



Minutes of the Housing Policy Development and Review Panel

*Minutes of a meeting held on 24 May 2012
at the Civic Offices, Fareham*

PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs M E Ellerton
(Chairman)

Councillor D M Whittingham
(Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: Miss S M Bell, J M Englefield, N R Gregory, T G Knight and
Mrs K K Trott.

(Also present: Councillor L Keeble, Executive Member for
Streetscene (minute 6); and Councillor B Bayford, Executive
Member for Housing (minute 7)) (*Councillor Bayford left the meeting
at 7.07pm*).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. MINUTES

It was AGREED that the minutes of the meeting of the Housing Policy
Development and Review Panel held on 15 March 2012 be confirmed and
signed as a correct record ([hsg-120315-m](#)).

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made no announcements at this meeting.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISCLOSURES OF ADVICE OR DIRECTIONS

There were no declarations of interest or disclosures of advice or directions made at this meeting.

5. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations made at this meeting.

6. HOUSING POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW PANEL WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2012/13 - INITIAL ENDORSEMENT

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community and Streetscene which invited members to endorse the proposed Work Programme for 2012/13 (copy of report [hsg-120524-r01-mge](#) circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

At the invitation of the Chairman Councillor Keeble addressed the Panel during the consideration of this item.

It was AGREED that:-

- (a) 'Delivery of New Affordable Housing - Annual Report' be added to the work programme for 15 November 2012;
- (b) 'Disabled Facilities Grants - Annual Report' be added to the work programme for 17 January 2013; and
- (c) subject to (a) and (b) above, the proposed work programme for 2012/13, as shown in Appendix A to the report, be endorsed.

7. EMPTY HOMES STRATEGY

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community and Streetscene which described the Council's existing policies and initiatives with regard to returning empty properties to use and considered possible future policy proposals (copy of report [hsg-120524-r04-ghe](#) circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

Reference was made to the presentation by officers to members of the Council prior to the meeting on the Council's approach to bringing empty properties back into use throughout the Borough, and also some of the issues which needed to be taken into account in developing the Council strategy.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor Bayford addressed the Panel during the consideration of this item.

It was AGREED that:-

- (a) it be noted that a report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Executive;
- (b) the Panel was supportive of the proposed changes to the Council's Empty Homes Strategy and the new policy proposals as detailed in the report and would like consideration given to property owners only gaining a financial reward if they entered into an agreement with the Council over nomination rights to properties; and that an administration fee should be incorporated into the scheme as well; and
- (c) the officers consult with the Chairman and the Executive Member for Housing on the revisions to the proposals prior to a report being submitted to the Executive.

8. PRESENTATION - INTRODUCTION TO STRATEGIC HOUSING (ROLES, REMITS, ACHIEVEMENTS AND KEY PROJECTS FOR 2012/13)

The Panel received a presentation by the Head of Strategic Housing explaining the Council's Strategic Housing Responsibilities and the key staff within the service, incorporating Strategic Housing Roles, the Staffing Structure, Strategic Housing Remit, Achievements 2011 and Strategic Housing Priorities for 2012.

It was AGREED that the Head of Strategic Housing be thanked for the presentation and that the contents be noted.

9. COLLINGWOOD HOUSE UPDATE

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community and Streetscene which provided an update on the redevelopment of Collingwood House (copy of report [hsg-120524-r02-afi](#) circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

Members received a presentation from the Head of Strategic Housing showing details of the proposed ground, first and second floor plans, typical one and two bedroom flat plans and computer generated images of how the completed complex would look from different locations.

It was noted that the statutory home loss payment referred to in paragraph 13 of the report could be up to £4,700, rather than £4,500.

Members were reminded that a report on this matter had been considered by the Executive at its meeting on 14 May 2012.

It was AGREED that the progress that had been made with the redevelopment of Collingwood House be noted.

10. BROADLAW WALK UPDATE

The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community and Streetscene which provided an update on progress with the regeneration of Broadlaw Walk

(copy of report [hsg-120524-r03-afi](#) circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

Members were reminded that a report on this matter had been considered by the Executive at its meeting on 14 May 2012.

It was AGREED that the positive progress that had been made with the regeneration of Broadlaw Walk be noted.

(The meeting started at 6:00pm
and ended at 7.36pm)