

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

20th April 2021

PRESENT:-

Labour Group

Councillor Rhind (Chairman), Councillor Mulgrew (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors Heath, Richards, Shepherd and Tilley.

Conservative Group

Councillors Atkin, Churchill, Corbin and Mrs. Haines.

Independent Group

Councillors Dawson and Roberts

In Attendance

Councillors Bambrick, Dunn and Mrs. Wheelton.

HCS/95 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee were informed there were no apologies.

HCS/96 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

It was noted that Councillor Atkin Declared an Interest in item HCS/99 by virtue of being a County Councillor. Councillor Shepherd Declared an Interest in item HCS/99 by virtue of being a Trustee of the Mid Mercia Citizens Advice Bureau.

HCS/97 **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/98 **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.

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

HCS/99 **CAPITAL AND REVENUE GRANTS AWARD - DFG**

The Strategic Housing Manager presented the report to the Committee and outlined the two bids that had received for Better Care Funding.

It was noted that to the correct title for West Mercia Citizens Advice Bureau, referred to in the report, was Citizens Advice Mid Mercia.

Members raised queries about the location of the recipients in the Citizens Advice Mid Mercia proposal and requested a breakdown of items included within the Derbyshire Community Voluntary Service grant. The Strategic Housing Manager advised the Committee that the Citizens Advice Mid Mercia grant would be available to South Derbyshire residents only and that the South Derbyshire Community Voluntary Service grant included an officer plus equipment and materials.

RESOLVED:-

- 1.1 That the Committee endorsed the award of grant funding, totalling £67,330, to the Citizens Advice Mid Mercia to deliver a digital inclusion service to disabled residents living in privately owned or rented housing.***
- 1.2 That the Committee endorsed the award of grant funding, totalling £94,943, to the South Derbyshire Community Voluntary Service (CVS) to deliver a handyman help at home and holistic advice service to older, vulnerable, and disabled residents living in privately owned or rented housing.***
- 1.3 That the Committee granted delegated authority to the Strategic Director - Service Delivery, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, to use the remainder of the £350,000 funding to enhance the services in 1.1 and 1.2 on the same terms as agreed, if demand for these services outstrips the supply of equipment available.***

HCS/100 **HOUSING REPAIRS POLICY**

The Head of Housing Services presented the report to the Committee noting the changes that included property safety and the standard of empty properties.

Councillor Corbin raised a query relating to the installation of carbon monoxide alarms in homes. The Head of Housing Services confirmed that the policy ensured alarms would be fitted as part of the annual gas safety check.

RESOLVED:-

- 1.1 The Committee approved the draft Housing Repairs Policy as per Appendix A of the report for consultation with tenants.***
- 1.2 The Committee agreed that a final version of the Policy be returned to the Committee after the consultation period for final approval.***

HCS/101 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee Work Programme was presented to Members by the Strategic Director (Service Delivery) who advised that work at Midway Community Centre which was progressing had already received prior approval from Committee and therefore the report would be removed from the Work Programme.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee considered and approved the updated work programme.

HCS/102 **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.

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.

PREVENT DUTIES FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES (UNDER SECTION 26 OF THE COUNTER-TERRORISM AND SECURITY ACT 2015)

The Committee approved the recommendations in the report.

The Meeting terminated at 18:30 hours.

COUNCILLOR G RHIND

CHAIRMAN