

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS TAKEN

MEETING: **Community Select Committee**
Wednesday 10 September 2014, Shimkent Room, Daneshill House, Stevenage, SG1 1HN

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors: S Walker (Chair), M Notley (Vice Chair), L Bell, R Broom, E Connolly, M Gardner, L Harrington, J Mead and M Cherney-Craw.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	ACTION/LEAD
<p>Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors A McGuinness and P Stuart and Youth Mayor S Field.</p> <p>There were no declarations of interests.</p>	<p>G Moody Ext 2203</p>
2. MINUTES – 1 JULY 2014	
<p>The Scrutiny Officer advised the Committee that some progress had been made with officer discussions concerning the possibility of providing a single integrated Community Transport Service for the area, however the Select Committee scheduled for 23 September might be too early for any meaningful work by the Committee.</p> <p>In reply to a question the meeting was advised that bids for health related projects had yet to be received for the grant of £100k received from the County Council. The Strategic Director Community undertook to provide an update for Members.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Select Committee held on 1 July 2014 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.</p>	<p>S Weaver Ext 2332</p> <p>M Partridge Ext 2456</p> <p>G Moody Ext 2203</p>

<p>3. HRA BUSINESS PLAN</p> <p>The Committee received a presentation on the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan.</p> <p>Members asked a number of detailed questions about the plan which were answered by the Officers.</p> <p>In reply to concerns about levels of customer satisfaction with the Housing Service the Strategic Director Community undertook to circulate the results from HouseMark's recently published its STAR Benchmarking Service Analysis for 2012/13 to Committee Members.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED that the presentation be noted.</p>	<p>M Partridge Ext 2456</p>
<p>4. EXECUTIVE MEMBER RESPONSE TO DECENT HOMES SCRUTINY REVIEW</p> <p>The Committee made the following comments regarding the Executive Member response to the Decent Homes Scrutiny Review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation 7 – The sign-off should include any consequences of work carried out in a tenant's property. It had been noted that electrical appliances, such as freezers and fridges, had been left switched off, heating systems left on and doors left unlocked, often for days at a time once work had been completed on a property. • Recommendation 9 – Concerns were expressed that vulnerable tenants were confused by the options open to them regarding the need for, or the placement of, conduits. It was requested that such tenants be guided by officers or sheltered scheme wardens when making such choices. <p>In response to a question concerning recommendation 11 the Committee was advised that the Council was working with the North Herts College to identify work experience opportunities for individuals nearing the end of their courses.</p>	<p>M Partridge Ext 2456</p>

In reply to a further question it was confirmed that there was not a decorating scheme for the elderly. It was RESOLVED that the Executive Member response to the Decent Homes Scrutiny Review be noted.	
5. URGENT PART 1 BUSINESS	
None	
6. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC	
Not required.	
<u>PART II</u>	
7. URGENT PART II BUSINESS	
None	