



NOTICE OF MEETING

CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING - DECISION MEETING

FRIDAY 18 JULY 2008 AT 11.00 AM

EXECUTIVE MEETING ROOM, FLOOR 3, GUILDHALL, PORTSMOUTH

Telephone enquiries to Joanne Wildsmith, Democratic & Community Engagement,
023 9283 4057

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

Please note that the agenda, minutes and non-exempt reports are available to view online on the Portsmouth City Council website: www.portsmouth.gov.uk

AGENDA

1 Declaration of Members' Interests in accordance with Standing Order No 14

2 Housing Investment Programme/Capital Budgets

... The main purpose of the attached report is to recommend for approval the revised programmes of capital spending on council and private housing proposed for 2008/09 and to note the proposed programmes for 2009/10 to 2014/15.

RECOMMENDED (1) that the revised 2008/09 programme set out in Appendix 4 and the associated capital financing set out in Appendix 3 be approved in the sum of £27.6 million;

(2) that the programmes of £26.2 million, £21.7 million, £23.4 million, £24.1 million, £25.9 million and £25.9 million for the six financial years 2009/10 to 2014/15 be approved for use in providing information to the Government as required;

(3) that the Prudential Indicators set out in Appendix 6 and the Budget Principles shown at Appendix 2 be approved;

(4) that the purposes of the Local Authorities (Capital Finance) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 the City Council resolve to spend £20 million on affordable housing in both 2008/09 and 2009/10. Furthermore that the capital receipts arising in each year from the disposal of surplus HRA assets be used 100% for the provision of affordable housing;

(5) that the Head of Community Housing be given delegated authority in consultation with the Strategic Director responsible for financial administration (S.151 Local Government Act 1972) to approve arrangements for the joint City Council and Housing Corporation Programme for 2008/09 to 2010/11;

(6) that authority be delegated to the Strategic Director responsible for financial administration (S.151 Local Government Act 1972) to alter the mix of capital funding sources used to finance the HIP to maximise the resources available to the Council.

3 Supporting People Programme Update

... The attached report by the Supporting People Manager provides an update on progress made on ongoing issues within the Supporting People Programme in Portsmouth.

RECOMMENDED that the Cabinet Member for Housing

(1) notes the progress made in implementing a range of improvements to the Supporting People Programme;

(2) notes the ongoing issues currently being resolved.

4 Community Housing Sustainable Communities Programme Update

... The attached report by the Corporate Initiatives Manager for Community Housing provides an update on progress in developing and implementing the Housing Sustainable Communities Programme, including an outline of achievements since the last report.

RECOMMENDED (1) that the work undertaken so far on the development and implementation of the Housing Sustainable Communities Programme be noted and supported;

(2) that a further report be brought forward on resource implications and progress at a future date;

(3) that a report be brought forward on the achievements of the John Pounds development later in the year.

5 Empty Homes Campaign

... The attached report by the Head of Community Housing is to describe the progress of the Empty Homes Campaign over the past eighteen months and suggest that, in the future, the city council should consider seeking the compulsory purchase of properties in appropriate cases.

RECOMMENDED that where the Cabinet Member for Housing considers that the only viable means of ensuring an empty home is brought back into use the Cabinet Member shall make the recommendation to the Cabinet Member for Planning, Regeneration & Economic Development to enable a compulsory purchase of the property to be authorised.

6 Application for Home Repair Assistance

... The purpose of the attached report by the Housing Renewals Manager is to seek the Cabinet Member's view on a request to relax the eligibility criteria for grant in certain circumstances.

RECOMMENDED (1) that the eligibility criteria in the policy remain unchanged;

(2) that the applicant be offered the loan assistance available within the policy pending an appeal to EAGA over their decision not to help.

JW/DMF
3 July 2008
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