

Report to Health and Housing Policy Development Review Panel

Date 12 March 2015

Report of: Director of Community

Subject: FINAL REVIEW OF WORK PROGRAMME 2014/15 AND DRAFT

WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16

SUMMARY

At the last meeting of the Panel on 15 January 2015, members reviewed the existing work programme for 2014/15 and also considered the draft work programme for 2015/16. The Panel is now invited to assess the overall progress for the current year and finalise a draft work programme for 2015/16.

RECOMMENDATION

The Panel is now requested to:-

- (a) review the outcomes of the Panel's work programme for 2014/15
- (b) agree a proposed work programme for 2015/16; and
- (c) submit the proposed work programme for 2015/16 to the Council for endorsement.

INTRODUCTION

1. At the meeting of the Panel in January 2015, members reviewed the 2014/15 work programme and considered possible items for a proposed programme for 2015/16. This is the last cycle of meetings for this year and the Panel is invited to finalise its review of this year's work and confirm the draft programme for 2015/16.

REVISIONS TO THE WORK PROGRAMME 2014/15

- 2. Members are requested to endorse the following revisions to the work programme for the current year:-
- 3. A copy of the updated Work Programme, incorporating the above revisions, is attached at Appendix A.
- 4. Appendix B contains details of the outcomes from the matters considered at panel meetings from May 2014 up until January 2015, for members' consideration.

WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16

- 5. Appendix C sets out details of the proposed items for consideration during 2015/16.
- 6. As members are aware, the panel's focus is on 'policy development' and it is suggested that members may want to consider setting up smaller working groups to work with officers on specific subjects. It is likely that the Panel will consider reports on a specific subject on more than one occasion during the course of the year as the policy is developed and before final recommendations are made to the Executive.
- 7. It is also for the Panel to consider whether any review of items under the Council's policy framework will be included in the 2015/16 programme. Appendix D contains a list of the plans and strategies currently contained in the Council's policy framework. The list may however be subject to amendment arising from any future changes to the Constitution.

RISK ASSESSMENT

8. There are no significant risk considerations in relation to this report

CONCLUSION

- 9. To summarise, the Panel is now invited to:-
 - (a) review the outcome of the work programme for the current year 2014/15; and
 - (b) agree a draft work programme for 2015/16, (having considered the proposed draft set out in Appendix C), which may include any proposed strategy or policy reviews and also any additional items agreed generally by the Panel or put forward by individual members and accepted by the Panel.

Appendices:

Appendix A – Work Programme for 2014/15

Appendix B – Work Programme for 2014/15 - Outcomes

Appendix C – Draft Work Programme 2015/16

Appendix D – Policy Framework

Background Papers:

Reference Papers:

Enquiries:

For further information on this report please contact Martyn George. (Ext 4400)

HEALTH AND HOUSING POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW PANEL WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2014/15

RK PROGRAMME FOR 2014/15	ITEMS
MEETING DATES FOR 2014/15	<u>ITEMS</u>
17 July 2014	 Review of the Work Programme 2014/15 Health Update Introduction to the Role of the Panel Affordable Housing Programme 2015-18 Development Opportunities
11 September 2014	 Collingwood Court Update Review of the Work Programme 2014/15
	 Health Update Disabled Facilities Grants 2014- 16
	 Presentation by the Chairman of the Clinical Commissioning Group on the CCG 5 Year Plan Supporting People – Changes to Budget and Commissioned
13 November 2014	Services Review of the Work Programme 2014/45
	 2014/15 Health Update Review of Homelessness Welfare Reform Update
15 January 2015	Preliminary Overall Review of Work Programme 2014/15 and Draft Work Programme 2014/15
	 Health Update Verbal Update on Annual Review of Housing Waiting List & Allocations Policy Presentation on the Local
12 March 2015	 Housing Company Final Review of Work Programme for 2014/15 and Draft Work Programme for
	 2015/16 Health Update Annual Review of Homelessness Action Plan Affordable Housing Enabling Programme – Annual Update

APPENDIX B

Health and Housing Policy Development and Review Panel – Progress on Actions from May 2014 to January 2015

MEETING	8 MAY 2014 - CANCELLED
DATE	
<u>Subject</u>	
MEETING	
DATE	17 JULY 2014
<u>Subject</u>	Introduction to the Role of the Panel
Type of Item	Information
Action by Panel	The Panel received a presentation by the Director of Community on an Introduction to the Role of the Panel.
l arior	The presentation outlined the role of the Panel, the services within the Health and Housing portfolio, the achievements made
	in the past year and the priorities for 2014/15.
	It was AGREED that the Director of Community be thanked for his presentation.
Outcome	The presentation was noted.
Link Officer	Martyn George
<u>Subject</u>	Affordable Housing Programme 2015-18
Type of Item	Information
Action by Panel	The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community on an update on the Affordable Housing Programme 2015-18.
	The Panel were informed that since the report went to the Executive in April 2014, Palmerston Avenue and Coldeast Close
	have both been granted planning permission. Work is likely to start on Palmerston Avenue in the autumn and work on Coldeast Close should start early 2015.
	It was AGREED that the Panel notes:
	(a) the decisions taken by the Executive in April 2014 to set budgets for all 'firm' schemes;
	(a) the decisions taken by the Executive in April 2017 to set budgets for all little scribines,

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(b) the nature of the bid which has been submitted to the HCA and the commitments that will be entered into should the bid be successful; and
(c) the current status of the Council's Affordable Housing Programme.
Content of the report was noted.
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Collingwood Court Update
Information
The Panel received a verbal update by the Director of Community on the progress made to date on the Collingwood Court
development.
He informed the Panel that the development is progressing well, and that they are currently 4/5 weeks behind schedule due to the severe weather at the start of the year, but they are working hard to bring the project forward. They are currently on the 2 nd storey, the roof structure will be placed onto the building by September 2014, and the internal works have already begun. The Council is pleased with the progress and the quality of the work, and the contractor is working well with the local community and so far no issues have been reported. He also informed the Board that the works have to be completed by 31 March 2015, and that an opening date should be known in the autumn. It was AGREED that the Panel notes the progress made to date on the Collingwood Court development.
Progress made to date on Collingwood Court was noted.
Martyn George
Review of the Work Programme 2014/15
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Programming
The Panel received a report by the Director of Community on a Review of the Work Programme 2014/15.
The Director of Community addressed the Panel to confirm that the Chairman of the Clinical Commissioning Group would be attending the meeting on 11 September, and that the Panel will be able to put any health questions to him.

	He also addressed the Panel regarding a proposal to set up an Officer/Member working group to look at the issue of rough sleeping/homeless in the Borough, and to feedback to the Panel with the proposals on how this can be tackled. He circulated a scoping document to members which contained suggested items for consideration. All members expressed an interest in being part of the working group and it was decided that Councillors Mrs Ellerton, Miss Bell, Mrs Trott and Steadman would be the members that would undertake this role.
	Councillor Davies requested that an item on Supporting People be added to the work programme as a result of the recent announcement that Hampshire County Council are looking to withdraw funding from this service. The Director of Community suggested that the item be added onto the Work Programme as unallocated item until Hampshire County Council announces their plans for the funding of this service and the impact that these cuts will have on the services is fully known.
	It was AGREED that the work programme, subject to the inclusion of the additional unallocated item on Supporting People, as set out in Appendix A to the report be approved.
Outcome	Member/Officer Working Group formed and meetings are on-going.
Link Officer	Martyn George
MEETING DATE	11 SEPTEMBER 2014
DATE	Presentation on the Clinical Commissioning Group's 5 Year Plan Information
DATE Subject	Presentation on the Clinical Commissioning Group's 5 Year Plan
Subject Type of Item Action by	Presentation on the Clinical Commissioning Group's 5 Year Plan Information The Panel received a verbal report by Richard Samuels, Chief Officer of the Clinical Commissioning Group and Dr David

Panel	At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor Bayford, Executive Member for Health and Housing addressed the Panel on this item.
Action by	The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community on Disabled Facilities Grants 2014-16.
Subject Type of Item	<u>Disabled Facilities Grants 2014-16</u> Information
Outsiant	
Link Officer	Martyn George
Outcome	It was AGREED that Richard Samuels and Dr Chilvers be thanked for their verbal presentation. The presentation was noted.
	Richard Samuels explained to the Panel that the CCG will be making emergency care a priority and offered to return to the Panel to give a more detailed presentation on this item. He also explained that they are looking at developing a single workforce across the Health and Social Care sector. This will consist of a whole range of professionals including, nurses, GP's, and carers. He explained that it will take some time to fully develop an integrated community team, but that it will not be economically driven but driven by demand from community needs.
	Councillor Knight expressed concern over the treatment of elderly patients in hospitals and asked how the CCG are planning to improve this. Dr David Chilver's addressed the Panel to inform them that they are developing a single care plan which GP's would set up with patients which would outline the care and treatment that the patient would require should they become ill, this will ensure that the patient's wishes are met and empowers them to take control of their future.
	Members expressed concern over the recent incident which lead to the Queen Alexander hospital closing the A&E service for a couple of hours. Members asked about the reasons behind the decision and what the financial impact was on the hospital as a result of it. Richard Samuels addressed the Panel to explain that the decision was taken to close the A&E service for a couple of hours. Members asked about the reasons behind the decision and what the financial impact was on the hospital as a result of it. Richard Samuels addressed the Panel to explain that the decision was taken to close the A&E department to new admissions for the safety of the patients that had already been admitted and there were not enough staff or facilities to safely accept anymore. He also explained that the department was closed for an hour and the situation was reviewed after 40 minutes. In total 6 patients were diverted to Southampton General Hospital. He also explained to the Panel that there are no surcharges applied for those patients diverted to Southampton each hospital charges for every patient that is admitted to them.

	The Panel noted that last year was the best year so far for the Council as it dealt with the highest number of cases, within the shortest length of time and for the lowest average cost per case.
	The Panel noted that funding for the next financial year is going to change as the funding will be directed through Hampshire County Council as part of the Better Care Fund and not direct from the Government. The main concern over receiving funding this way is that the money is not 'ring-fenced' by Hampshire County Council and therefore there is the potential that the money may be used for other services.
	Members expressed great concern over the change as to how the Council receives funding for this service, with their main concern pertaining to the fact that the service is a mandatory service for the Council to provide and if the funding does not get passed onto the Council for this scheme the Council will need to find this money from other sources. The Director of Community addressed the Panel to confirm that he shared the same concerns as those of the Panel and that he felt that District Councils would need to work closely with Hampshire County Council to secure the long term funding for Disabled Facilities Grants.
	Members expressed their praise for the hard work and excellent results achieved by the disabled facilities team to date and hope that the potential funding issues for the next financial year do not impact upon the achievements made by the team.
	It was AGREED that:
	 a) the Panel notes the position with the Disabled Facilities Grants programme in 2013/14 and the challenges for the current financial year and beyond; and b) the Executive is asked to note the Panel's concerns regarding the future funding of disabled facilities grants which will leave the Council with the mandatory duty for these grants but no guarantee of securing the necessary funding from Hampshire County Council.
Outcome	Content of report noted. Panel's comments submitted to the Executive meeting on 6 October 2014:-
	RESOLVED that the Executive noted the Panel's comments.
Link Officer	Giles Hearn
<u>Subject</u>	Supporting People – Changes to Budget and Commissioned Services
Type of Item	
Action by Panel	The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community on Supporting People, which highlighted the changes to the budget and commissioned services.

	The Director of Community addressed the Panel on this item to explain that due to the recent changes to the Supporting People programme announced by Hampshire County Council, the County have decided they will no longer contribute to the funding of the warden service for sheltered accommodation. The Council recognises the continuing need for this important service and as a result has been proactive in addressing the issue and is conducting a review of the Sheltered Housing service to see where it can be streamlined and savings could be made. The Director of Community explained that the County are proposing using their savings from the warden service to provide a 12 week intensive support service for elderly residents and has invited the Council to tender to provide this new service. The Panel discussed the merit of the Sheltered Housing Service and an Intensive Support Service being delivered by a single agency (i.e. Fareham Borough Council). The Panel noted that the funding for the Intensive Support Service would be in the control of Hampshire County Council (HCC) and therefore could be subject to future changes in eligibility criteria and levels of funding. The panel expressed concern that as Fareham Borough Council would not have complete control over the future of the Intensive Support Service, it would place the Council and its Sheltered Housing staff in a difficult position and cause confusion for the residents and their relatives (who may not necessarily understand or be interested in the complexities of the funding) should the level of HCC funding and eligibility criteria be changed. The Panel concluded that Fareham Borough Council should focus its efforts on providing a good quality sheltered housing service which would not be reliant on funding from other agencies and therefore FBC should not bid to deliver the Intensive Support Service. The Panel AGREED that Fareham Borough Council should not tender to provide the intensive support service commissioned by Hampshire County Council.
Outcome	Content of report noted. Fareham Borough Council has not tendered for the intensive support service commissioned by
1:1-0"	Hampshire County Council.
Link Officer	Martyn George
Subject	Review of the Work Programme 2013/14
Type of Item	Information
Action By Panel	The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community which reviewed the current Work Programme 2014/15.
	Members were asked to note the revisions to the work programme as set pout in paragraph 2 of the report.
	Members discussed the offer from Richard Samuels the Chief Officer of the Clinical Commissioning Group to return to the Committee to give a presentation on 'How the Emergency Care System is Planned and Works', and agreed that this should be open to all members and therefore should be arranged as a members training session.
	It was AGREED that the Work Programme for 2014/15, as set out in Appendix A to the report, be approved.

Outcome	The content of the report was noted.
Link Officer	Martyn George
MEETING	
DATE	13 NOVEMBER 2014
Subject	Review of Homelessness
Type of Item	Information
Action by Panel	The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community on a Review of Homelessness.
	The report was presented by the Housing Options Manager, who outlined the changes to the homelessness service over the Past 12 months, this included reviewing the Homelessness and Housing Options Strategy, a restructure of the Housing Options Team (including a new temporary post of Tenancy Support Officer), the Launch of Fare-Lets (the Council's own letting agency), and the challenges for the homelessness team for the next 12 months.
	The Panel were informed that the main issue that has repeatedly come up over the past year has been that of rough sleeping, which is currently being examined in more detail by the Member/Officer Working Group is dealing with. The Panel were also informed that at the next meeting of the working group they will be agreeing on the issues they will be taking forward and will start to look into the options they have for tackling these issues.
	Councillor Steadman expressed concern over the proposed changes to 101 Gosport Road, and how that may Impact upon the service that Fareham can deliver. The Housing Options Manager explained that the changes are as a result of the financial challenges facing Hampshire County Council and that Fareham Borough Council would continue to work with HCC in order to minimise the impact to the Hostel.
	Members also asked questions regarding the proposed housing company which will be set up by FBC, Eastleigh Borough Council EBC, Radian Housing and First Wessex. Councillor Knight requested that a report come to the Panel to update Members on the proposals for the housing company be resent to all of them. The Director of Community addressed the panel to state that he would resend the requested report to all members of the Panel, and suggested that a presentation be added to the work programme outlining the principals to the scheme.
	It was AGREED that the Panel notes the content of the report.

Outcome	The content of the report was noted, and requested reports were sent to all members of the Panel.
Link Officer	Sara Head
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<u>Subject</u>	Welfare Reform Update
Type of Item	Information
Action by Panel	The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community which provided an update to the Welfare Reform.
	The report outlined the changes to the welfare system since April 2013 and how this is impacting upon residents in the Borough. The report looked at the Social Sector Size Criteria, the Benefits Cap, Local Support for Council Tax and Universal Credit.
	Members enquired as to whether there have been staffing cuts due to the changes to the welfare reform, and if so how has impacted upon the service being delivered to customers. The Head of Housing, Revenue and Benefits confirmed that there had been no changes to staff, and as a result of the recent Vanguard intervention a much better service is now being provided to the customer. The only change is that due to the change in the service the revenue staff are now taking on more recovery work.
	The Panel were informed that as of the 1 October 2014 Fareham Borough Council lost its duty to investigate benefit fraud as the responsibility of this has now been transferred to the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), and as such the Council's two Fraud Investigators have now been transferred to the DWP. However the Council still has a duty to investigate housing fraud and council tax support fraud, and so a new Fraud Investigator post has been recruited and should start on 1 December 2014.
	It was also explained to the Panel that the Council Tax Support Scheme has to be reviewed every year. A public consultation was carried out which received a good response, the majority of people who responded felt that the current scheme was fair. As a result it is proposed that the Council Tax Support Scheme stays the same for the next year.
	It was AGREED that the Panel notes the content of the report.
Outcome	Content of report noted.
Link Officer	Caroline Holmes

<u>Subject</u>	Review of the Work Programme
Type of Item	Programming
Action by	The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community on the Panel's Work Programme 2014/15.
Panel	The Director of Community suggested that the presentation on the Local Housing Company be added to the March meeting.
	It was AGREED that, subject to the inclusion of the presentation on the Local Housing Company, that the Work Programme 2014/15 as set out in Appendix A to the report be approved.
Outcome	Report noted.
Link Officer	Martyn George
MEETING	45 JANUARY 2045
DATE	15 JANUARY 2015
<u>Subject</u>	Annual Review of Housing Waiting List & Allocations Policy
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Type of Item	Information The Board was included the state of the black of the same and Board to an the board of the same and board to be a same and b
Action by Panel	The Panel received a verbal update from the Head of Housing, Revenues and Benefits on the housing waiting list and allocations policy.
	She explained to the Panel that the housing department has just begun a Vanguard Intervention and it is therefore too early in
	the process to do a review of the housing waiting list and allocations policy. Once the review has been underway for a while
	both of these things will be reviewed and at that point they will be able to reported back to the Panel.
	The Head of Housing, Revenues and Benefits was thanked for her update.
Outcome	Information Noted
Link Officer	Caroline Holmes
Subject	Presentation – Local Housing Company
Type of Item	Information
Action by	The Panel received a verbal presentation from the Director of Community on the Local Housing Company that has been set
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Panel

up by Fareham Borough Council, Eastleigh Borough Council, First Wessex and Radian Housing Association.

He explained that the information has been in the public domain for some time and the last report on this went to the Executive in November 2013. It has been a long legal process but the company was finally registered as Aspect Building Communities Limited in December 2014.

In order to assist members to understand the process and the reasoning behind the formation of the Housing Company, the Director of Community broke the presentation down into specific sections.

To start with he explained what is meant by affordable housing. Affordable Housing is socially rented or affordable rented properties, intermediate housing which is shared housing with an authority and housing that eligibility is decided on by income. Homes that are built for affordable housing are usually set at 80% or market rent, and they must remain at an affordable rent when new occupiers move into the property.

He then explained what is meant by local demand and supply, which relates to the Council's housing waiting list and availability of affordable housing. He explained that there are currently 1400 people on the Council's housing waiting list. There are 4000 affordable homes in the Borough and 2200 of those properties are owned by Fareham Borough Council. Taking into account new build properties and vacated properties there are approximately 300 vacancies each year in the combined affordable housing stock. The average waiting time for anyone on the waiting list without a priority need is approximately 10 years. Therefore the demand for affordable housing greatly exceeds the supply. He also informed the Panel that the housing waiting list is restricted to those with a local connection to Fareham (and must be at least 2 years).

The presentation then looked at the reasons that stop Fareham Borough Council from building more housing. Part of the reason is land supply as there are very few opportunities to build on land in the Borough. The Planning system makes building new housing developments difficult. Lastly funding and finances, up until 2011 (and for approx.. 25 years) no Council has been allowed to build houses. However in 2012 there was a major change by the Government to the housing finance. Every housing authority had to but their way out of the current system they were in, which for Fareham Borough Council was approximately 49,000,000, which should be paid off in 30 years. Along with each authority having to but their way out of the system they were in the Government's new system put a cap on each authority as to how much borrowing they could do. For Fareham Borough Council the cap was 52,000,000, therefore there was very little money left from the cap after the initial 49,000,000 was taken from it.

The presentation then went on to explain how the local housing company could help with this. Within the powers of economic and social wellbeing local authorities are allowed to enter into partnerships to create companies for the benefit of the local community, which is how the housing company was formed. The sole purpose of the company is to build new affordable

	housing, the houses will not be subject to right to buy so will always remain in the affordable housing market. Any money borrowed by the Company for builds within the borough will have to be approved by the Executive first. So the company in simple terms is that it is a legal entity by which the Council is able to build more affordable housing in the Borough. The Council's Executive will have control over the entire process. Then any profits made will be will be split only with the relevant organisations for each particular build or can stay with the Housing Company to be reinvested. The presentation was finished off by the Director of Community explaining that the next step with the company is to find a suitable site for building on, and it is hoped that within the next year a proposal will be coming forward. It was AGREED that the Director of Community be thanked for his extremely informative and interesting presentation, which
	was very easy to follow and understand.
Outcome	Verbal Presentation Noted.
Link Officer	Martyn George
<u>Subject</u>	Preliminary Review of Work Programme 2014/15 and Draft Work Programme 2015/16
Type of Item	Information
Action by Panel	The Panel considered a report by the Director of Community on a review of the current work programme 2014/15 and the draft work programme for 2015/16.
	The Panel's attention was drawn to the changes to the current work programme as set out in paragraph 3 of the report.
	Members were also informed that at the next meeting of the Panel they would be asked to agree the draft work programme for 2015/16 so if any members have any suggestions for the work programme to let officers know by the next meeting.
	Councillor Knight put forward the following suggestions for the work programmes: Rough Sleeping
	Food Bank Housing Waiting List/Allocations Policy
	Farelets
	Local Dr's Surgeries – long waiting times
	Housing and Council Tax Fraud
1	Use of Fareham Hospital

	The Director of Community agreed that all of these items can be included into the 2015/16 work programme.
	It was AGREED that the work programme for 2014/15, as set out in appendix A to the report, be approved.
Outcome	Content of Report Noted.
Link Officer	Martyn George

HEALTH AND HOUSING POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW PANEL PROPOSED WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2015/16

MEETING DATES FOR 2015/16	<u>ITEMS</u>
28 May 2015	 Review of Work Programme 2015/16 Health Update
23 July 2015	 Review of Work Programme 2015/16 Health Update
24 September 2015	 Review of Work Programme 2015/16 Health Update
12 November 2015	 Review of Work Programme 2015/16 Health Update
21 January 2016	 Preliminary Review of Work Programme 2015/16 and Draft Work Programme 2016/17 Health Update
10 March 2016	 Final Review of Work Programme 2014/15 and Draft Work Programme 2016/17 Health Update

FAREHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL POLICY FRAMEWORK

Under the Constitution, the plans and strategies be adopted or approved by the full Council are:-

- (a) Sustainable Community Strategy;
- (b) Housing Strategy;
- (c) Food Safety Service Plan;
- (d) Licensing Policy;
- (e) Plans and Alterations comprising the Development Plan;
- (f) Development Plan Documents;
- (g) Community Safety Strategy;
- (h) Corporate Vision, Values, Objectives and Priority Actions.