in the report.

STENSON FIELDS COMMUNITY FACILITY (Paragraph 3)

The Committee approved the recommendations in the report.

The Meeting terminated at 7.10pm.

COUNCILLOR J HEWLETT

CHAIRMAN