

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL
HOUSING AND HEALTH COMMITTEE
4 March 2009

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 4 March 2009 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors P Barrett, A Wylie, B Band, I Campbell, J Flynn, A Gaunt, K Howie, E Maclachlan, M Roberts, W Robertson, D Scott, A Stewart (substituting for Councillor C Shiers) and H Stewart.

In Attendance: D Burke, Executive Director (Housing and Community Care); J Dean, H Turley, L Cameron, B Grigg, C Flynn, L Potter and L Brady (all Housing and Community Care); A Wilson, S Hendry, S Watson and J Mackay (all Chief Executive's Service); Mr G Bosworth, Ms D Smith and Mr J Sloan (all for Art. 141 only).

Apologies for Absence: Councillor C Shiers; Mr A Boyd and Mrs P Fyfe (Perth and Kinross Tenants' and Residents' Federation).

Councillor P Barrett, Convener, Presiding.

138. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Both Councillors A Stewart and H Stewart declared a financial interest in Item 3 on the Agenda, in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

139. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minute of Meeting of the Housing and Health Committee of 4 February 2009 (Art. 55-64) was submitted, approved as a correct record, and authorised for signature.

UNDER STANDING ORDER 19, IT WAS AGREED TO CONSIDER ITEM FOUR PRIOR TO ITEM THREE ON THE AGENDA.

140. ALCOHOL CONFERENCE

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (09/134), (1) informing Committee of the 'Real Unit Cost' Conference on Alcohol held in November 2008; (2) noting the purpose of the conference as being to raise awareness of the impact of alcohol on individuals, families and communities, and to identify specific actions to support the priorities on the Single Outcome Agreement, with a particular focus on community safety, health, and children and young people; and (3) identifying key actions to be taken forward by three Community Planning themed partnerships.

Resolved:

- (i) The key actions arising from the recent alcohol conference be endorsed.

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- (ii) A progress report highlighting the progress within each area for action, as outlined in paragraph 3.4 of Report 09/134 be submitted to this Committee in six months time.

141. UPDATE ON LEARNING DISABILITY REVIEW

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (09/133) informing Committee of the improvements and changes being made in Learning Disability Services following the implementation of the recommendations of the Best Value Review.

Prior to discussion of this item, members of the Committee heard from both Diane Smith and James Sloan on the positive work of Learning Disability Services, and also from George Bosworth, a parent carer.

Resolved:

The contents of Report 09/133, and the changes being made to Learning Disability Services since the Best Value Review, be noted.

***142. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY CARE – SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (09/135), outlining the approach taken in achieving and producing the Housing and Community Care Scheme of Delegation.

Resolved:

- (i) The methodology used in the compilation of the Housing and Community Care Scheme of Delegation be approved.
- (ii) The Housing and Community Care Scheme of Delegation, as detailed in Appendix 1 of Report 09/135, and pertaining to this Committee's area of responsibility, be approved.
- (iii) It be noted that this report would also be submitted to the Community Safety Committee for its interest on 11 March 2009.

143. TENDERS ACCEPTED AND WORKS AWARDED UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (09/136), detailing the tenders accepted and works awarded by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) under delegated powers during the period 1 April 2008 to 31 December 2008.

Resolved:

The contents of Report 09/136, and the contract awards detailed in the attached Appendix 1, be noted.

144. PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING GRANT BUDGET 2009/2010

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (09/137) (1) confirming the allocation of Private Sector Housing

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Grant (PSHG) to Perth and Kinross Council for 2009/2010; (2) recommending provisional allocation of this budget for expenditure on private sector housing improvements, repairs and adaptations; and (3) noting the current position regarding the implementation of the remaining changes through the Housing (Scotland) Act 2006.

Resolved:

- (i) The allocation of Private Sector Housing Grant (PSHG) awarded to the Council for 2009/2010 be noted, and the proposed allocation of expenditure and targets, set out in section 3 and the Appendix to Report 09/137, be approved.
- (ii) The proposals for implementing the changes to grants for disabled adaptations, set out in clauses 4.6 and 4.7 of Report 09/137, be approved.
- (iii) The current position regarding implementation of the new powers and duties for local authorities, included within the Housing (Scotland) Act 2006, and set out in section 4 of Report 09/137, be noted.
- (iv) It be noted that the Executive Director (Housing & Community Care), with the Executive Director (Environment), Executive Director (Corporate Services) and Head of Legal Services, were currently considering the implications for Perth and Kinross Council in implementing the above parts of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2006, and would bring forward proposals to a future meeting of the appropriate Committee(s).

145. CHARGING STATEMENT

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (09/138), (1) providing information under the Council's financial regulations on the charging arrangements currently in operation through Perth and Kinross Council's Housing and Community Care Services; and (2) outlining the different charging arrangements currently in operation, providing a summary of charges for 2009/2010, and setting out how clients could obtain financial assistance with accommodation related care and support charges.

Resolved:

- (i) The content of Report 09/138, and that of the Charging Statement as detailed in Appendix 1, be noted.
- (ii) The content of Report 09/138, and the Housing and Community Care Scheme of Charges from 1 April 2009 as detailed in Appendix 2, be noted.
- (iii) The range of support provided to improve the financial circumstances of the citizens and communities within Perth and Kinross Council be noted.
- (iv) The standard weekly charge for residential care within Local Authority Care Homes, at £580.90 from 9 April 2009, be approved.

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