

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL
HOUSING CABINET MEMBER MEETING
4.00pm 11 FEBRUARY 2009
COMMITTEE ROOM 1, HOVE TOWN HALL
MINUTES

Present: Councillor Caulfield (Cabinet Member)

Also in attendance: Councillor Simpson (Opposition Spokesperson)

Other Members present: Councillor Hawkes.

PART ONE

85. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

85a Declarations of Interests

85a.1 There were none.

85b Exclusion of Press and Public

85b.1 The Cabinet Member 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 Schedule 12A, Part 5A, Section 100A(4) or 100 1 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

85b.2 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public not be excluded from the meeting.

86. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

86.1 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on the 14 January 2009 be approved as a correct record.

87. CABINET MEMBER'S COMMUNICATIONS

87.1 The Cabinet Member reported that the Area Housing Management Panels were currently confirming the Tenant Board Members 'Brighton & Hove Seaside Community Housing'.

88. ITEMS RESERVED FOR DISCUSSION

88.1 All items were reserved for discussion.

89. PETITIONS

89.1 The Cabinet Member invited Councillor Hawkes to address a petition that she had presented at Council 29 January 2009. The petition, signed by 98 people requested a safe play area for children living on the Bates Estate.

89.2 Councillor Hawkes spoke in support of the petition.

89.3 The Cabinet Member suggested that the Tenant Association could make a bid to the Estate Development Budget.

89.4 The Director offered to liaise with the Directors of CYPT and Environment to discuss additional and parallel forms of funding.

89.5 **RESOLVED** – That the petition be noted.

90. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

90.1 There were none.

91. DEPUTATIONS

91.1 There were none.

92. LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS

92.1 There were none.

93. WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

93.1 There were none.

94. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

94.1 There were none.

95. REPORTS FROM OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

95.1 There were none.

96. REPORT OF THE HOUSING MANAGEMENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE - 20 JANUARY 2009

96.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the proceedings of the Housing Management Consultative Committee, 20 January 2009 (for copy see minute book).

96.2 **RESOLVED** – That the report be noted.

97. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET 2009/10

97.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Adult Social Care & Housing that presented the Housing Revenue Account Forecast Outturn for 2008/09 as at month 9 and the proposed Budget for 2009/10 as required by the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (for copy see minute book).

97.2 The Cabinet Member thanked the Finance Team for their work in compiling the report, noting the difficult circumstances in which it was drafted and its subsequent endorsement by the Housing Management Consultative Committee.

97.3 **RESOLVED** - That, having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendations:

That the Housing Cabinet Member recommend that Cabinet:

- (1) approves the budget for 2009/10 as shown in Appendix 1
- (2) approves individual rent increases and decreases in line with rent restructuring principles as determined by the Government.
- (3) approves the changes to fees and charges as detailed in paragraph 3.14 to 3.20.
- (4) authorises the Director of Adult Social Care & Housing to implement the new rents, fees and charges, but with delegation to make any minor amendments which may appear to be appropriate in particular cases; and
- (5) authorises the Director of Adult Social Care & Housing to prepare and place on deposit the statement of proposals, estimates and other particulars as required by Section 76 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

98. LEARNING DISABILITY DAY SERVICES - CREATION OF DAY OPTIONS TEAM

98.1 The Cabinet Member for Housing considered a report of the Director of Adult Social Care & Housing that provided information on a review of Learning Disability Day Services (for copy see minute book).

98.2 The Cabinet Member noted that this was the third time that the report had been presented to the meeting. She was confident that the extended decision process had resulted in a clearer and more robust appreciation of the concerns that had been raised by service users and carers.

98.3 The Cabinet Member requested that regular reports be submitted to the meeting so that progress of the service could be monitored.

- 98.4 Councillor Simpson wished to be assured that persons using residential services would be afforded the opportunity to use day centre service options.
- 98.5 The Cabinet Member stated that the independence of the day centres would not be affected by the day options service. Services would run in parallel and persons using residential services would be able to use day service options. As the consequences of the new ways of working became apparent, reports would be submitted to the meeting to allow the situation to be monitored.
- 98.6 **RESOLVED** - That, having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendations:
- (1) That the Cabinet Member for Housing approves that the council's Integrated Learning Disability Services create a Day Options Team. The Day Options Team would be developed slowly over time. The Day Options Team would offer an advice, guidance and co-ordination point to maximise the day opportunities available to people with learning disabilities in Brighton & Hove.
 - (2) That the Cabinet Member for Housing monitors the progress on the development of this additional team through regular briefings from the implementation team.

99. DELIVERY OF SUPPORT SERVICES FOR COUNCIL SHELTERED HOUSING TENANTS

- 99.1 The Cabinet Member considered a report of the Director of Adult Social Care & Housing that offered recommendations regarding the future delivery of the support service for council sheltered housing tenants following a review of the sheltered service, consultation with residents and discussions with staff. The report also included a review of the communal service charges in sheltered housing and details of the support charge for 2009/10 (for copy see minute book).
- 99.2 **RESOLVED** - That, having considered the information and the reasons set out in the report, the Cabinet Member accepted the following recommendations:

That the Cabinet Member for Housing

(1) Approves the proposal, following consultation with residents, to retain a traditional, on site, scheme manager model of service, which will continue to be managed as a non residential service.

2) Agrees the revised communal service charges as set out in Appendix 1 with effect from 6 April 2009 and authorises the Director of Adult Social Care and Housing to implement the new service and charges, but with power to make any minor amendments which may appear to be appropriate in particular cases.

The meeting concluded at 4.30pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of