



NOTICE OF MEETING

CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING

TUESDAY, 9 JULY 2013 AT 9.30 AM

THE EXECUTIVE MEETING ROOM - THIRD FLOOR, THE GUILDHALL

Telephone enquiries to Joanne Wildsmith
Email: joanne.wildsmith@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING

Councillor Darren Sanders (Liberal Democrat)

Group Spokespersons

Councillor David Horne, Labour
Councillor Luke Stubbs, Conservative

(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

Deputations by members of the public may be made on any item where a decision is going to be taken. The request should be made in writing to the contact officer (above) by 12 noon of the working day before the meeting, and must include the purpose of the deputation (for example, for or against the recommendations). Email requests are accepted.

AGENDA

- 1 **Apologies for Absence**
- 2 **Declaration of Interests**
- 3 **Housing Hardship Fund (Pages 1 - 4)**

The report advises the Cabinet member of actions to provide support for some

tenants who fall within the governments assessment of 'under occupying' their properties but who may have been 'adequately housed' at the time of allocating and might no longer be able to access discretionary Housing benefit.

RECOMMENDED that the Cabinet Member for Housing delegates authority to Head of Housing and Property Services in consultation with Head of Finance and S151 Officer to develop a scheme that will enable the HRA to offer financial assistance for those council tenants affected by welfare reform, and for whom available DHP is considered insufficient, totalling no more than £40,000 in 2013/14 and for future provision to be set as part of the on-going annual HRA budget setting process.

4 Changes to Financial Assistance Policy for Private Sector Housing
(Pages 5 - 26)

The report seeks approval to amend the current Financial Assistance Policy for Private Sector Housing Renewal in Portsmouth to make the policy more in line with customer needs.

RECOMMENDED that the 2013 Financial Assistance Policy is agreed and implemented from 9th July 2013, as detailed in Appendix 1.

5 Refurbishment of St.Clare's Court (Pages 27 - 34)

The report seeks permission for the modernisation of sheltered housing facilities/accommodation at St Clare's Court, Leigh Park.

To seek permission, to spend £1,437,500 for the undertaking of refurbishment works to 1-45 St Clare's Court. 44 properties will be reconfigured into 32 self contained modern properties within the overall building.

RECOMMENDED that approval is given to proceed with the scheme within the approved sum of £1,437,500.

6 Refurbishment of Tweed Court (Pages 35 - 42)

This report has been brought forward urgently as funding is available and the work will take place in the same area as the refurbishment of St Clare's Court thereby minimising logistical and planning issues.

To seek permission for the modernisation of sheltered housing facilities/accommodation at Tweed Court, Leigh Park.

RECOMMENDED that the 2013 Financial Assistance Policy is agreed and implemented from 9th July 2013, as detailed in Appendix 1.