



Portsmouth
CITY COUNCIL

NOTICE OF MEETING

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HOUSING'S
DECISION MEETING**

THURSDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2007 AT 9AM
N.B. RESCHEDULED FROM TUESDAY 13
NOVEMBER 2007 AT 4.30 PM DUE TO
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

**EXECUTIVE MEETING ROOM, FLOOR 3,
GUILDHALL, PORTSMOUTH**

Telephone enquiries to Joanne Wildsmith, 023 9283 4057

(NB This Agenda should be retained for future reference with the Minutes of this meeting.)

A G E N D A

- 1 Declaration of Members' Interests in accordance with Standing Order No 14**
 - 2 Voluntary Accreditation Scheme for Private Rented Properties**
- ... The purpose of the attached report by the Head of Community Housing is to seek approval from the Executive Member for Housing for the development of an accreditation scheme for all privately rented properties within Portsmouth that do not fall within the mandatory licensing regime.

RECOMMENDED that the Executive Member for Housing

- (1) agrees to the development and implementation of a voluntary accreditation scheme;**
- (2) delegates authority to the Head of Community Housing to form a partnership with other local bodies and local authorities as part of the accreditation scheme development and implementation for the benefit of local landlord and tenants.**

3 Homelessness Strategy

... The purpose of the attached report by the Head of Community Housing is to explain requirements for the Council to publish a homelessness strategy and describes arrangements that have been made to fulfil this requirement. A consultation event with partners and stakeholders will have taken place on 6 November.

RECOMMENDED that the report be noted and that the Executive Member for Housing be asked to endorse the approach described.

4 Housing Allocations Policy

... The Head of Community Housing's report outlines the local authority's duty to make sure that homes, which they own or have nomination rights to, are let in accordance with the published allocations scheme. The allocations scheme is described as the procedure for letting homes and for determining the relative priority accorded to different categories of applicant. The report describes a number of changes which need to be made to the current policy. Because of the ongoing work in Housing Options following the voids and allocations intervention, officers are not yet in a position to bring forward a detailed scheme for approval. It is therefore an interim report spelling out the detail of the banding system which is currently in operation and the key principles on which it is proposed the revised allocations policy will eventually be based. The Head of Community Housing expects to bring forward a revised allocations policy for approval by the Executive Member in February 2008.

RECOMMENDED that the Executive Member for Housing:

(i) endorses the key principles of the revised allocations policy as set out in paragraph 3 incorporating the four band system of priority which is described within Appendix 1.

(ii) authorises the Head of Community Housing to undertake further consultation with interested parties, including elected members on the final detail of the allocation scheme.

5 Mobile Home Sites

... The purpose of the attached report by the Head of Local Authority Housing Management is to outline options for the future of mobile home sites and make recommendations on how to proceed.

RECOMMENDED that

(1) an independent organisation be appointed to consult all mobile home owners individually to establish as soon as possible which of the four options residents would prefer:

- (1) reintroduction of the 10% commission on sales**
- (2) pitch rent increase**

- (3) sale of the sites at market value to a private buyer
- (4) sale of the sites at market value to all residents
- (2) the consultation results be brought before the Housing Executive in February, or earlier if a special Executive meeting is required;
- (3) if the commission charge is reintroduced the pitch fee increases for mobile homes be linked in future to the retail price index increase;
- (4) with immediate effect all new licensees be advised that if they sell the site in the future the 10% commission will be applied;
- (5) the Strategic Director for Corporate Resources and Services' financial appraisal be approved.

6 Housing Executive - Cash Limit Budget Monitoring Report 2007/08

... Report attached by Head of Financial Services/Strategic Director for Health, Housing & Social Care.

RECOMMENDED that the report be noted.

7 Foyer Board of Directors - Appointment to Vacancy

The purpose of this item is to appoint a trustee to the above management company which is a company limited by guarantee, with charitable status. Meetings are approximately six times per year at the Foyer in Edinburgh Road. Only out of pocket expenses are paid. The vacancy was advertised on the Members' Information Service and Councillor David Fuller has volunteered to be a trustee.

RECOMMENDED that Councillor David Fuller be appointed to serve on the Foyer Board of Directors as an annual appointee.

Background Papers: None

JW/DMF
2 November 2007
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