

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS TAKEN

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors: S Mead (Chair), M Notley (Vice Chair), L Bell, M Gardner, J Mead and P Stuart.

Also Present: Councillors M Cherney-Craw and M McKay.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	ACTION/LEAD
<p>Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors R Broom, E Connolly, L Harrington and A McGuinness</p> <p>There were no declarations of interests.</p>	<p>A Adeoye Ext 2809</p>
2. SCRUTINY REVIEW OF THE LOCAL PRIVATE RENTED SECTOR	
<p>The Committee received a presentation on the Council’s relationship and activities with the private housing rented sector.</p> <p>Jim Archibald, the Environmental Health Manager (Residential) in his presentation explained to the meeting its day to day regulatory functions and in particular highlighted its powers in dealing with complaints about houses in state of disrepair, lack of amenities in houses, overcrowding and houses in multiple occupation.</p> <p>Sue Waller, Strategic Housing Solutions Manager informed Members of the various tasks undertaken by her team which include providing housing advice to private tenants; responding to welfare reform and its impact on private rented sector; tackling unlawful evictions and landlord harassment and encouraging best practice advice for</p>	

<p>landlord. She also highlighted the various activities of the private sector liaison team and the challenges with regards to future housing. Finally she advised that her team would be looking at a few initiatives such as setting up a landlord forum and developing a landlord incentive scheme within the private rented sector.</p> <p>In response to a question, the Strategic Director Community advised Members that the Executive would be considering a report, HRA Business Plan which addressed options with regards to housing supply in the town.</p> <p>The Chair thanked both Officers for their presentation and invited Councillor M Cherney-Craw in her capacity as the Chair of the Housing Select Committee 2013/2014 for her views on the Scoping Document.</p> <p>In considering the scoping document it was agreed that the following Councillors lead on the issues below</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equalities and Diversity issues in the private rented sector – Councillor M Cherney-Craw • National Landlord Association – Councillors S Mead and M Cherney-Craw • Social Letting Agency – Councillor M Mckay • Work with 50% of absent council leaseholders regarding commercial services for repairs – Councillor M Gardner <p>It was RESOLVED that the Scoping Document be agreed.</p>	
<p>3. URGENT PART 1 BUSINESS</p>	
<p>None</p>	
<p>4. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC</p>	
<p>Not required.</p>	

<u>PART II</u>	
5. URGENT PART II BUSINESS	
None	