

HOUSING AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting of the Housing and Health Committee held in the Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Wednesday 28 October 2009 at 10.00am.

Present: Councillors P Barrett, A Wylie, B Band, I Campbell, J Flynn, A Gaunt, K Howie, E Maclachlan, M Roberts, W Robertson, D Scott, C Shiers and H Stewart; and Mr A Boyd and Mrs E Muir (both Tenants' and Residents' Federation).

In Attendance: Councillors K Baird and B Vaughan (from Item 4 onwards) ; D Burke, Executive Director (Housing and Community Care); J Walker, Depute Director (Housing and Community Care); K Frew, P Reilly, F Robertson, J Dean and H Turley (all Housing and Community Care); A Wilson, S Hendry and M Cochlan (all Chief Executive's Service);

Councillor P Barrett, Convener, Presiding.

Prior to the commencement of business, the Convener reminded Members that designs for the new build Council House building in both Letham, Perth and Methven, Perthshire were available to view in the Members' Lounge following the meeting.

529. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, Councillor P Barrett declared a non-financial interest in Art. 536 – Implementation of Carer's Strategy.

530. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(i) Housing and Health Committee

The Minute of Meeting of the Housing and Health Committee of 19 August 2009 (Arts. 412-422) was submitted, approved as a correct record, and authorised for signature.

(ii) Executive Sub-Committee

The Minute of Meeting of the Executive Sub-Committee of the Housing and Health Committee of 23 September 2009 was submitted and noted. (*Appendix I*)

531. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY CARE SIX MONTHLY BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN (BMIP) PERFORMANCE EXCEPTION REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (09/493A) reviewing the performance of Housing and Community Care against its BMIP for the period 1 April 2009 to 30 September 2009.

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Resolved:

- (i) After consideration, the contents of the Housing and Community Care Six Monthly BMIP Performance Exception Report, as detailed in the Appendix to report 09/493A, and pertaining to this Committee's areas of responsibility, be accepted.
- (ii) It be noted that Report 09/493A would be submitted to the Community Safety Committee on 25 November 2009 for its interest, and to the next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee on 2 December 2009.

532. DEVELOPING HOUSING SOLUTIONS FOR HOMELESS HOUSEHOLDS – WORKING TOWARDS THE 2012 TARGET

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (09/494A) detailing the Council's strategic objectives and operational services, which would better enable it to meet the 2012 target that all homeless households requiring housing would have priority need status.

Resolved:

- (i) The Council's strategic direction in moving towards the 2012 targets be approved.
- (ii) The policy change to extend priority need to all those aged 16-24 years, and to those aged over 55 years from 1 January 2010, be approved
- (iii) The proposal, as set out in Section 4.4 of Report 09/494A, for the introduction of a Perth and Kinross Lettings Agency to improve access into affordable private rented tenancies, be approved.
- (iv) The proposal, as set out in Section 4.5 of Report 09/494A, to develop an integrated Housing Options Portal to assist homeseekers in identifying suitable available private rented accommodation in Perth and Kinross, be approved.

533. HOUSING OPTIONS

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (09/495A), (1) outlining progress on the development of the Housing Options Service; and (2) detailing how the service integrated with the scheme of allocations and the private sector access arrangements.

Resolved:

- (i) The progress to date on the development of the Housing Options Service, and the proposed implementation date of April 2010, be approved.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) be instructed to submit a report to a future meeting of this Committee on the outcomes of the Housing Options Service.

534. HOMECARE

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (09/496A), (1) providing an update on the improvements made within the Homecare service; and (2) seeking approval on a process of consultation

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with Elected Members, service users and carers on the future delivery of homecare services.

Resolved:

- (i) A consultation process for the future service delivery of homecare within Perth and Kinross, as detailed in Report 09/496A, be agreed.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) be instructed to report back to Committee in May 2010 outlining the result of the consultation process and future service developments.
- (iii) The significant improvement made within the homecare service be noted.

535. HOUSING WITH CARE FOR OLDER PEOPLE

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (09/497A) summarising options for future support for older people with regard to the development of housing with care/support.

Resolved:

- (i) The proposals, as set out in Section 3 of Report 09/497A, for housing with care options within Perth and Kinross, be approved.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) be instructed to submit a further progress report to this Committee on 19 May 2010.

536. IMPLEMENTATION OF CARERS' STRATEGY

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (09/498A), (1) outlining the activity being undertaken to support carers in Perth and Kinross in line with the Joint Carers Strategy; and (2) seeking approval for the further development of dementia day care and respite services for adults.

Resolved:

- (i) A move towards the re-provision and improvement of dementia day care currently based at Rannoch Road, Perth, as detailed in Report 09/498A, be approved.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) be instructed to submit a further report to this Committee outlining a proposal for the development of a redesigned respite service.
- (iii) The progress in services to carers being made through the implementation of the Carers' Strategy be noted, with continued support for this work in order that further innovative and flexible solutions could be developed in the next year.

537. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REVIEW OF GROUNDS MAINTENANCE (Art. 477)

There was submitted a report by the Head of Democratic Services (09/499A) referring the findings of the review of the grounds maintenance service undertaken by the Scrutiny Committee for interest in accordance with the decision of the Scrutiny Committee on 16 September 2009 (Article 477 refers).

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In terms of Standing Order 53, Councillor K Baird, Convener of the Scrutiny Committee, addressed the Committee based on the findings of the review of the grounds maintenance service, as detailed in Report 09/437.

Resolved:

- (i) The findings of the review of grounds maintenance by the Scrutiny Committee be noted by this Committee for interest.
- (ii) Officers be instructed to take action, where appropriate, in accordance with Section 5 of Report 09/437.
- (iii) It be noted that this report would be submitted to the Environment Committee on 4 November 2009 for its respective interest.

IT WAS AGREED THAT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS SHOULD BE EXCLUDED DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN ORDER TO AVOID THE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION WHICH IS EXEMPT IN TERMS OF SCHEDULE 7A TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1973

538. REVIEW OF THE TENANT INFORMATION SERVICE (T.I.S) PERTH AND KINROSS TENANTS DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT PROJECT

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (09/500A) advising of the outcome of a review of the Service Level Agreement between Perth and Kinross Council and the Tenant Information Service (TIS) for the provision of development and administrative support services to Perth and Kinross Tenants' and Residents' Federation.

Resolved:

- (i) The recommendation in Report 09/500A be approved.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) be instructed to submit a further report outlining the way forward for tenant and resident engagement within Perth and Kinross to the meeting of the Housing and Health Committee on 3 February 2010.

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