

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL
HOUSING DECISION PROCEDURES SCRUTINY PANEL

10.00AM - 28 OCTOBER 2005

HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Giebeler (Chair); Councillors Davidson, Edmond-Smith, Older and Taylor.

Also present: Councillor Hazelgrove, former Chair, Housing Committee

PART ONE

ACTION

1. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

1A. Declarations of Substitutes

1.1 Substitutes are not allowed on scrutiny panels.

1B. Declarations of Interest

1.2 Councillor Hazelgrove declared a prejudicial interest as former Chair, Housing Committee.

1C. Exclusion of Press and Public

1.3 The Committee considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of any items contained in the agenda, having regard to the nature of the business to be transacted and the nature of the proceedings and the likelihood as to whether, if members of the press and public were present, there would be disclosure to them of confidential or exempt information as defined in Section 100A(3) or 100 1 of the Local Government Act 1972.

1.4 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public be not excluded from the meeting during consideration of any of the items on the agenda.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND REMIT

2.1 The Panel noted the report and minutes on the request for scrutiny to OSOC 23rd May and the Panels' remit- 'To undertake a scrutiny of the decision to remove the Stock Options item from the agenda of the Council meeting on 20th January 2005, including the event and

decisions leading thereto and to recommend whether any revised practices or procedures should be adopted for the future.' (see minute book)

3. INFORMATION ON HOUSING STOCK OPTIONS MEETINGS AND FUNDING PROCESS

3.1 The Head of Financial Services, Housing and City Support presented the briefing note 'Stock Options Process – Funding Issues' (see minute book) and answered questions about the process.

3.2 **RESOLVED** – that the report be noted

4. INFORMATION FROM COUNCILLOR HAZELGROVE

4.1 With the agreement of the Panel this item was brought forward to before item 3. Councillor Hazelgrove explained why he requested a scrutiny review, and answered questions. Notes of Councillor Hazelgrove's information circulated separately.

4.2 **RESOLVED** – that the information be noted

5. INFORMATION GAPS; FURTHER INFORMATION REQUESTED

5.1 The scrutiny panel asked for further information/witnesses as follows:

MvB

- 1) Copy of e-mail from Mary Marshall dated 5th January 'Gap funding'
- 2) Contemporaneous notes of the meeting with the mayor on the morning of 20th January.
- 3) Copies of relevant e-mails and other correspondence to clarify some of the informal discussions that took place before the council meeting.
- 4) Signatories to the scrutiny request to be reminded to contact the support officer if they wished to speak at a Panel meeting.
- 5) GOSE to be invited to speak to the Panel, including about the status and significance of the 17th January consultation paper

6. FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

6.1 The Panel noted dates and contributors to future meetings:

Friday 4th November, 10am, Brighton Town Hall Room 3

Councillor Allen, for Chair, HMSC, Councillor Watkins, signatory to scrutiny request.

Friday 11th November

The Panel agreed to cancel the meeting on 11th November; instead

the meeting on 21st November may be longer than usual.

Monday 21st November, 4.30pm, Brighton Town Hall, Ante-Room
Tenant Representative, Senior Council Officers

Friday 2nd December, 10am, Hove Town Hall Room, room 3
Mary Marshall, GOSE, Councillor Pat Drake, former Mayor

The meeting concluded at 11.45 am

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

2005