

# BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

## HOUSING MANAGEMENT PANEL: WEST HOVE & PORTSLADE AREA

2.00pm 4 APRIL 2017

ST RICHARDS CHURCH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE, EGMONT ROAD, HOVE, BN3 7FP

### MINUTES

**Present:** Councillors Moonan (Chair), Barnett and Gilbey.

**Representatives:** Vic Dodd, Joe Macrae, Tracy Angus, Alison Gray, and Ann Tizzard.

**Officers:** Becky Purnell (Resident Involvement Manager), Pat Liddell (Resident Involvement Officer), Ododo Dafe (Head of Income Involvement & Improvement), Perrin Horne (Customer Service Manager) and Cliona May (Democratic Services Officer).

#### 30 APOLOGIES

30.1 Apologies were received for Councillors Atkinson, Lewry, Janio, O'Quinn and Nemeth, and Muriel Briault, Pat Weller and Jeff Tourmentin.

#### 31 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

31.1 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 6 December 2016 be approved and signed as the correct record.

#### 32 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

32.1 The Chair explained that copies of a briefing from the Area Housing Panel Chairs were given to the residents by the Democratic Services Officer before the start of the meeting. This included information regarding: Revised Tenancy Agreement 2017; Tenancy Fraud Amnesty; and Service Improvement Groups.

#### 33 RESIDENTS QUESTION TIME

33.1 (Item 1 – Increase in fly-tipping) In response to queries raised by the Panel the Officer clarified:

- The furniture recycling scheme was advertised on the Brighton & Hove City Council website and posters could be produced to promote this.
- Registration plates were needed to prosecute and it would be helpful if residents could get photographs of these.
- The CCTV cameras were moved to certain “hotspots” where fly-tipping was an issue.

33.2 (Item 2 – Storage of mobility scooters) In response to queries raised by the Panel the Officer clarified:

- Storage solutions for mobility scooters could be applied for under the Estate Development Budget (EDB); however, it would often be too costly.
- Storing mobility scooters inside could have a fire risk and be an obstruction; however, residents could contact the Housing Customer Services who will conduct a home visit to find a solution.
- The mobility storage areas were for all mobility items and not just scooters.

33.3 (Item 3 – Proposed change to EDB regulations) Queries were raised by a resident regarding the fairness of limiting estates to five bids a year. In response to this the Resident Involvement Manager explained that there was extensive consultation and the recommendations had been agreed by the four Area Housing Panels. She added that the scheme needed to be promoted more widely and this was being completed.

33.4 (Item 4 – Payback Team) In response to queries raised by the Panel the Officer clarified:

- The Payback Team would liaise with the Resident Associations.
- The work that could be completed with limited due to safeguarding and it would be weather dependent.
- Resources had been reduced.
- Further information and application forms would be sent to the Local Councillors.

33.5 (Item 5 – Estate inspections) In response to the Panel the Officer noted that the estate inspections were published online and the residents could contact the Housing Customer Services to be informed of upcoming inspections.

33.6 **RESOLVED** – That the Panel agreed to note the responses.

## **34 REPAIRS & IMPROVEMENT HANDBOOK**

34.1 Perrin Horne, Customer Service Manager, introduced the report and highlighted the following:

- The original review of the Repairs & Improvement Handbook was completed in 2011 and there had not been any major changes or updates since this review.
- The report had been presented at the Service Improvement Group (SIG) and it would be reported to the Senior Housing Action Group (SHAG).
- The handbook would be published online; however, hard copies would be available with the Housing Department and Customer Repairs team if requested by residents.
- The online version of the handbook would provide links to different sections on the website.

34.2 **RESOLVED** – That the Panel agreed to note the report.

## **35 CITY WIDE REPORTS**

35.1 **RESOLVED** – That the Panel agreed to note the reports.

**36 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

36.1 The following points were raised by residents and Officers:

- Residents should contact StreetLink when having concern regarding rough sleepers. The Officer agreed to recirculate the contact numbers to the residents.
- The contact number for reporting trespassers needed to be circulated.

The meeting concluded at 3.00pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of