

## **CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING**

RECORD OF DECISIONS taken by Councillor Steven Wylie, Cabinet Member for Housing, at his decision meeting held on Wednesday 16 September 2009 at 4.00 pm in the Guildhall, Portsmouth.

Apologies for absence had been received from Opposition Spokesperson Councillor Jim Patey.

### **24 Declaration of Members' Interests (AI 1)**

There were no declared interests.

### **25 Housing Portfolio Cash Limit Budget Monitoring Report 2009/10 (AI 2)**

(TAKE IN REPORT BY THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR AND SECTION 151 OFFICER)

Peter Pennekett presented his report and advised that budgetted net expenditure for the financial year to 31 March 2010 was estimated to be within the approved Cash Limit for the Housing Portfolio.

#### **DECISION:**

**That the report be noted.**

### **26 Update on Portsmouth's Housing Market (AI 3)**

(TAKE IN REPORT BY HEAD OF COMMUNITY HOUSING)

Nigel Baldwin presented the report which covered all sections of the housing market, monitoring these in a time of recession. He reported that whilst there had been a recent slight increase in the number of mortgage loans there were still difficulties for those struggling to join at the lower end of the market and in raising deposits. Councillor Wylie welcomed the report which contained important indicators which would help in the consideration of allocation of resources by the City Council. Peter Pennekett further reported that the Government's recent Consultation Paper issued as part of the Review of Housing Finance proposed that Councils should be allowed to retain all receipts from the sale of Council Housing assets, provided they were used for affordable housing or regeneration projects. Councillor Wylie thanked officers for the useful report and additional information.

#### **DECISION:**

**That the Cabinet Member for Housing noted the current situation with the housing market in Portsmouth.**

## 27 Supporting People Programme Update (AI 4)

(TAKE IN REPORT BY SUPPORTING PEOPLE MANAGER FOR  
HEAD OF COMMUNITY HOUSING)

Dominic Dew presented his report and reported that he had given a presentation to the Local Area Agreement Delivery Board on 14 September and would give them regular updates. Discussion took place with regard to the future uncertainties in funding which impacted on the extension of contracts for PCC providers. Councillor Wylie welcomed Margaret Geary' sending letters to lobby the Department for Communities and Local Government. Councillor Wylie thanked Dominic Dew for his report.

### **DECISIONS:**

#### **That the Cabinet Member for Housing**

- (1) noted the changes in levels of funding to old people and learning disabilities client groups as a result of the recent strategic review of services and central government reductions in grant funding;**
- (2) noted progress made in implementing a range of improvements for the Supporting People programme;**
- (3) noted the ongoing issues currently being resolved;**
- (4) supported further communication with the Department for Communities and Local Government on the potential detrimental effect on services to vulnerable residents as a result of reducing financial support.**

Councillor Wylie thanked all officers for their reports and input at the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 4.30 pm.

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Councillor Steven Wylie  
Cabinet Member for Housing

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