

# 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 27 September 2006 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors Hunter, Barrett, Cowan (substituting for Councillor Dow), Crabbie, Flynn, E Grant, Hayton, Miller, Mulheron, Scott and Simpson (substituting for Councillor Robertson) and Mrs Miller.

In Attendance: J Turpie (SWIA); D Roberts (Executive Director (Housing and Community Care)), D Burke, I Geroni, N Robson, J Dean, G Fraser and M Morrison (all Housing and Community Care); A Wilson and V Goldthorp (both Corporate Services).

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Dow, MacLellan, Lennie and Robertson and Mrs Muir.

Councillor Hunter, Convener, Presiding.

## **612. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

## **613. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minute of Meeting of the Housing and Health Committee of 16 August 2006 (Arts. 500-513) was submitted, approved as a correct record, and authorised for signature.

## **614. PROPOSED EXTENSION AND RENEWAL OF BLOCK CONTRACT ARRANGEMENTS AT KINROSS FOR ADULTS WITH SEVERE LEARNING DISABILITIES (Art. 607/04)**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (06/665) recommending that the contract between Perth and Kinross Council and Gowrie Care, for the provision of residential and integrated day care for four adults with learning disabilities, be renewed for a period of three years.

### **Resolved:**

The contract in place since 1 August 2003, between the Council and Gowrie Care, for the provision of residential and integrated care for four adults with learning disabilities at An Cala, Kinross be extended for a period of three years from 1 April 2007 until the formal end of the contract period.

## **615. PERTH AND KINROSS HOUSING STANDARD DELIVERY PLAN**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (06/666) (1) providing details including approval from Communities Scotland of the Council's recently submitted Standard Delivery Plan for improving the housing stock in order to comply with the Scottish Housing Quality Standard and the Perth and Kinross Housing Standard; and (2) outlining the proposed Housing Improvement Programme required to achieve compliance with the standards.

### **Resolved:**

- (i) The present status of the Standard Delivery Plan be noted along with indications that the Council was well placed to meet the Scottish Housing Quality Standard by 2015.
- (ii) The main elements of the Housing Improvement Programme contained within the approved Standard Delivery Plan and detailed in Report 06/666, be noted.

## **616. LOCAL HOUSING STRATEGY UPDATE (Art. 567/05)**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (06/667) (1) updating the Committee on progress in implementing the Local Housing Strategy; and (2) highlighting areas with regards to a change in policy either nationally or locally which had an impact on Local Housing Strategy objectives.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The update of the Local Housing Strategy, as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 06/667, be noted.
- (ii) Further progress on actions in the Local Housing Strategy be reported to the Committee in due course.
- (iii) The changes in policy both nationally and locally which have had an impact on the objectives originally adopted within the Local Housing Strategy, be noted.

**617. HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY 2003-08 - ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2005-06 AND LOCAL OUTCOME AGREEMENT 2006-08 (Art. 568/05)**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (06/668) (1) seeking approval for the third Annual Progress Report on the Homelessness Strategy for year 2005-06; and (2) the Local Outcome Agreement 2006-08.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The Homelessness Strategy Annual Progress Report for 2005-06 as detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 06/668 be noted and approved.
- (ii) The Homelessness Strategy Local Outcome Agreement for 2006-08, as detailed in Report 06/668, be approved.
- (iii) It be noted that the Council was not on track to meet the 2012 target for phasing out priority need.

**618. IRRECOVERABLE AND VOID RENTS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2005/06**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (06/669) seeking approval of the write-off of sums in accounting terms in respect of void and irrecoverable rents during the financial year 2005/06 charged to the cumulative provision for bad and doubtful debts for the Housing Revenue Account and General Fund respectively.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The contents of Report 06/669 be noted.
- (ii) The Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) be authorised to write off the sums detailed in Appendix 1 to Report 06/669 and incorporate these sums within the final accounts for 2006/07.

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

**619. UPGRADING OF INSULATION TO 950 HOUSES AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT PERTH AND KINROSS - PROBABLE COST REPORT**

There was submitted a report by the Executive Director (Housing and Community Care) (06/670) outlining the probable cost of carrying out insulation improvement works to 950 houses at various locations throughout Perth and Kinross.

**Resolved:**

- (i) The probable costs identified in Report 06/670, be approved.
- (ii) The Head of Property be remitted to prepare pricing schedules and invite tenders for the necessary works, as detailed in Report 06/670.