

Minutes of the Housing Policy Development and Review Panel

(to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Thursday, 20 July 2017

Venue: Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

PRESENT:

Councillor: F Birkett (Chairman)

Councillors: Mrs M Brady, Mrs C Heneghan, Mrs C L A Hockley,

Ms S Pankhurst and D L Steadman

Also Mrs K Mandry, Executive Member for Housing (for item 7)

Present:



Housing Policy
Development and Review
Panel

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor B Bayford.

Councillor F W Birkett was not present at the start of the meeting. In the absence of both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Mrs C L A Hockley was invited to chair the meeting.

2. MINUTES

It was AGREED that the minutes of the Housing Policy Development and Review Panel meeting held on 25 May 2017 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Chairman's announcements.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISCLOSURES OF ADVICE OR DIRECTIONS

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

5. **DEPUTATIONS**

There were no deputations made at this meeting.

6. COUNCIL HOUSING REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Operations on Council Housing Repairs and Maintenance.

Councillor F W Birkett arrived at the meeting during consideration of this item (6.10pm) and took the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Members were advised that as a result of issues highlighted by the Grenfell Tower disaster, officers are undertaking reviews of fire safety risk assessments carried out on Council owned properties in the Borough and will work with partnership agencies on work to be done in the coming months. A special edition of the tenant's' newsletter has been produced and circulated to tenants to highlight fire safety issues and provide fire prevention guidance.

It was AGREED that Members note the content of the report.

7. REVIEW OF THE WORK PROGRAMME

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Operations which reviewed the Panel's Work Programme for 2017/18.

Housing Policy
Development and Review
Panel

In response to Members' questions regarding ASPECT developments, Councillor Mrs K Mandry, Executive Member for Housing, addressed the Panel on this item.

The Director of Operations advised that following a presentation by Two Saints at a recent Scrutiny Board meeting, the Update on Homelessness will now be brought to the November meeting of the Panel.

Members requested that an update on Fire Issues and Precautions be brought to the November meeting of the Panel.

It was AGREED that:-

- (a) the Update on Homelessness be added to the Work Programme report for the meeting scheduled to take place in November;
- (b) an Update on Fire Issues and Precautions be added to the Work Programme report for the meeting scheduled to take place in November; and
- (c) the Panel notes the content of the report.

(The meeting started at 6.05 pm and ended at 6.35 pm).