

26 September 2012

This record relates to Agenda Item 20

RECORD OF HOUSING COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADDITIONAL LICENSING SCHEME FOR HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION (HMO)

AUTHOR: MARTIN REID

THE DECISION

- 1 That the Housing Committee noted the steps taken by the Private Sector Housing Team to prepare for implementation of the Additional Licensing Scheme in the five wards.
- 2 That the Housing Committee approved that licence applicants that were registered charities be granted a free application.
- 3 That the Housing Committee approved areas of clarification and revision to the acceptable sizes for shared kitchens in the Brighton & Hove City Council Standards for Licensable Houses in Multiple Occupation as outlined in the report and in Appendix A of the agenda

REASON FOR THE DECISION

- 1 At its meeting on 20 June, Committee requested that an update implementation report be brought to its next meeting. This report seeks to meet that request.
- 2 The report also seeks to correct an anomaly concerning application fees payable by registered charities which would otherwise result in charities being exempt from fees for HMOs that are licensable under the national mandatory scheme but having to pay a fee for any smaller HMOs covered by the additional licensing scheme.
- 3 Following adoption of the revised Standards for Licensable HMOs at Housing Committee's last meeting, a number of representations were received asking for a review of shared kitchen sizes. The outcome of the review has resulted in the changes recommended in 2.3 above.
- 4 The Standards could currently be read as applying a lower standard to multiple-tenancy/bedsit HMOs than that applying to shared house HMOs. This is referred to in paragraph 3.9 and the revisions necessary to clarify the requirements are included in Appendix A.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 1 A full evaluation of all alternative options was presented to Committee on 20

June 2012.

Proper Officer:

Date: 28 September 2012

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come into force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of the meeting at which the decision was taken subject to:

- (i) any requirement for earlier implementation of the decision or,
- (ii) the decision being called in for review by 5 Members from two or more Groups represented on the Council.

26 September 2012

This record relates to Agenda Item 21

RECORD OF HOUSING MANAGEMENT CONSULTATIVE SUB-COMMITTEE PRE-MEETING

HOUSING MANAGEMENT CONSULTATIVE SUB- COMMITTEE

HOUSING COMMITTEE PRE-MEETING

HOUSING COMMITTEE

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE PRE-MEETING

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: TENANT SCRUTINY

AUTHOR: KAREN AMSDEN

THE DECISION

1. That the Housing Committee recommends to Policy & Resources Committee that proposals in the report as outlined in 2.3 and 2.4 below, are agreed.
2. That Policy & Resources Committee agrees to the establishment of a Tenant Scrutiny Panel in Brighton & Hove, with the terms of reference set out in Appendix A to this report with effect from December 2012.
3. That the Strategic Director, Place/Head of Housing & Social Inclusion be granted delegated powers to:
 - (1) after consultation with the Chair of the Housing Committee and tenant representatives as he/she considers appropriate, appoint the selection panel for the appointment of Members of the Tenant Scrutiny Panel;
 - (2) after consultation with the Monitoring Officer, the Chair of Housing Committee and relevant tenant representatives, agree the code of conduct that would apply to Members of the Tenant Scrutiny Panel;
 - (3) take any steps necessary or incidental to the establishment and continued operation of the Tenant Scrutiny Panel, including the power to make transitional arrangements as he/she thinks fit.
4. That Policy & Resources Committee note that the role of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, including the powers regarding scrutiny and call-in are not affected by these proposals although the existence of the Panel and its work will be a factor taken into account in deciding what issues the committee reviews.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

- 1 Registered social housing providers are now expected to support tenants to develop and implement opportunities for their involvement and empowerment. A key component of this is to support the formation and activities of Tenant Scrutiny Panels.
- 2 Establishing a TSP is also a priority within the council's corporate plan.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 1 The Tenant Innovation Group considered a number of issues and alternatives in making its recommendations as to the model it would like to see progressed. Proposals have been further developed after research into good practice at a national level.

Proper Officer:

Date: 28 September 2012

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

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26 September 2012

This record relates to Agenda Item 22

RECORD OF HOUSING COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: HOUSING INVESTMENT

AUTHOR: JUDI WILSON

THE DECISION

1. That the Committee agree to the procurement of a delivery partner to take forward the final feasibility, design and development of new council homes on vacant garage sites in consultation with stakeholders, utilising a range of housing options based on Low Cost Home ownership, Affordable rents and Target Rents. Once full schemes were developed they would be reported to Housing Committee.
2. That the procurement of initial feasibility and design, on identified case studies for housing opportunities on Housing Revenue Account land, where appropriate at an estimated cost, including stakeholder engagement and consultation, of £1 million.
3. That the Committee note the current timetable for the development of the garage sites in paragraph 4.20 of the report and for development of feasibility studies in paragraph 4.27 of the report.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

Delivering decent affordable housing to meet local demand is a corporate priority.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Proper Officer:

Date: 28 September 2012

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

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- (v) any requirement for earlier implementation of the decision or,
- (vi) the decision being called in for review by 5 Members from two or more Groups represented on the Council.

